

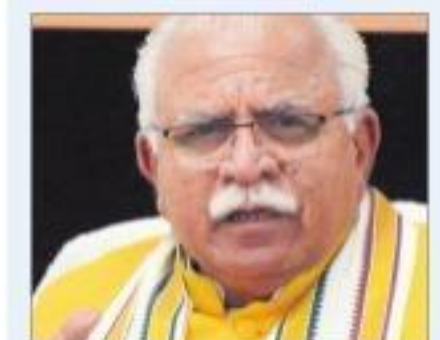
TRUMP IMPEACHMENT PROBE HEARING DISRUPTED WORLD

₹92,000-CR SHOCKER FOR TELCOS AS SC BACKS GOVT ON AGR BUSINESS

UP WITHDRAWS ORDER TO SACK 25K HOME GUARDS BACK PAGE



HARYANA VERDICT



CM thanks voters, vows speedier works
Chandigarh: Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar on Thursday thanked the people of the state for voting for the BJP and for the increase in BJP's vote share in the Assembly polls. In a statement, Khattar said as soon as the BJP once again formed the government in Haryana, public projects would be speeded up through an "honest and accountable government."



Former CM Hooda emerges stronger
Chandigarh: Former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda has emerged stronger. After his party lost power in Haryana in 2014, the 72-year-old satrap had nothing going in his favour. He was booked for alleged land scam and the BJP made it a poll issue. Also, the Congress veteran remained at loggerheads with earlier state unit chief Ashok Tanwar. Hooda was made CLP Leader only weeks before the polls. "Had the high command given him charge a few months earlier, Cong performance would have been even better," said a leader.

Khattar govt may be back in Hry

HUNG HOUSE BJP 6 short of majority | Key Congress meeting in Delhi today

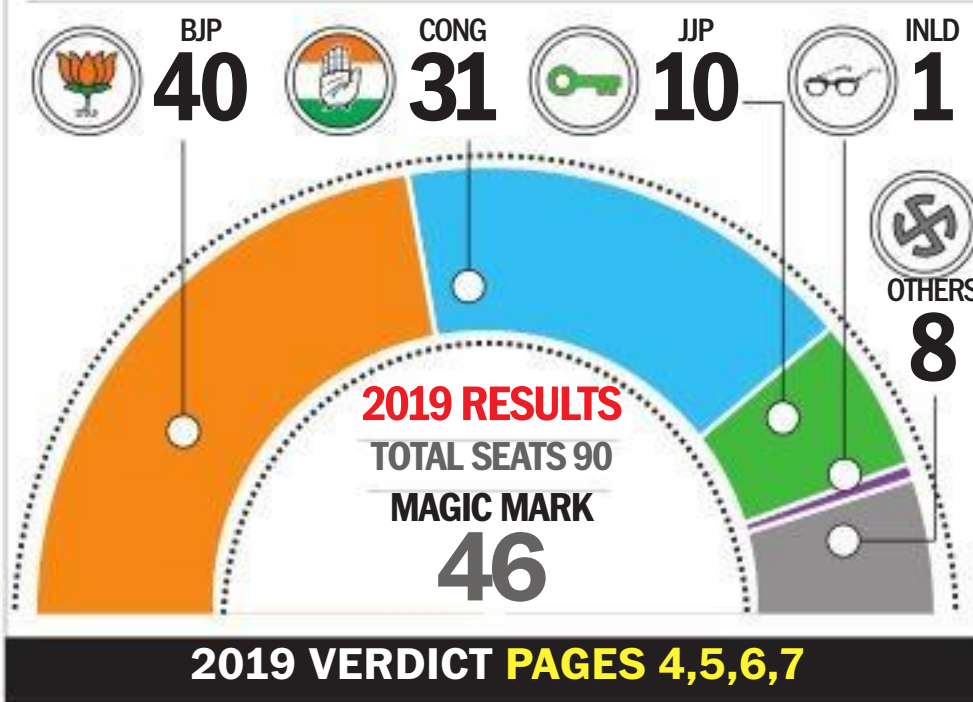
SUSHIL MANAV
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
With the BJP winning 40 seats in the 90-member Haryana Assembly, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar seems set to head a minority government in the state with the help of Independents. Though the BJP failed to cross the halfway mark, PM Narendra Modi and party president Amit Shah today left nobody in doubt that Khattar would head the government in the state.

"The people of Maharashtra and Haryana have reposed their trust in the CMs of the two states and they will work even harder in the next five years to serve them," the PM said while addressing workers at the BJP headquarters in Delhi. The BJP Parliamentary Board authorised Shah to take all decisions regarding government formation in Haryana and Maharashtra. Sources said the CMs of the two states would not be changed.

Earlier in the day, with early trends indicating a close contest between the BJP and Congress, Shah cancelled his prior engagements, including an ITBP event, and summoned Khattar to Delhi. Sources said Rania Independent MLA Ranjit Singh and Sirsa MLA Gopal Kanda were already on their way to Delhi, accompanied by a BJP MP, to meet



JUBILATION: BJP supporters celebrate victory in Gurugram on Thursday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: S CHANDAN



Shah. They are expected to lend support to the party. While the BJP won 40 seats, the Congress sprung a surprise bagging 31 seats. Despite PM's public signal on the formation of a BJP government in Haryana, the Congress kept hopes of a post-poll coalition in the

state alive with top leaders urging Opposition unity to keep the saffron brigade at bay. A key Congress meet under party president Sonia Gandhi will be held in Delhi tomorrow to debate the scale of negotiations with potential allies in Haryana. Significantly, Dushyant Chautala's Jannayak Janata Party (JJP), an offshoot of the INLD, won 10 seats while the INLD won the lone Ellenabad seat. Eight seats went to Independents.

CM Khattar retained his Karnal seat with a comfortable margin. Former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda

PEOPLE HAVE REPOSED TRUST IN BJP: MODI

People of Maharashtra and Haryana have reposed their trust in Chief Ministers of the two states and they will work even harder in the next five years to serve them. The party's performance in Haryana is unprecedented. Its vote share has gone up to 36% from 33% in 2014.



MORAL DEFEAT FOR BJP

Verdict is a moral defeat for the BJP. In Haryana, there has been a drop in BJP's vote percentage in just four months after the Lok Sabha victory.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Uddhav insists on 50:50 in Maha Govt

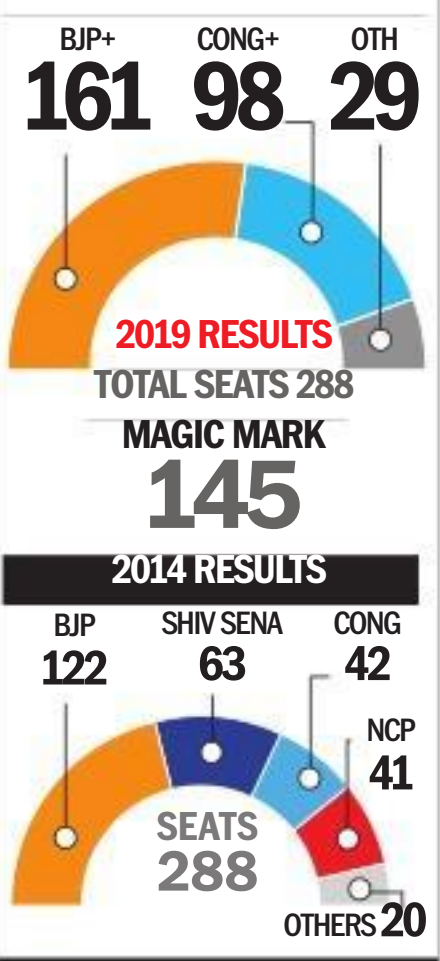
SHIV KUMAR
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, OCTOBER 24
The BJP-Shiv Sena alliance is all set to retain power in Maharashtra with the saffron grouping winning 161 seats in the 288-member Assembly. Contesting together, the BJP and the Shiv Sena won 105 and 56 seats, respectively, with smaller ally Rashtriya Samaj Paksha bagging a lone seat. The two parties, which contested the 2014 elections separately, had bagged 122 and 63 seats then.

The Congress-NCP alliance, which had been written off before the elections, sprang a surprise and improved its tally. NCP leader Sharad Pawar, who led the campaign from the front, ensured that his party won 54 seats while the Congress bagged 44 seats as against 41 and 42 seats in 2014. Smaller outfits that allied with the two secular parties also bagged six seats.

Even before the results were in, Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray reminded Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis about the agreement to share power equally. "We agreed on the 50:50 formula when (BJP president) Amit Shah came to my house. Now is the time to implement the agreement," Thackeray told mediapersons here. He refused to say whether the two parties had reached an agreement on the post of CM. "We have given a lot of room to the BJP. We contested fewer seats this



Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray speaks in Mumbai on Thursday.



time, as requested by them. But we cannot give them concessions every time," he made it clear.

Among the big winners today was Shiv Sena leader Aadiya Thackeray who won from Worli in Mumbai by nearly 70,000 votes.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Punjab Cong wrests three seats, SAD one

JUPINDERJIT SINGH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
The ruling Congress won three of the four bypolls in Punjab with the SAD bagging the Dakha seat where Sandeep Sandhu, political secretary to the CM, Capt Amarinder Singh, was in the fray. The SAD lost the Jalalabad seat, that is on the home turf of party president Sukhbir Badal, to the Congress.

Manpreet Ayali of the SAD defeated Congress' Sandhu in Dakha, polling 66,297 votes against 51,625 by his opponent. AAP, that had won the seat in 2017, was placed fourth. Lok Insaaf Party's Sukhdev Singh Chak was



Congress' Raminder Awla after winning SAD bastion Jalalabad.

third with 8,437 votes. The Jalalabad seat, vacated by SAD president Sukhbir Badal after he was elected MP, was won by the Congress after 12 years. Congress' **CONTINUED ON PAGE 13**

SEAT	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	MARGIN
Phagwara	BS Dhaliwal (CONG)	Rajesh Bagha (BJP)	26,116
Mukerian	Indu Bala (CONG)	Jangi Lal Mahajan (BJP)	3,440
Dakha	Manpreet Ayali (SAD)	Sandeep S Sandhu (CONG)	14,672
Jalalabad	Raminder Awla (CONG)	Raj S Dibbipura (SAD)	16,633

BJP retains HP's D'sala, Pachhad

PRATIBHA CHAUHAN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, OCTOBER 24
The ruling BJP retained both seats — Dharamsala and Pachhad — in Himachal Pradesh. What was most humiliating for the Congress was that its Dharamsala candidate Vijay Inder Karan was placed at the third position, having polled 8,212 votes. Independent Rakesh Kumar polled 16,740 votes, while BJP candidate Vishal Nehria won the seat by a margin of 6,758 votes.

The results are a shot in the arm for Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur, for whom retaining both seats was a major challenge. The BJP had got almost 70 per cent votes, the highest in the country in the parliamentary polls, earlier this year.

Despite faced with rebellion from its own senior leader Dayal Pyari, a three-time zila parishad member, who jumped into the fray as an **CONTINUED ON PAGE 13**



WON SANDEEP SINGH PEHOWA | **LOST** BABITA PHOGAT DADRI | **LOST** YOGESHWAR DUTT BARODA

Sports stars bite dust, Sandeep lone 'Soorma'

SUSHIL MANAV
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
Two of the three international-level sportspersons fielded by the ruling BJP had to bite the dust with former Indian hockey captain Sandeep Singh emerging as the only saving grace for the party.

Sandeep, whose biopic "Soorma" was a hit, defeated former Speaker HS Chatha's son Man-

SEAT	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	MARGIN
Dadri*	Sombir (IND)	Satpal Sangwan (JJP)	14,272
Baroda	SK Hooda (CONG)	Yogeshwar Dutt (BJP)	4,840
Pehowa	Sandeep Singh (BJP)	Mandeep Chatha (CONG)	5,314

* BJP's Babita Phogat finished third

deep Chatha of the Congress by 5,314 votes from Pehowa. However, wrestlers Babita Phogat and Yogeshwar Dutt had to taste defeat from Dadri and Baroda Assembly seats, respectively. Phogat finished a distant third with Sombir, an Independent, defeating Jannayak Janta Party's Satpal Sangwan by 14,272 votes. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 13**

Just 2 Khattar ministers make it

PRADEEP SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
All Haryana ministers, except Anil Vij (Ambala Cantt) and Banwari Lal (Bawal), faced defeat. Party bigwigs, including BJP chief Subhash Barala, Prem Lata, wife of Rajya Sabha member Birender Singh, lost the electoral battle. Speaker Kanwar Pal Gujjar (Jagadhri), however, made it.

The defeat of almost the entire Cabinet, including Ram Bilas Sharma (Mahendragarh), Capt Abhimanyu (Narnaud), OP Dhankar (Badli), Kavita Jain (Sonapat), Krishan Lal Panwar (Israna), Manish Grover (Rohtak), Krishan Bedi (Shahbad) and Karan Dev Kamboj (Radaur), set the alarm bells ringing in the BJP, which had set the target of winning 75 seats.

Disconnect with the people, anti-incumbency against ministers (not BJP) and local issues, such as unemployment, seem to have weaned



WON ANIL VIJ AMBALA CANTT | **WON** BANWARI LAL BAWAL | **LOST** CAPT ABHIMANYU NARNAUD

WHY BJP TOP BRASS TOOK A BEATING

- Khattar, ministers Vij & Banwari Lal, Speaker sole winners
- BJP's failure to consolidate non-Jat, urban voters, unlike the 2014 Assembly elections
- Anti-incumbency against them
- due to 'inaccessibility, arrogance'
- Jat voters in big numbers preferring to vote for non-BJP candidates
- Dominance of local issues over national issues such as 370

away voters from the saffron party which chose to built its poll narrative around Article 370 and nationalism.

Also, while the party failed to consolidate non-Jat and urban voters, unlike the 2014 Assembly polls, the Jats voted for non-BJP candidates, especially in rural constituencies, making it tough for "VIP candidates". This is why perhaps the three tallest Jat BJP

leaders — Capt Abhimanyu, Dhankar and Barala — were defeated at the hustings.

A senior BJP functionary conceded that "anti-incumbency because of ministers' arrogance" had cost the party dear. "We undertook unprecedented development across the state, yet ministers failed to redress voters' grievances, apparently due to arrogance and inaccessibility," he said.

Independents win BDC elections

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR/JAMMU, OCTOBER 24
The BJP suffered its first major setback post abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir as Independents swept the Block Development Council elections by winning 217 blocks of the total 307 where polling was conducted.

The elections, which concluded on Thursday with the declaration of results, were held on party lines but were boycotted by major political players. The BJP won 81 seats with some of its candidates winning unopposed.

2 DRIVERS SHOT IN J&K

Srinagar: Terrorists on Thursday struck for the third time in 10 days in south Kashmir's militancy-hit Shopian district killing two non-Kashmiri truck drivers, who had gone to ferry loads of apples, and injuring another, officials said. "The drivers had ventured into interior areas without informing the security forces," a senior official said. **INSIDE**

The Panthers Party, the only political party besides the BJP that contested the elections, managed to win only eight seats and that too in Udhampur district. A

majority of Independents were "unofficially" supported by parties that had boycotted the polls.

The BJP won 81 blocks out of which 52 are in Jammu, 18 in Kashmir and 11 in Ladakh regions. Over 98 per cent of panches and sarpanches participated in the polls.

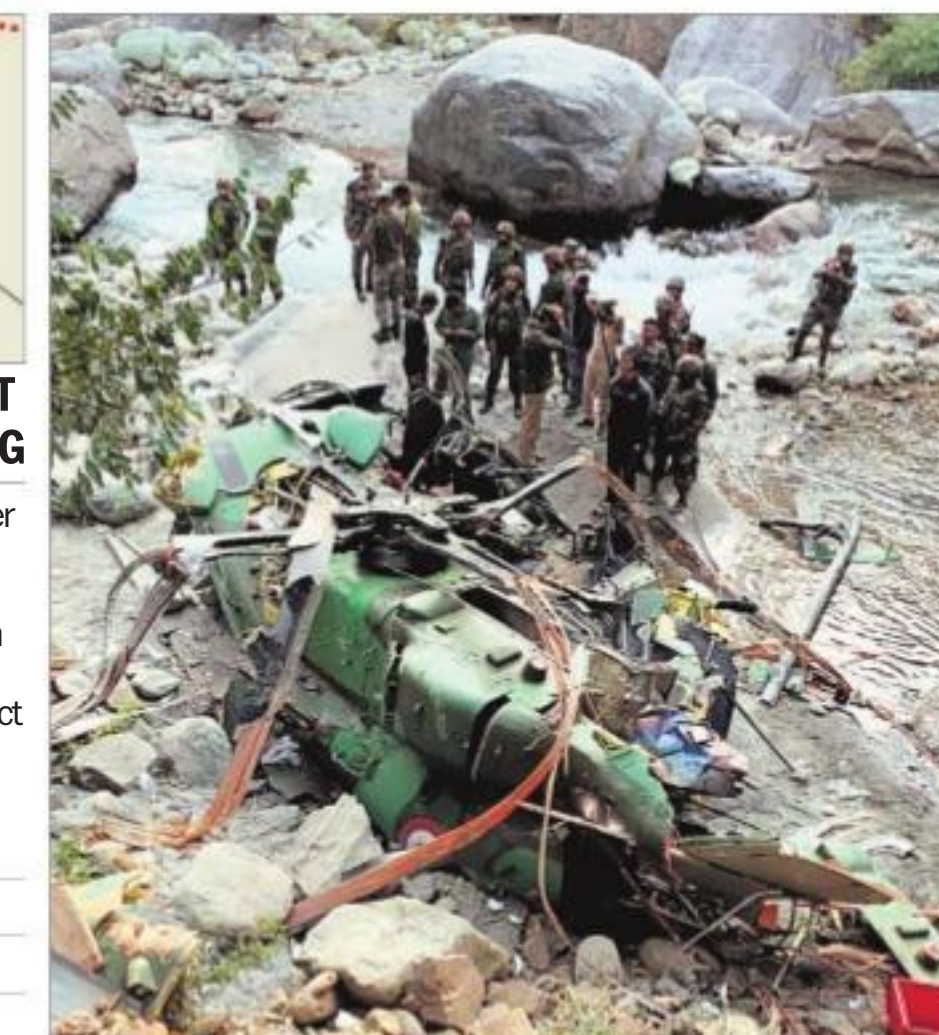
J&K CEO Shailendra Kumar said of 128 blocks in Kashmir division, the BJP won 18, Congress 1 and Independents 109. "Of 148 blocks in Jammu, BJP won 52 blocks, BSP 8 and Independents 88. Of the 31 blocks in Ladakh, BJP won 11 and Independents 20," he added.



ARMY COMMANDER HURT IN COPTER CRASH-LANDING

Rajouri: Northern Army Commander Lt General Ranbir Singh and eight others sustained injuries when the Advanced Light Helicopter in which they were travelling crash-landed near the LoC in J&K's Poonch district on Thursday. **BACK PAGE**

LOCATION: MANDI-BEDAR, 25 KM FROM POONCH
PASSENGERS ON BOARD: 9
TIME OF INCIDENT: 1.50 PM
CAUSE: TECHNICAL SNAG



Kartarpur pact signed, Pak lists pilgrims' norms

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24

India and Pakistan on Thursday signed a historic agreement on the Kartarpur corridor that will allow Indian pilgrims to undertake visa-free visit to the shrine of the Sikh religion's founder Guru Nanak in Pakistan, notwithstanding a chill in bilateral ties. The corridor will connect the Dera Baba Nanak shrine in India's Punjab with Darbar Sahib at Kartarpur, just 4 km from the International Border. SCL Das, Joint Secretary in the Union Home Min-



CORRIDOR OPENING

Agrees on visa-free visit, but adamant on \$20 fee

istry, and Mohammad Faisal, Pakistan Foreign Office spokesperson and director **CONTINUED ON PAGE 13**

Ayali wrests Dakha seat, Akalis jubilant

Capt Sandeep Sandhu trounced by a margin of 14,672 votes

RAJMEET SINGH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
By adding two more seats of Jalalabad and Phagwara to the party's kitty, Capt Amarinder may have once again emerged as one of the party's few regional satraps, but the party lost the perception game to Akalis in the Dakha Assembly segment.

Congress' Mukerian nominee Indu Bala has been elected after the death of her husband Rajneesh Babbi, a Congress MLA.

The loss of CM's Political Secretary Capt Sandeep Singh Sandhu by 14,672 votes to SAD's Manpreet Ayali has left the Congress leadership pondering over the reasons behind the failure.

"How can the CM's crisis manager, who played the key role in the by-elections to Gurdaspur parliamentary seat (2017), Shahkot Assembly seat (2018) and Lok Sabha elections, lose in the bypoll that saw every top party leader, minister and MLA campaigning for him with money and muscle power at play," pointed a senior party leader. Capt Sandhu said everyone worked hard. The anti-government agitation and Akalis managing a large vote bank in the debt-ridden area tilted the scales.

The Chief Minister said "I had wanted and aimed for win-



SAD leader Manpreet Singh Ayali, who drubbed Congress candidate Capt Sandeep Sandhu to win the Dakha Assembly seat, with his supporters in Ludhiana. TRIBUNE PHOTO: HIMANSHU MAHAJAN

ASSEMBLY BYPOLL

Seat	Winner	Runner-up
Jalalabad	Raminder Awla (Cong)	Raj Dibbipura (SAD)
Dakha	Manpreet Ayali (SAD)	Capt Sandhu (Cong)
Phagwara	BS Dhaliwal (Cong)	Rajesh Bagha (BJP)
Mukerian	Indu Bala (Cong)	Jangi Lal (BJP)

ning all four seats in these bypolls but one can't win cent percent. The losing candidates should not take such failures to heart", as he recalled that he had also lost his first two elections. The CM termed the party's win in Sukhbir Badal's self-proclaimed stronghold of Jalalabad as a rejection of the

SAD's "negative agenda."

Party insiders point out that role of the insiders playing spoilsport and aggressive stand against Akalis proved counterproductive in Dakha. Alleged acts of aggression by Congress leaders was effectively captured and flashed by the social media team of SAD

candidates, before the campaign strategists could realise the faux pass.

PPCC chief Sunil Jakhar said, "Despite the drug taint against the Akali and palpable anger against them, the Akali leader won. We need to introspect."

Congress' first timer Raminder Awla has won from Jalalabad that was claimed to be a SAD citadel.

Akalis on the other hand claim in the 12 elections held over the last 52 years, only thrice Congress has won from Dakha. The only exception was 2017 when AAP candidate HS Phoolka won.

ASHOK KAURA/APARNA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PHAGWARA, OCTOBER 24

After a gap of almost 12 years, the Congress today won the Phagwara reserved Assembly seat, that too with a thumping margin of 26,116 votes.

Taking premature retirement proved beneficial for bureaucrat-turned-politician Balwinder Singh Dhaliwal (57), who got 49,215 votes, more than double to 23,099 votes of his BJP counterpart Rajesh Bagha (46). His margin was the highest in the four bypolls in the state.

In Dhaliwal, the Congress has got a new, educated Mazhabi Sikh face of the party. Dhaliwal, who largely banked on his local connect that he could build in the city since his long tenure as an SDM here, had been brought into the party by a senior bureaucrat so as to replace ex-minister Joginder Mann, who had faced defeat in three of the six elections he contested. Congress minister Sunder Sham Arora had handled the campaign this time.

The poor show of the BJP has come as a huge embarrassment for Union Minister of State Som Parkash, who had been



Congress candidate Balwinder Singh Dhaliwal, along with Cabinet Minister Sunder Sham Arora and other leaders, celebrates his victory in Phagwara on Thursday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

MLA here for the last two terms and is now an MP from the Hoshiarpur Lok Sabha seat, of which Phagwara Assembly is a part. In a bigger humiliation for the saffron party, Bagha trailed behind the BSP candidate and finished third in 10 of the 16 rounds. The BJP candidate, who is Jalandhar resident and has earlier served as Chairman, SC Commission, Punjab, clearly could not get much of support in either the Hindu-dominated city areas or the Dalit-dominated rural and semi-

urban areas.

Bagha, who had for the first time entered into the political arena, has got the severest bashing. Congress, which has won from the seat for the ninth time in 15 elections, has had the biggest margin in these elections. The BJP leaders, including Punjab incharge Prabhat Jha, state president Shwait Malik and election incharge and ex-minister Tikshan Sud had camped in the constituency for almost a month. Bollywood star and Gurdaspur MP Sunny Deol too had

taken out a massive roadshow for the party.

Bahujan Samaj Party candidate Bhagwan Dass has got 15,990 votes and Lok Insaaf Party candidate Jarnail Nangal (earlier with BSP) could poll 9,088 votes. This time a few of the BSP supporters too moved towards the Congress as the party had got 26,165 votes with Jarnail Nangal as its candidate in 2012.

AAP candidate Santosh Kumar Gogi could get only 2,910 votes. The party's scorecard has fallen drastically by whopping 30,000 votes this time.

Indu Bala wins Mukerian seat with slender margin

Defeats BJP's Jangi Mahajan by 3,440 votes

SANJEEV BAKSHI

HOSHIARPUR, OCTOBER 24

Congress's Indu Bala won from Mukerian by defeating BJP's Jangi Lal Mahajan by a margin of 3,440 votes. The seat fell vacant following the death of Congress MLA Rajnish Kumar Babbi. Indu Bala is Babbi's widow.

Congress secured 53,910 votes, while the BJP got 50,470 votes and AAP's GS Multani secured 8,261 votes and remained third. SAD (A) candidate Gurvatan Singh Multani polled 1,286 votes, Hindustan Shakti Sena's Arjun got 558, Independent candidate Amandeep Ghotra



Congress candidate Indu Bala, wife of deceased MLA Rajneesh Babbi, celebrates her victory in Mukerian. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

got 268 votes, while NOTA polled 879 votes.

The counting in Mukerian started at 8 am at a counting centre set up at SPN College. As soon as the result was declared, Indu Bala's supporters came out raising slogans in her favour and expressed happiness over her victory by dancing to the beats of dhol. A victory procession was taken out through the town.

Indu Bala said this was the victory of the people of the constituency, adding that it was the proof of people's mandate to the policies of Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh-led Congress government. She thanked voters of the area and party workers for their support and said no stone would be left unturned to ensure overall development of the constituency.



Ex-MP Sher Singh Ghubaya congratulates Raminder Awla after his victory in Jalalabad. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Jalalabad slips out of Sukhbir's hold

RAJ SADOSH

ABOHAR, OCTOBER 24

Congress smashed the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) bastion in Jalalabad today and wrested the Assembly seat after a gap of 17 years. The seat fell vacant after Sukhbir Singh Badal, former deputy chief minister, won the 2019 General Election from Ferozepur constituency.

Congress candidate Raminder Awla defeated Raj Singh Dibbipura of the SAD by 16,633 votes. Awla polled 76,098 votes and Dibbipura got 59,465 votes.

AAP candidate, Mahinder Singh Kachura, polled 11,301 votes. Jagdeep Singh, alias, Goldy Kamboj, who quit as secretary from Indian National Youth Congress and contested as an Independent, polled only 5,836 votes. Three other Independents got less than thousand votes. A total of 701 voters opted for NOTA.

Awla maintained lead in every round

Congress candidate Raminder Awla defeated Raj Singh Dibbipura of the SAD by 16,633 votes. Awla polled 76,098 votes and Dibbipura got 59,465 votes.

The segment had witnessed intense campaigning by bigwigs, including Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, PPCC chief Sunil Jakhar, SAD chief Sukhbir Badal, his wife and Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal for their respective candidates.

AAP's Mohie loses deposit

LUDHIANA, OCTOBER 24

Over two years after winning the Dakha Assembly election in 2017, AAP even lost its deposit this time as Amandeep Singh Mohie got only 2,804 votes, standing fourth.

AAP's HS Phoolka had got 58,923 votes in 2017. AAP state convener Bhagwant Mann had made several visits to the constituency for his support.

The performance of the Lok Insaaf Party too is dismal as its candidate Sukhdev Singh Chak got only 8,441 votes. However, the party had got 44,938 votes in Dakha constituency during the Lok Sabha election. — TNS

Saffron party's say takes a hit in alliance

SANJEEV SINGH BARIANA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24

In a major setback to the BJP ambitions for 2022 Vidhan Sabha polls in Punjab, the party did not win a single seat, out of the two it contested in the bypolls in the state.

The result has weakened the party's bargaining power vis a vis its ally, the SAD. The development gains relevance in context of the state president Shwait Malik, during recent times, openly underlining the party demand for a much bigger party share in the alliance.

Party's ex-state chief Kamal Sharma had recently said the terms for alliance related to the seat sharing should be revised. Another ex-president Madan Mohan Mittal recently said the party should not be seen as a junior partner in the alliance.

The SAD-BJP alliance ratio for the Vidhan Sabha polls currently was 94:23 and for the Lok Sabha, 10:3.

The party MLAs elected during the last Vidhan Sabha elections were Som Parkash (Phagwara), Dinesh Babbu (Sujanpur) and Arun Narang (Abohar). The seat held by Som Parkash was vacated after he was elected to the Lok Sabha. The party nominated Rajesh Bagha for

Leaders demanding big share in alliance

BJP's state president Shwait Malik has openly underlined the party demand for a much bigger party share in the alliance. Senior leader Kamal Sharma recently said the terms for alliance related to the seat sharing should be revised.

the byelection.

"The party campaign could not gain ground because the seat was being eyed by Som Parkash for his wife, and by former state president and MP Vijay Sampla for his son," a former state party president said.

The BJP candidate Jangi Lal Mahajan did put up a tough fight on the Mukerian seat against Congress candidate Indu Bala. However, she won a big public sympathy in name of her husband Rajnish Babbi, the MLA who expired recently.

To top it all in strengthening the SAD position, Manpreet Ayali won the Dakha seat against the strong Congress candidate of Capt Sandeep Sandhu who belonged to the coterie closest to Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh.

Poor show indicates AAP failed to connect with voters

RUCHIKA M KHANNA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24

The poor performance of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the four state bypoll today clearly signals the disconnect of the party with the people. Not only was the party unable to retain its Dakha seat, which it conceded to the SAD, its electoral performance in the other segments was also dismal.

In Phagwara, Mukerian and Dakha, the party got less than 3,000 votes, marking the worst electoral performance of the party ever since it made an impressive debut on Punjab's political spectrum in 2014.

The total votes polled in its favour are less than 20,000. The AAP vote share in the general elections was 7.4% as against 23.7% in 2017 Assembly polls. At its peak in 2014 general elections, AAP's vote share was 24.4 per cent. This is quite a telling tale on the status of a party, which prides in being the "principle opposition party" of Punjab.

Though party leaders admit (in private) that these by-elections were being fought only to make their presence felt, they need a complete rejuvenation of their waning cadres.



Blow to Bhagwant Mann

AAP's dismal show is a blow to party's state president Bhagwant Mann who wanted complete autonomy in the Punjab affairs and was granted freedom to choose candidates, campaign and address issues in these elections.

'ACCEPT VERDICT, TIME TO INTROSPECT'

"We accept the verdict of the people. We will be introspecting on where the party went wrong. We did relatively better in Jalalabad where we got almost 11,000 votes. We will re-strategise our political line and increase our mass voter connect." Harpal Singh Cheema, LEADER OF OPPOSITION

Today's results are also a definite referendum on the performance of state AAP president Bhagwant Mann. It was he who wanted complete autonomy in the Punjab affairs and was granted complete freedom to choose candidates, campaign and address issues in these elections. If credit for a win were to be his, the responsibility of a drubbing too is his. Perhaps it is also time for the party to become open to sharing of responsibilities/power, than restricting these in one hand.

Harpal Singh Cheema, leader of Opposition, told The Tribune that while they

accept the verdict of the people, they would be introspecting on where the party went wrong. "We did relatively better in Jalalabad where we got almost 11,000 votes. But in days to come we will be re-strategising our political line and increase our mass voter connect. One reason why people of Dakha have rejected us is that they felt betrayed by our former MLA HS Phoolka. Interestingly, even the BJP has been rejected by Punjab's voters," he said.

The dismal results for AAP are an indication of Punjab's political scene once again going bilinear.

Security of leaders pruned

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24

The Punjab Police have pruned the security cover of several political leaders and private persons by withdrawing nearly 600 men.

Details of the security withdrawn emerged today when a police spokesperson revealed that the pruning exercise had been going on for a couple of weeks that resulted in withdrawal of 600 men. These have been deployed at police stations

across the state but mainly in border districts.

The matter came to light when SAD general secretary Daljit Singh Cheema took to Twitter accusing the Congress of withdrawing five out of his seven gunmen immediately after poll results today. He said he had never sought security in the first place and the Congress government had on its own given him security of seven persons last year.

A police spokesperson

said the orders to withdraw security were made on September 30 and October 18 respectively.

Inquiries revealed the police had withdrawn gunmen from several political leaders and private individuals. They were given security as per established norms of their position or on basis of threat perception.

A police spokesperson said many persons used security as a status symbol which the police was discouraging now.

Assembly session to mark Parkash Purb Speaker to take call on AAP MLAs' disqualification: HC

CABINET MEET
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATALA, OCTOBER 24
The Punjab Cabinet today gave the green light to hold a special one-day session of the Vidhan Sabha on November 6, three days before Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh leads an all-party delegation to Kartarpur through the corridor, to mark the 550th birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev. The Cabinet, at a meeting held here today in PUDA ground, decided to recommend to the Governor summoning the 9th session of House under the relevant provisions of the Constitution of India.



Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh and his Cabinet colleagues flash the victory sign after the party's win in three Assembly seats, in Batala on Thursday. PHOTO: VISHAL KUMAR

Fee of pvt health sciences varsities to be regulated
■ In pursuance of the recommendations of a Cabinet Sub-Committee constituted in June, the government has decided to regulate the fee of private health sciences universities to check undue burden on students.
■ The Cabinet gave approval to amend the Punjab Private Health Sciences Educational Institutions (Regulation of Admission, Fixation of Fee and Making of Reservation) Act 2006 by promulgating an Ordinance.
■ The cabinet approved amendment in the 2006 Act in order to bring private health sciences universities under its purview. With this amendment, the fee fixed by the state government would be applicable to private universities.

Approval was also given for the sanction for four vacant posts at Qila Mubarik in Patiala. The Cabinet also gave the green light to the new guidelines for the disbursement of capital subsidy and investment incentives to

industrial units lying closed in Punjab. The Cabinet also approved reduction in the existing provision of maximum period of continuous leave for five years by amending Punjab Civil Services rules.

Ex facto approval was also given to revive two posts of drivers at Punjab Raj Bhawan. The Cabinet also approved the annual administrative report of the Rural Development and Panchayats Department highlighting its activities for the year 2017-18.

The decks have also been cleared for appointments to be made to the State Police Complaints Authority under the 'Punjab Police Act-2007' with the Cabinet approving the Punjab Police (Appointment of Chairperson and Members of Complaints Authorities) Rules, 2019.

Now an officer of the rank of Chief Secretary or Secretary to the Government of India can be appointed as Chairperson of the State Police Complaints Authority. The other two members could be in the rank of Principal Secretary or ADGP or persons from academic, social work or law and public affairs fields.

SAURABH MALIK
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
The Punjab and Haryana High Court has ruled that the final authority to take a decision on disqualification of four AAP MLAs, who "switched over to other parties", was the Punjab Assembly Speaker.

The ruling by the Bench of Chief Justice Ravi Shanker Jha and first puisne Justice Rajiv Sharma came on a petition filed in public interest against the State of Punjab and other respondents by advocate Ravinder Singh Rana through counsel Baltej Singh Sidhu.

He was seeking direction to the State of Punjab and Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker to decide his legal notice dated May 31 in this regard. Directions were also sought to the authorities to immediately withhold the pay, perks, allowances, and all financial and other benefits being paid to MLAs Sukhpal Singh Khaira, Baldev Singh, Nazar Singh Manshahia and Aranjit Singh Sandoa as they were disqualified "on account of having defected from their party".



The ruling has come on a petition filed in public interest against the State of Punjab and other respondents by an advocate

Sidhu submitted that the four were elected as MLAs from Aam Admi Party. But they later switched over to other parties, "thereby incurring disqualification under Articles 102(2) and 191(2) of the Constitution of India and Clause 2(1)(a) of the Tenth Schedule which makes the provision for disqualification on the ground of defection". Sidhu, during the course of arguments, submitted that he was not praying for a direction to respondent-Speaker to decide his representation and may be permitted to withdraw the prayer. But, he added, the respondents had incurred disqualification prescribed under the law. As such, they were required to be declared disqualified candidates. He also relied upon Supreme Court decision in the case of "Dr Mahachandra Prasad Singh versus Chairman, Bihar Legislative Council and others". After hearing counsel for the petitioner, perusing the Supreme Court decision and the provisions of the Tenth Schedule, the Bench asserted it was of the opinion that the final authority to take a decision in respect of their disqualification was the Speaker. "The Supreme Court in the decision relied upon by the petitioner and quoted in his petition has categorically laid down the law in this regard. The Supreme Court has also held that the Speaker or the Chairman, as the case may be, has to take a decision in this regard. In these circumstances, this Court is precluded from taking any decision regarding the disqualification of the respondents..." the Bench added.

Nod to Guru Nanak open university

BATALA, OCTOBER 24
As part of the state government's commemoration of the 550th Parkash Purb of Guru Nanak Dev, the Punjab Cabinet on Thursday okayed the establishment of the "Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University" in Patiala. Disclosing this here today, a spokesperson for the Chief Minister's Office, said a Bill would be presented in the next session of the Vidhan Sabha for the establishment of this university. The decision to set up the open-university is in line with the global shift in the nature of education, with more and more students

pursuing online courses through distance education. The main objective of the University is to provide educational opportunities to students with no or little access to institutions of regular higher learning. The university would focus on the realisation of equal opportunities in higher education for all sections of the population, including those in employment, women, housewives, adults and non-resident Indians, who wish to upgrade their qualification or acquire knowledge and studies in various fields through the Open and Distance Learning mode. — TNS

4-year strategic action plan gets approval

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATALA, OCTOBER 24
The state Cabinet on Thursday gave in-principle approval for a Four-Year Strategic Action Plan (4SAP)-2019 to 2023 to set sustainable development goals for the departments of Social Security and Child Development and Women Welfare, Transport, Industry and Commerce and Cooperation.

The action plan will also set the key performance parameters for government officials to enable integration of the departments into the development process of the state. It was also decided

to approve their integration into the state budgetary process. Disclosing this here today, an official spokesperson of the Chief Minister's Office said these key parameters were in line with the United Nations 2030 Development agenda, which contains 17 sustainable development goals, comprehensively covering social, economic and environmental dimensions. Focused on goals, targets and performance assessment of each department, these would be reflected in the annual performance appraisal reports of key personnel as per targets assigned to them.

3 advocates appointed addl judges

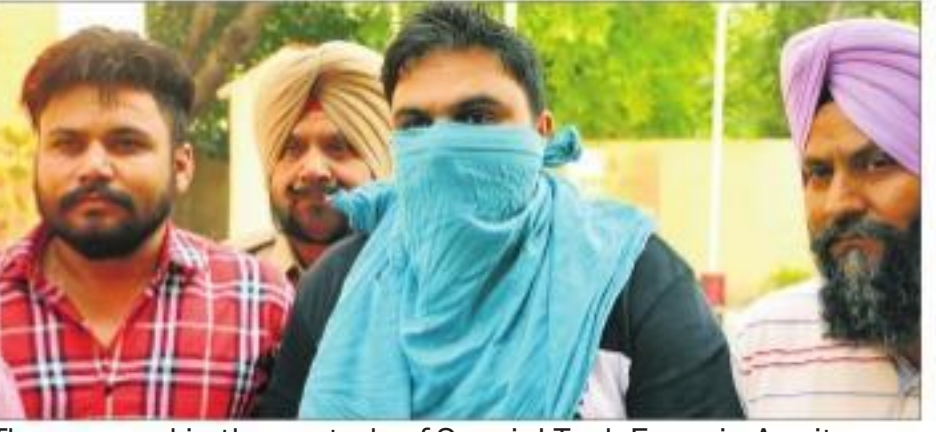
NEW DELHI, OCT 24

Three advocates were today appointed additional judges of the Punjab and Haryana High Court. A Law Ministry notification said Suvir Sehgal, Girish Agnihotri and Alka Sarin have been appointed as additional judges of the High Court. But there was no word on Jaspurpreet Singh Puri and Kamal Sehgal, whose names were also cleared by the collegium on July 25, sources in the government said. — PTI

9-kg heroin seized; one held

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, OCTOBER 24
Special Task Force personnel have arrested a peddler and seized 9-kg heroin from him. He has been identified as Satnam Singh Satta, a resident of Marhana village in Tarn Taran. His accomplice Balwinder Singh Laddi of Bagria village managed to slip away. STF AIG Bhupinder Singh said at a press conference here today that Satta was nabbed in January this year for allegedly possessing 500-gm heroin. He was currently on bail. He is a close relative of Balwinder



The accused in the custody of Special Task Force in Amritsar.

Singh Laddi, who is already facing four cases of cross-border drug smuggling in different parts of the state. He, too, was in Satta's car (PB02DN6549) when they were intercepted in Manawala following a tip-off. They were coming to Amritsar from the Jalandhar side. The AIG said further interrogation was under way to ascertain from where the contraband was sneaked in from across the barbed fence. He said more recoveries and arrests were likely.

Interstate gangster lands in police net

OUR CORRESPONDENT

KHANNA, OCTOBER 24
The Khanna police have arrested an interstate gangster, Shubham, alias Bigni, of Haryana, among five persons. Shubham allegedly killed Sonu Shah at Burail, Chandigarh, about a month ago apart from committing a number of crimes. Others have been identified as Rajinder Singh of Ikolahi village, Ranjit Singh of Turmari village; Gurjit Singh of Ikolahi and a woman, Anju Bala of Haryana. Three firearms, 13 cartridges, six stolen bikes and a tractor-trolley have been seized. Khanna SSP Gursharn-deep Singh Grewal said the police got a tip-off about them and raided a deserted place near the Amloh road to nab them as they were planning to loot a jeweller's showroom in Khanna. The SSP said Shubham has been a national champion in athletics and shot-put. He is said to have been involved in about 17 cases of murder, robbery and firing incidents. Shubham came in contact with gangster Lawrence Bishnoi in jail. After coming out of jail, he became friendly with notorious gangsters Mohit Mental, Kala Rana, Raju Bisodia, Rajan Amabala and others. According to the SSP, Shubham was involved in



YOUTH DIES OF DRUG OVERDOSE
Muktsar: A youth died of alleged drug overdose on Goniana road here on Thursday. The victim has been identified as Avtar Singh, alias, Tari, who worked as a labourer. When Avtar came back home, his health deteriorated. His family members took him to a hospital, where the doctors declared him dead. TNS

three murders in Mahua Kheri village in Haryana. Along with Raju, Rajan, Kala and one more youth, he killed Sonu Shah in Chandigarh. Shubham stole a Swift car in Rajasthan and shot dead its owner Jeetu after a brawl. He is a proclaimed offender in that case. To evade arrest, he came to Khanna with his friend Rajinder Singh of Ikolahi and Ranjit of Turmari along with a girl, said to be his lover, and formed a gang. Khanna SP (I) JS Cheema and others were present at the press conference.

KHALSA COLLEGE OF NURSING
AMRITSAR www.kcnasr.org
DIRECT ADMISSION 2019-20
Applications are invited for direct admission in M.Sc.Nursing (MSN,OBG,PSY & Community Health Nursing) & B.Sc. Nursing (Post Basic) as per INC and BFUHS criteria. Applications must reach on or before 26-10-2019 (Saturday) till 1:00pm in the College. Counselling will be held on 29-10-2019 (Tuesday) at 8:30am in Principal's office (Khalasa College of Nursing, Amritsar) Applications are invited for direct admission in GNM, ANM & Certificate courses (Home Based Care Helper, Emergency care Ambulance Attendance, Operation Theatre Attendant, Hospital & Home Based Care Attendant) till 31-10-2019.
DR. KAMALJIT KAUR RAJINDER MOHAN SINGH CHHINA
PRINCIPAL HONORARY SECRETARY
Ph: 0183-5030792, Email: collegekhalasa@yahoo.in KCCS, Amritsar

ਦਫਤਰ ਮੈਡੀਕਲ ਸੁਪਰਡੈਂਟ, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਹਸਪਤਾਲ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।
ਹਰ ਅਮ ਤੇ ਖਾਸ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਹਸਪਤਾਲ ਕੰਪਲੈਕਸ, ਮਜੀਠਾ ਰੋਡ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਅਤੇ ਰਾਜ ਲਾਲ ਅੱਖਾਂ ਤੇ ਕੰਨਾਂ ਦਾ ਹਸਪਤਾਲ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਸਾਈਕਲ, ਸਕੂਟਰ/ਕਾਰ ਪਾਰਕਿੰਗ ਸਟੈਂਡ ਨੂੰ ਤਿੰਨ ਸਾਲ ਲਈ ਠੇਕੇ 'ਤੇ ਦੇਣ ਲਈ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹੀ ਬੋਲੀ (OPEN AUCTION) ਮਿਤੀ 13.11.2019, ਸਵੇਰੇ 11 ਵਜੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਪ੍ਰਿੰਸੀਪਲ, ਮੈਡੀਕਲ ਕਾਲਜ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਹਰ ਬੋਲੀਕਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਬੋਲੀ ਦੇਣ ਲਈ ਚਾਰ ਲੱਖ ਰੁਪਏ ਦਾ ਡਿਮਾਂਡ ਡਰਾਫਟ ਮੈਡੀਕਲ ਸੁਪਰਡੈਂਟ, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਕੰਪਲੈਕਸ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਦੇ ਨਾਂ 'ਤੇ ਜਮਾਂ ਕਰਵਾਉਣਾ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ ਅਤੇ ਨਾਲ ਹੀ ਆਪਣੇ ਪਹਿਚਾਣ ਪੱਤਰ ਦੀ ਫੋਟੋ ਕਾਪੀ ਦੇਣੀ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਅਜਿਹਾ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਜਿਸ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਕੋਈ ਰਕਮ ਬਰਾਇਆ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ, ਉਹ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿਚ ਭਾਗ ਨਹੀਂ ਲੈ ਸਕਦਾ। ਬੋਲੀ ਦੀ ਰਿਜ਼ਾਵ ਕੀਮਤ 38,00,100/- (ਅਠੱਤੀ ਲੱਖ ਤਿੰਨ ਹਜ਼ਾਰ ਇਕ ਸੌ ਕੇਵਲ)। ਬੋਲੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨ ਹੋਣ 'ਤੇ ਬੋਲੀਕਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਛੇ ਮਹੀਨੇ ਦੀਆਂ ਕਿਸਤਾਂ ਜਮਾਨਤੀ ਰਕਮ ਵਜੋਂ ਇਕ ਹਫਤੇ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ ਅੱਧ ਜਮਾਂ ਕਰਵਾਉਣੀਆਂ ਹੋਣਗੀਆਂ। ਅਜਿਹਾ ਨਾ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਸੂਰਤ ਵਿਚ ਬਿਆਨ ਦੀ ਰਾਸ਼ੀ ਜ਼ਬਤ ਕਰ ਲਈ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ ਅਤੇ ਅਗਲੇ ਬੋਲੀਕਾਰ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਠੇਕੇ ਦੇਣ ਲਈ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਸਫਲ ਬੋਲੀਕਾਰ 'ਵੱਲੋਂ ਇਸ ਸੰਸਥਾ ਨਾਲ ਐਗਰੀਮੈਂਟ ਹਸਤਾਖਰ ਕਰਨਾ ਲਾਜ਼ਮੀ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਅਜਿਹਾ ਨਾ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਸੂਰਤ ਵਿਚ ਉਸ ਦਾ ਠੇਕਾ ਬੈਂਸਲ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ। ਪ੍ਰਿੰਸੀਪਲ-ਕਮ-ਚੇਅਰਮੈਨ, ਮੈਡੀਕਲ ਕਾਲਜ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਜੀ ਨੂੰ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਬੋਲੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨ ਕਰਨ ਜਾਂ ਨਾ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਰਾਖਵਾਂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਬਾਕੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਡਰਾਫਟਾਂ (www.gmc.edu.in) 'ਤੇ ਵੇਖੀਆਂ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਜੇਕਰ ਇਸ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕੋਈ ਸਵਾਲ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ (www.gmc.edu.in) 'ਤੇ ਅਪਲੋਡ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਇਸ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕੋਈ ਵੱਖਰਾ ਇਤਿਹਾਸ ਨਹੀਂ ਛਪਾਇਆ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।
ਸਹੀ/- ਮੈਡੀਕਲ ਸੁਪਰਡੈਂਟ, ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਹਸਪਤਾਲ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ।
DPR/IPb/D7085

LALA LAJPAT RAI UNIVERSITY OF VETERINARY & ANIMAL SCIENCES, HISAR
(Established by Haryana Legislature Act No. 7 of 2010)
CORRIGENDUM - ADVT. NO. 2/2019
Corrigendum of offline/online applications Advt. 2/2019 appeared in Dainik Jagran (All Haryana Edition), The Tribune (English) Chandigarh Edition and Employment News on 11.09.2019.
It is for information of all the candidates belonging to EWS Category of Haryana Domicile who have submitted or are to submit their offline applications (Teaching) will be charged application processing fee of Rs. 400/- (Male) Rs. 200/- (Female) and online (Non-Teaching) Rs. 250/- (Male) Rs. 125/- (Female). Those who have already submitted their offline/online applications are advised either to submit their applications form again or they may deposit the fee in the shape of Demand Draft to be issued in favour of Registrar, LUVAS, Hisar, otherwise their candidature will be cancelled.
As per State Govt. instructions dated 03.07.2019, relaxation in maximum age will be granted up to the last date of receipt of applications to the persons who have already worked or are presently working on ad hoc/contract/work charged/daily wages/under outsourcing policy in Board/Corporation of Haryana Govt., equal to the period the person has worked under these policies excluding the period of break, if any.
The last date for receipt of offline/online applications is hereby extended up to 31.10.2019 (For non teaching and teaching posts including residing abroad).
PRDH/78992 Registrar

INDIAN OIL CORPORATION LTD.
(Refineries Division)
PANIPAT REFINERY & PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX
2019 YEAR OF SOLUTIONS
Notification for Engagement of Apprentices
Indian Oil Corporation Limited, the largest commercial undertaking in India and a Fortune "Global 500" Company, as a measure of Skill Building Initiative for the Nation, invites applications from candidates with following qualification for engagement as Apprentices in Panipat Refinery & Petrochemical Complex, Panipat, Haryana under Apprentices Act, 1961/1973 (as amended) in the Trades / Disciplines mentioned below.
Provisional Number of seats & likely reservations and other eligibility criteria / parameters shall be as under:

Post Code	Trade / Discipline	Qualification	Period of Training	Seats#					
				Total Nos	UR	EWS	SC	OBC (NCL)	*PWBD (Horizontal)
101	Trade Apprentice / Attendant Operator (Chemical Plant) Discipline - Chemical	3 years B.Sc (Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry / Industrial Chemistry)	12 Months	62	27	6	12	17	Nil
102	Trade Apprentice (Fitter) Discipline - Mechanical	Metric with 2 (Two) years ITI (Fitter) course	12 Months	62	27	6	12	17	3
104	Technician Apprentice Discipline - Chemical	3 years Diploma in Chemical Engg. / Refinery & Petro-Chemical Engg.	12 Months	58	26	5	11	16	Nil
105	Technician Apprentice Discipline - Mechanical	3 years Diploma in Mechanical Engg.	12 Months	12	6	1	2	3	1
106	Technician Apprentice Discipline - Electrical	3 years Diploma in Electrical Engg.	12 Months	55	25	5	11	14	3
107	Technician Apprentice Discipline - Instrumentation	3 years Diploma in Instrumentation / Instrumentation & Electronics / Instrumentation & Control Engg.	12 Months	9	5	1	1	2	1
108	Trade Apprentice-Secretarial Assistant	3 years B.A. / B.Sc / B.Com	15 Months	7	4	1	1	1	1
109	Trade Apprentice - Accountant	3 years B.Com	12 Months	4	1	1	1	1	1
110	Trade Apprentice - Data Entry Operator (Fresher Apprentices)	Class XII pass	15 Months	5	2	1	1	1	0
111	Trade Apprentice - Data Entry Operator (Skill Certificate Holders)	Class XII Pass with Skill Certificate Holder in 'Domestic Data Entry Operator'	15 Months	4	3	0	0	1	1
				278	126	27	52	73	11

Number of seats indicated above are tentative and may increase or decrease in the relevant categories at the absolute discretion of the Management and in compliance with the Presidential Directives on reservation at the time of engagement.
Stipend : Rate of stipend payable to apprentices per month shall be as prescribed under Apprentices Act, 1961 / 1973 / Apprentices Rules 1992 (as amended) and Corporation's guidelines.
How to apply : For details of advertisement and required qualification, age, & other eligibility criteria of the above notified engagement and how to apply etc., visit our website www.iocl.com and go to "Show All" under "What's New" > go to Engagement of Apprentices under Refineries Division> select the trade / discipline> select the link of Panipat Refinery to apply ON-LINE. Applications submitted through ON - LINE MODE Only will be accepted.

Important Dates For Candidates:

Date of Opening of Online Application Portal	25.10.2019 (10.00 Hrs)
Date of Closing of Online Application Portal	15.11.2019 (17.00 Hrs)
Tentative Date for Download of Admit Card by Candidates	20.11.2019 - 23.11.2019
Tentative Date of Written Test (At Panipat)	24.11.2019
Tentative Date of Publication of Written Test Result	29.11.2019
Tentative Date of Document Verification & PEME	04.12.2019 - 11.12.2019

Advertisement No. PRP/Apprentice/52 (2019-20)



“We are satisfied with the results. The key to power is with the JJP as both the Congress and BJP have failed to cross 40 seats. We will take further action after talking to our MLAs.” **DUSHYANT CHAUTALA, JJP LEADER**



“We will not support the Congress. It has been behind the conspiracy of sending our leaders to jail. The INLD cannot forgive a party which hatched such a big conspiracy. We would rather sit in the Opposition.” **ABHAY CHAUTALA, INLD**



“I accept people’s verdict with all humility. The BJP will form the government and we will continue to serve the people of Haryana.” **CAPT ABHIMANYU, BJP**

Hooda returns, and how

In few weeks, veteran Cong leader turns around fortunes of fading, faction-ridden party

GEETANJALI GAYATRI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
The Congress performance in Haryana has upset the BJP’s calculations of seamlessly stepping into a second term under the leadership of Manohar Lal Khattar and the party seems to have exceeded its own expectations this Assembly election as it celebrated its resurgence.

While the overconfidence of the BJP, economic slowdown, anti-incumbency as also the poor selection of candidates are being blamed for the ruling party’s performance, the new Dalit-Jat team of Haryana Congress chief Kumari Selja and Congress Legislature Party leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda is being credited with turning around the fortunes of the Congress in Haryana in over a month.

The tallest of Jat leaders in the state, Hooda, also considered a farmers’ leader, supported by a majority of the party MLAs, struggled for nearly two years to press for former Congressman and then state chief Ashok Tanwar’s ouster, with little success.

Finally, Hooda’s supporters, restless over being ignored, began to push him to float his own party soon after the Lok Sabha election results were declared in May this year. In a weak position after having lost the Lok Sabha election from the Sonapat seat, Hooda suffered a double blow when his son and sitting Rohtak MP, Deepender Hooda, also lost the election.



AFTER LS DRUBBING, MAKES COMEBACK

May 23: Former CM loses from Sonapat, son Deepender from Rohtak

August 18: Hooda holds Mahaparivartan rally in Rohtak

September 4: Selja named HPCC president, Hooda is named CLP leader

As Hooda weighed his options and talk of an independent political outfit being floated under his leadership began to gain ground, he summoned a couple of meetings as a show of strength for the benefit of the party high command.

He held a final meeting on August 18 in Rohtak to chalk out the future course of action in the face of an indifferent Congress top brass.

With the party’s general secretary in charge of Haryana, Ghulam Nabi Azad, on his side, Hooda’s wait bore fruit when the Congress replaced Tanwar with Selja and he was given the status of CLP leader on September 4, a month before the Assembly elections were announced.

The new team inherited a number of challenges with the Congress divided into numerous factions and the party having no organisational structure at grass-roots level while the ruling BJP was on a roll after winning all 10 seats

“The Congress will form the next government in the state. We believe that all non-BJP parties should come together to form the new government and defeat the BJP agenda.”

BS Hooda,
CONGRESS LEADER

in the Lok Sabha elections.

Breathing new life into a failing Congress, a rejuvenated Hooda toured the state extensively. Hoping to consolidate the Jats behind him after the split in the Indian National Lok Dal, Hooda hit the tarmac run-

ning and went about campaigning in pockets where his presence would make a difference while always keeping the focus on the Deswali belt where he has considerable sway.

Having held various positions in the party, including that of the state chief from 1996 to 2001, Hooda served as Chief Minister of the state from 2005 to 2014. Soon after the BJP assumed power, he was targeted and the CBI slapped cases against him. Though his chips were down, he carried on with his struggle against the BJP and kept

the fight against Tanwar’s ouster alive, not giving up and not giving in.

THE TWO-TIME CM

1991: Becomes MP for the first time
1996, 1998, 2004: Elected MP
1996-2001: State Cong chief
2001-2004: Leader of Opposition in Vidhan Sabha
2005-2014: CM of Haryana

BS Hooda flashes the victory sign as he leaves a counting centre in Rohtak. P11

PROMINENT WINNERS



SANDEEP SINGH
BJP
MARGIN: **5,314**



KIRAN CHOUDHARY
CONG
MARGIN: **18,059**



KULDEEP BISHNOI
CONG
MARGIN: **29,471**



NAINA CHAUTALA
JJP
MARGIN: **13,704**



GOPAL KANDA
HLP
MARGIN: **602**

PROMINENT LOSERS



RANDEEP SURJEWALA
CONG
MARGIN: **1,246**



SUBHASH BARALA
BJP
MARGIN: **52,302**



RAM BILAS SHARMA
BJP
MARGIN: **10,220**



OP DHANKAR
BJP
MARGIN: **11,245**



KAVITA JAIN
BJP
MARGIN: **32,878**

Khattar fails to unite non-Jat, urban voters

Below par show: Jats get back at BJP govt led by a non-Jat; side with Congress, Jannayak Janta Party

PRADEEP SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
The failure of the ruling BJP to consolidate non-Jat votes and the dominant Jat community hitting back at the saffron party have accounted for the “below par” performance of the BJP in the Haryana Assembly elections.

This coupled with a low voter turnout in the urban areas, considered to be the stronghold of the BJP, its failure to polarise the non-Jat urban voters and the dominance of local issues as against the party’s national narrative centred around abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, have contributed to a “hung Assembly” in the state.

However, the biggest take-away from the election results is that the influential Jats, which constitute around 25%



JJP leader Naina Chautala gets a certificate from the ECI after her victory from Badhra. MANOJ DHAKA

of the total electorate, delivered a big blow to the BJP government, led by a non-Jat Chief Minister Manohar Lak Khattar, especially in the rural Assembly segments.

Riding high on the “Modi

wave” and polarisation of non-Jat and urban votes, the BJP had formed the first government in the state in the 2014 Assembly elections.

This time around, the party has failed to consolidate the

non-Jat vote bank to put itself in a winning position. Since the rural Assembly segments, which have a sizeable Jat vote bank, accounted for heavy voting, the BJP remained at a disadvantage as compared to

the Opposition parties in the rural segments.

In fact, two Jat leaders, Bhupinder Singh Hooda (Congress) and Dushyant Chautala (JJP), who single-handedly led the election campaigns of their respective parties as against an array of star campaigners of the BJP, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, have managed to pocket nearly half of the 90 seats.

While Hooda is considered to be the tallest Jat leader in the state, Dushyant’s JJP has made major inroads into the vote bank of its parent organisation INLD comprising rural Jat peasantry. In fact, this is being reflected in the election results in the constituencies which have sizeable Jat voters as the Congress and the JJP have been able to win a majority of these seats.

Two Jat leaders, Bhupinder Hooda and Dushyant Chautala, who single-handedly led the election campaigns of their parties as against an array of star campaigners of the BJP, led by PM Narendra Modi, managed to pocket nearly half of the 90 seats.

WHAT TILTED SCALES AGAINST BJP GOVT

■ Heavy voting in Jat-dominated rural areas, low voting in non-Jat dominated urban areas worked out to BJP’s disadvantage.

■ Local issues dominated the electoral scene as against BJP’s nationalist narrative centred around Article 370.



Anil Vij after winning for the sixth time. DEV DUTT SHARMA

Bonding over tea, Vij sails through again

SUSHIL MANAV
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
Anil Vij today achieved the “rare” distinction of retaining his Ambala Cantonment seat even as all other Cabinet ministers of Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar’s Cabinet lost the elections.

Vij not only won the seat, but also made a hat-trick of victories from his Assembly segment. He had won this seat in 2009 and 2014 too.

Earlier, Vij had won the Ambala Cantonment seat in 1996 and 2000, too, but he missed making a hat-trick as he lost the seat to Devender Kumar Bansal of the Congress in 2005. This is Vij’s sixth victory as he won this seat for the first time in 1990 in a byelection.

Known for his straightforwardness, plain-speaking and integrity, Vij did not even accept an official bungalow offered to him as a minister after he was sworn in as Sports and Youths Welfare Minister in 2014.

He used to stay at his personal residence in Ambala Cantonment and drove to Chandigarh daily to attend his official duties.

“I did not want to remain disconnected from the people who elected me. I would meet people at my Ambala residence in the morning and reach office in the civil secretariat in Chandigarh in the afternoon,” Vij said when contacted by The Tribune.

During all his hectic schedules, Vij never forgot to visit newspaper stalls in Sadar Bazar, Ambala Cantonment, in the morning to read various newspapers over sips of tea.

“Even today, when counting was in progress and other candidates were sitting in the counting hall, I spent most part of my day at my ‘tea-point,’” the minister said.

He said the time spent at the stall would provide him an opportunity to know what is happening in the town and it also made it easier for people to approach him.



Second defeat for leader this year after losing Jind bypoll in Jan



SUSHIL MANAV
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
Even as the Congress has performed better than people’s expectations in Haryana Assembly elections today, defeat of AICC Media In-charge Randeep Surjewala from Kaithal is being considered a big setback for him personally and the party high command as well.

Surjewala today lost the Kaithal seat to Lila Ram Guj-

Kaithal loss big setback for Surjewala, Congress

DID CONSTITUENCY FEEL BETRAYED?

■ During his campaign for Jind bypoll in January, Surjewala had to assure people that he would quit Kaithal seat if he won the bypoll.

■ His statement apparently kept haunting Kaithal, where Surjewala’s opponent alleged that though Kaithal voters elected him twice, he had no attachment to them as he was ready to sacrifice the seat for Jind.

jar of the BJP by a margin of 567 votes. Surjewala, like former state Congress president Ashok Tanwar, was considered a confidant of Rahul

Gandhi in particular and the Gandhi family in general.

While Tanwar has already bid adieu to the party after he was replaced with Kumari

Selja and ignored in distribution of tickets, with Surjewala’s defeat, it is like complete decimation of Team Rahul in the state Congress.

At the personal level, today’s result is the second electoral defeat for Surjewala in the year 2019, as he had lost miserably in the Jind byelection held in January this year.

Many were surprised when Surjewala chose to contest from Jind, as it is quite uncommon for a sitting MLA

to contest from another seat in a byelection.

During his campaign in Jind, Surjewala had to assure people that he would quit Kaithal seat if he won the bypoll. However, his statement kept haunting Kaithal, where Surjewala’s opponent alleged that though Kaithal voters elected him twice, but he had no attachment to them.

Accepting his defeat, Surjewala, in a tweet, thanked the people of Kaithal.



“This is a people’s victory. I thank all the voters of the Assembly constituency of Ambala Cantonment and resolve to serve them for the next five years.” **ANIL VIJ, BJP**



“The voters of Dadri have given me a lot of love and support. I will continue to work for the people of my area and popularise the policies of the Bharatiya Janata Party.” **BABITA PHOGAT, BJP**



“I was sure that I will win by a high margin. The Congress will try to bring together like-minded people to keep the BJP out of power in Haryana.” **KULDEEP BISHNOI, CONGRESS**

7 Independents can play kingmaker

BHARTESH SINGH THAKUR
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
A number of BJP rebel candidates — Rakesh Daultabad, Balraj Kundu, Nayan Pal Rawat, Randhir Singh Gollen, Sombir and Dharam Pal Gonder — can be kingmakers in formation of the next government.

The BJP denied ticket to student leader Nayan Pal Rawat from Prithla and awarded it to Sohan Pal, who came a poor third. Rawat defeated Congress candidate Raghuraj Tewatia by 16,429 votes.

Meham MLA Balraj Kundu was also expecting the BJP ticket. After he lost the race to Shamsher Kharkara, he chose to fight as an Independent candidate and reduced the BJP to third position. He won by a margin of 12,047 votes.

Sombir fought as an Independent candidate from Dadri after the BJP chose Olympian Babita Phogat. He won by a margin of 14,272 votes, reducing Phogat to third position.



SAFFRON REBELS COME UP TRUMPS

■ Sombir fought as an Independent candidate from Dadri after the BJP chose Olympian Babita Phogat. He won by a margin of 14,272 votes, reducing Phogat to third position.

■ BJP rebel Randhir Singh Gollen, who won by a margin of 12,824 votes from Pundri, reduced the BJP nominee to third position. Rakesh Daultabad from Badshahpur defeated saffron party’s Manish Yadav by 10,000 votes.

Supporters of Independent nominee Rakesh Daultabad celebrate in Gurugram.

BJP rebel Randhir Singh Gollen, who won by a margin of 12,824 votes from Pundri, reduced the BJP nominee to third position. Rakesh Daultabad from Badshahpur defeated saffron party’s Manish Yadav by 10,000 votes.

Dharam Pal Gonder was also expecting the BJP ticket. After being denied the ticket, he fought as an Independent from Nilokheri and defeated the BJP candidate by a margin of 2,222 votes. Ranjit Singh Chautala

lost twice from Rania in the past. The Congress denied him the ticket. He contested as an Independent and won the seat by a margin of 19,431 votes. Congress choice Vineet Kamboj came fourth.

Congress was denial of ticket to Devender Singh Babli from Tohana. He chose the JJP and defeated state BJP president Subahsh Barala by a margin of 52,302 votes. The Congress nominee came a poor third.

Tanwar the big loser in this poll

GEETANJALI GAYATRI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24
A month after being replaced as state Congress chief by Kumari Selja, former Member of Parliament and party’s Dalit face for five years, Ashok Tanwar, seems to have lost the political battle as results to the Assembly elections came in.

From being the Congress top brass in the state to being former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi’s blue-eyed boy and running the party on his own terms, Tanwar, a former student leader, having quit the party in haste, is now virtually out in the cold with few takers.

His flip-flop attitude since he quit the Congress by offering support to the JJP in the



Ashok Tanwar

morning and extending cooperation to the INLD’s Abhay Chautala in Ellenabad in the evening also sent mixed signals about the direction his career would take.

Sources said his only USP during the elections was that he was a former Congress chief and was out to get former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda. His diatribe against Hooda was lapped up

by rival political parties, who not only extended support to Tanwar, but welcomed him with open arms. With elections over and results out, Tanwar’s future continues to hang in the balance since he does not have any options if he is not willing to join a party.

Though it is believed that Tanwar’s name for the post of state president was initially forwarded by former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, the two soon fell out and were at daggers drawn as they went public with their complaints against each other.

Having declared that he does not want to join any political party, it remains to be seen how he intends to keep himself relevant on the political scene.

Lal clans hold fort, six dynasts register wins

DEEPENDER DESWAL
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HISAR, OCTOBER 24
The BJP’s narrative on dynastic politics seems to have had little impact on the electorate as six members of the dynasties of Devi Lal, Bansi Lal and Bhajan Lal have won the elections. Eleven members of these three political dynasties were in the fray from seats in Hisar, Bhiwani, Jind and Sirsa districts.

BJP leaders led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah made a sustained attempt to wrest the traditional strongholds of these families. Modi held rallies in Hisar, Dadri and Sirsa districts, where he attacked political dynasties, especially the Chautala clan.

During the rally at Mallekan village in the Ellenabad Assembly segment of Sirsa on the last day of campaigning, Modi urged people to dismantle their fort. Despite a split in the Chautala family, leading to formation of the JJP, five members of the Chautala family

5 FROM ONE VILLAGE

Five candidates belonging to Chautala village in Sirsa district have been elected to the Assembly. Ranjit Singh, Abhay Chautala, Naina Chautala, Dushyant Chautala and Amit Sihag are residents of this village. Devi Lal was the Deputy Prime Minister while Om Prakash Chautala served as Chief Minister.

secured easy victories.

JJP leader Dushyant Chautala registered victory by 47,452 votes over BJP’s Prem Lata in Uchana Kalan, considered the stronghold of Prem Lata’s husband Birender Singh. Dushyant’s mother Naina Chautala defeated Bansi Lal’s son Ranbir Mahendra by 13,704 votes from Badhra seat in Bhiwani district.

Devi Lal’s son Ranjit Singh won as an Independent from Rania by 19,431 votes. Devi Lal’s grandson and INLD leader Abhay Chautala won from Ellen-

abad by 11,922 votes.

Kuldeep Bishnoi, son of Bhajan Lal, the longest serving Chief Minister, retained the family pocket borough Adampur by defeating Tik-Tok star Sonali Phogat of the BJP by 29,471 votes. Bansi Lal’s daughter-in-law Kiran Choudhry retained her bastion Tosham in Bhiwani district, winning by 18,059 votes.

BJP candidate Aditya Devi Lal, grandson of Devi Lal, lost from the Dabwali Assembly seat. He was defeated by Amit Sihag, son of KV Singh, a distant relative of the Devi Lal family.

Bhajan Lal’s elder son Chander Mohan lost from Panchkula. Bansi Lal’s son-in-law Sombir Sangwan, Congress nominee, lost from the Loharu Assembly segment. Pawan Bansal, a political expert, stated that the anti-dynastic narrative of the BJP had fallen flat in the Assembly poll. He said the victory of members of the Lal dynasties indicated that their legacy still had appeal among the electorate in the state.

In Jat bastion Rohtak, zilch for saffron party

Cong wins 3 seats, BJP rebel bags one

SUNIT DHAWAN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, OCTOBER 24
In a remarkable performance, Congress nominees won three of the four Assembly seats — Rohtak, Garhi Sampla-Kiloi and Kalanaur (Reserved) — in Rohtak district, while the fourth seat — Mehram — was bagged by a BJP rebel who contested as an Independent candidate.

Former Haryana Chief Minister and veteran Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda defeated his nearest rival and BJP candidate Satish Nandal by a huge margin of 58,312 votes, which is the highest margin of victory in the entire state in these elections.

Hooda’s confidant,

Bharat Bhushan Batra of the Congress, defeated Haryana Minister of State for Cooperatives Manish Grover, the sitting MLA and BJP candidate for the Rohtak seat, by a margin of 2,735 votes.

Congress nominee Shakuntala Khatak defeated Ramavtar Balmiki of the BJP by 10,624 votes from the Kalanaur (Reserved) Assembly constituency in Rohtak district.

BJP rebel Balraj Singh Kundu, who contested the election for the Mehram Assembly seat as an Independent candidate, won by a margin of 12,047 votes. He defeated four-time Mehram MLA and Congress nominee Anand Singh Dang. Shamsher Kharkara of the BJP stood third.

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Two each for BJP, Cong in Panipat

MUKESH TANDON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PANIPAT, OCTOBER 24
In Panipat district, two Assembly segments went to the BJP while two were won by the Congress.

BJP candidates Pramod Vij and Mahipal Dhanda were declared winners in Panipat City and Panipat Rural seats, respectively, while Dharam Singh Chhokkar and Balbir Singh of the Congress registered wins from Samalkha and Israna (SC) constituencies, respectively.

As per the results, Pramod Vij, BJP candidate from Panipat City, got victory with a margin of 39,536 votes and he defeated Con-

gress candidate Sanjay Aggarwal. Vij got 76,839 votes while Aggarwal bagged 37,303 votes. Vij got a lead in the first round and maintained it till the last.

Congress candidate Balbir Singh defeated state Transport Minister and BJP candidate from Israna (SC) Krishan Lal Panwar by 20,015 votes. Balbir Singh bagged 61,376 votes while Panwar got 41,361 votes.

Mahipal Dhanda, BJP candidate from Panipat Rural seat, defeated JJP candidate Devender Kadyan by 21,961 votes. Dhanda bagged 67,086 votes while Kadyan got 45,125 votes.

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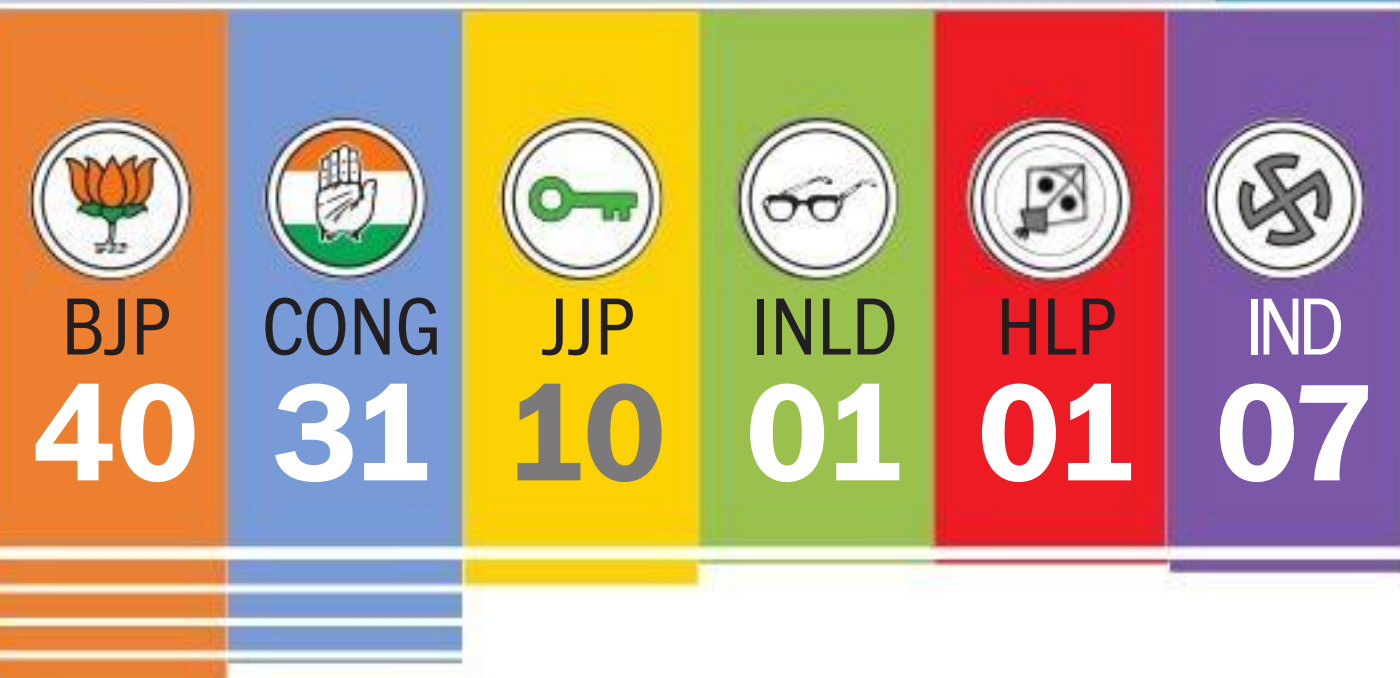
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On the auspicious occasion of
Diwali Festival & 550th Prakash Purb
Celebration by Chandigarh Administration
Venue : Sukhna Lake (Island)
Date : 25th Oct to 27th Oct 2019
Timings : 6.00 pm onwards
Event Highlights
• Intelligent Lighting Show of illumination of Sukhna Lake (Island)
• Violin & Saxophone Show on moving boat
• Laser Show on water screen
• Audio Visual Show of 550th Prakash Purb on water screen
• Ramayan Show on Water Screen
• Cracker Show on Water Screen through projector
"Let's celebrate green Diwali"
Sh. Manoj Parida, IAS
Adviser to the Administrator
Sh. Mukesh Anand
Chief Engineer

Cong, JJP spring surprise

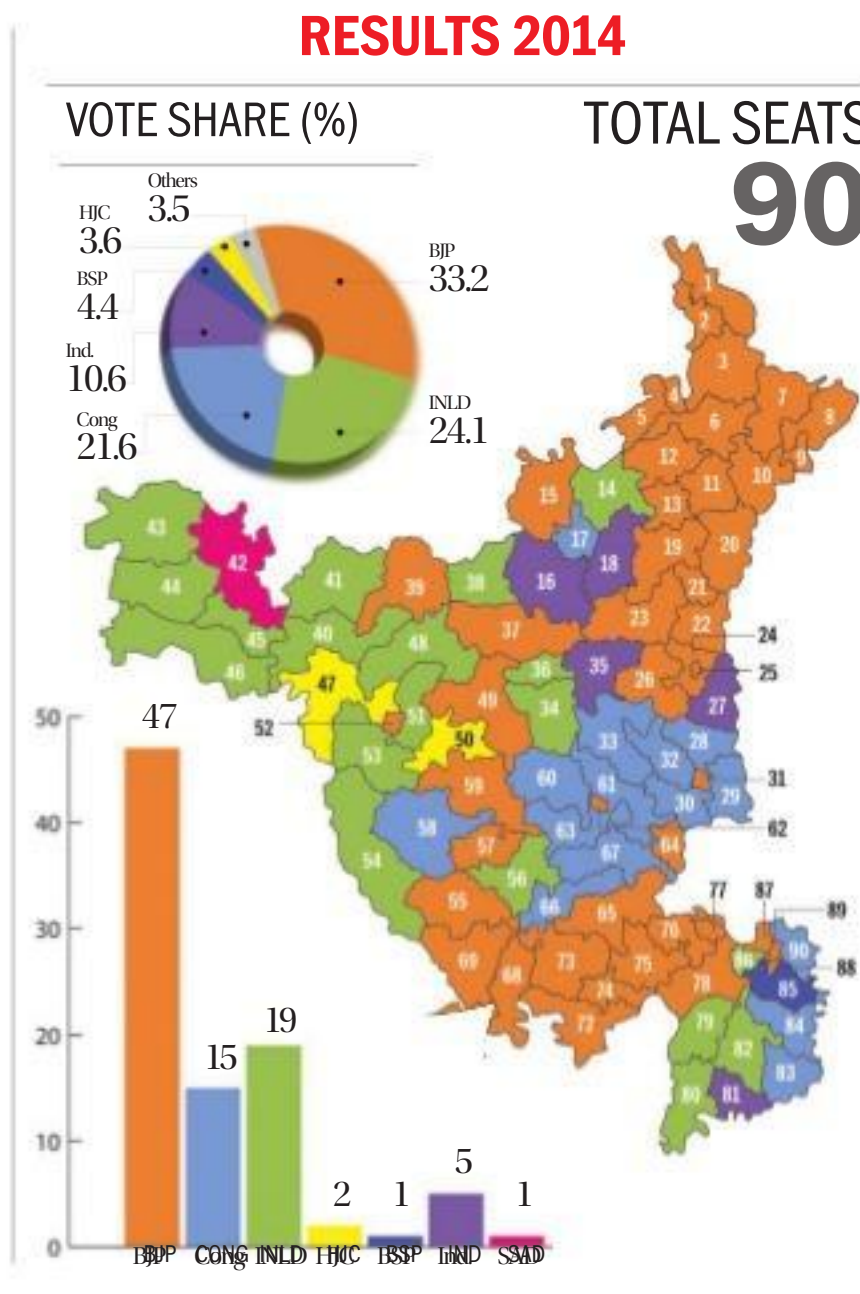
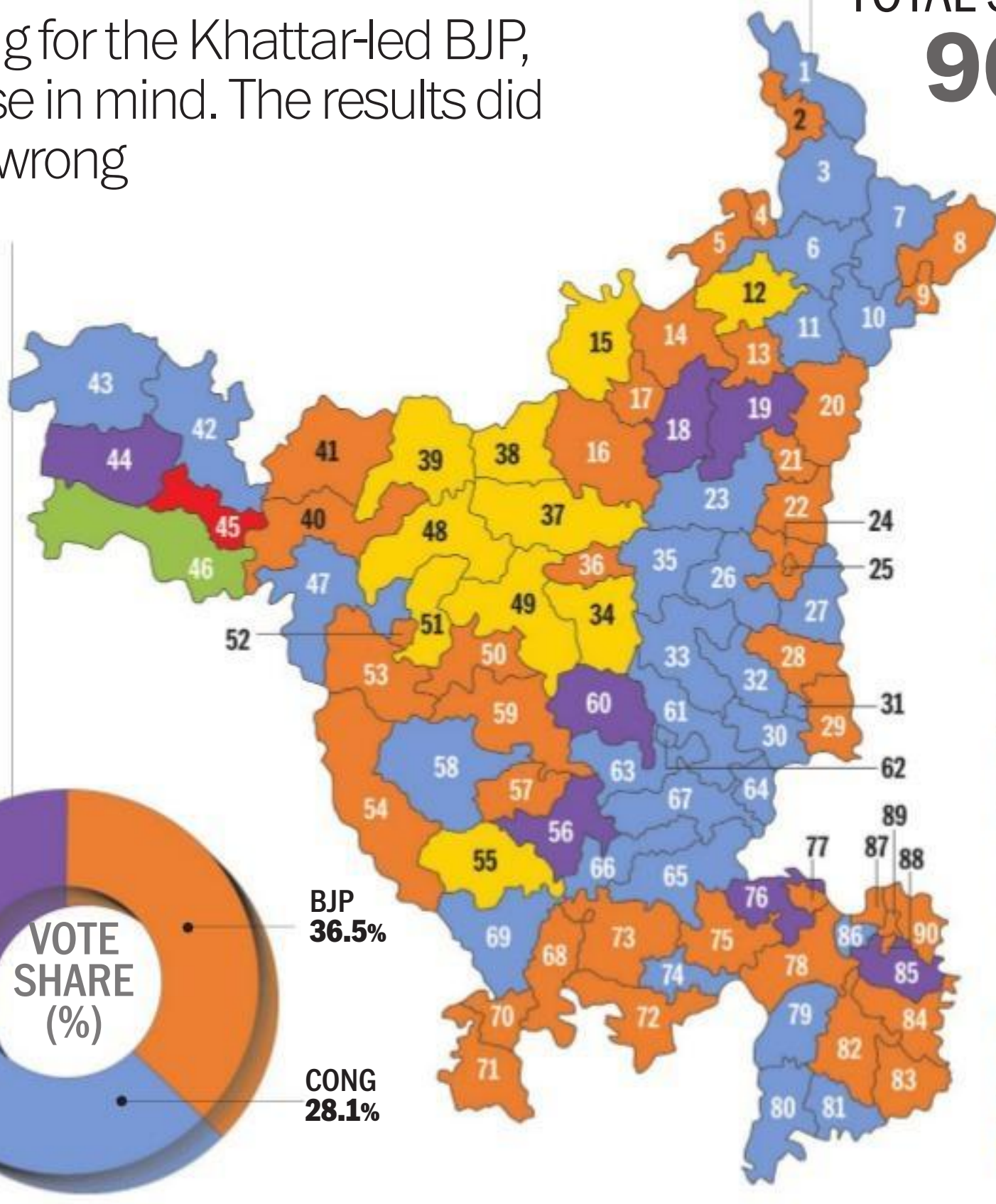
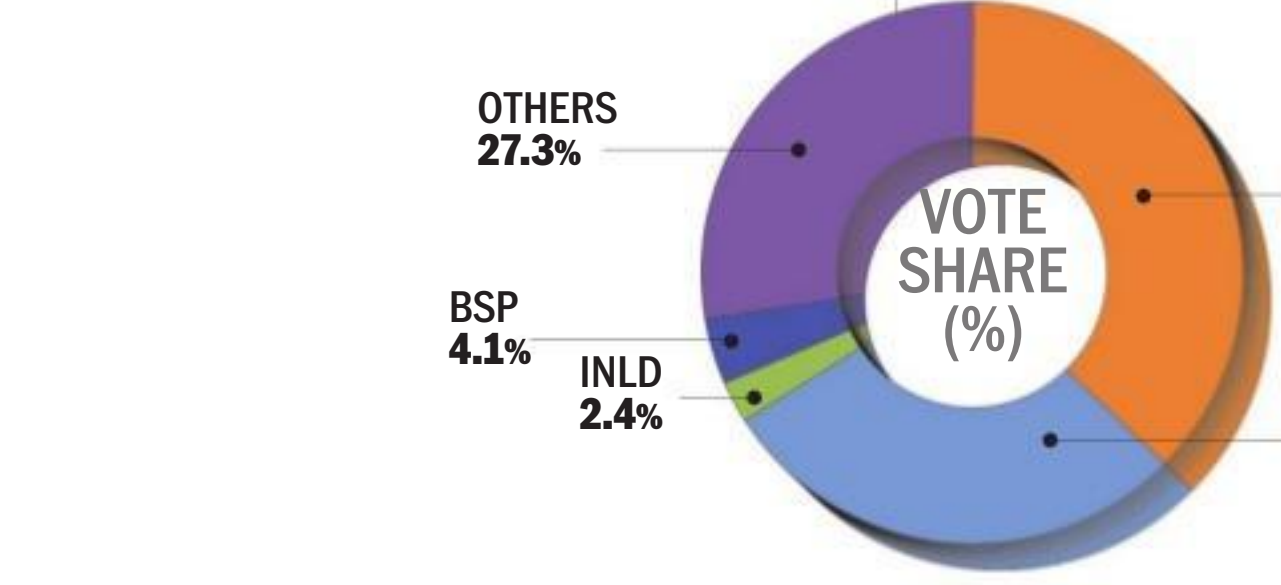
It was projected as easy-going for the Khattar-led BJP, but voters had something else in mind. The results did get the calculations of many wrong

VOTE TALLY 2019
TOTAL SEATS
90



MAXIMUM MARGIN
58,312
Bhupinder Singh Hooda
Congress
Garhi Sampla-Kiloi

MINIMUM MARGIN
602
Gopal Kanda
Haryana Lokhit Party
Sirsa



- 01. KALKA**
Winner: Pardeep Chaudhary, Cong
Runner-up: Latika Sharma, BJP
Margin: 5,931
Previous winner: Latika Sharma
- 02. PANCHKULA**
Winner: Gian Chand Gupta, BJP
Runner-up: Chandher Mohan, Cong
Margin: 5,633
Previous winner: Gian Chand Gupta
- 03. NARAINGARH**
Winner: Shalley, Cong
Runner-up: Surrender Singh, BJP
Margin: 20,600
Previous winner: Nayab Singh
- 04. AMBALA CANTT**
Winner: Anil Vij, BJP
Runner-up: Chitra Sarwara, Ind
Margin: 20,165
Previous winner: Anil Vij
- 05. AMBALA CITY**
Winner: Aseem Goel, BJP
Runner-up: Nirmal Singh, Ind
Margin: 8,952
Previous winner: Aseem Goel
- 06. MULLANA (SC)**
Winner: Varun Chaudhary, Cong
Runner-up: Rajbir Singh, BJP
Margin: 1,688
Previous winner: Santosh Chauhan Sarwan
- 07. SADHAURA (SC)**
Winner: Renu Bala, Cong
Runner-up: Balwant Singh, BJP
Margin: 17,020
Previous winner: Balwant Singh
- 08. JAGADHRI**
Winner: Kanwar Pal Gurjar, BJP
Runner-up: Akram Khan, Cong
Margin: 16,373
Previous winner: Kanwar Pal Gurjar
- 09. YAMUNANAGAR**
Winner: Ghanshyam Dass, BJP
Runner-up: Dilbag Singh, INLD
Margin: 1,455
Previous winner: Ghanshyam Dass
- 10. RADAUR**
Winner: Bishan Lal, Cong
Runner-up: Karan Dev, BJP
Margin: 2,541
Previous winner: Shyam Singh
- 11. LADWA**
Winner: Mewa Singh, Cong
Runner-up: Dr Pawan Saini, BJP
Margin: 12,637
Previous winner: Dr Pawan Saini
- 12. SHAHABAD (SC)**
Winner: Ram Karan, JJP
Runner-up: Krishan Kumar, BJP
Margin: 37,127
Previous winner: Krishan Kumar
- 13. THANESAR**
Winner: Subhash Sudha, BJP
Runner-up: Ashok Arora, Cong
Margin: 842
Previous winner: Subhash Sudha
- 14. PEHOWA**
Winner: Sandeep Singh, BJP
Runner-up: Mandeep S Chattha, Cong
Margin: 5,314
Previous winner: Jaswinder Singh Sandhu
- 15. GUHLA (SC)**
Winner: Ishwar Singh, JJP
Runner-up: Chaudhary Dilu Ram, Cong
Margin: 4,574
Previous winner: Kulwant Ram Bazigar

- 16. KALAYATI**
Winner: Kamlesh Dhanda, BJP
Runner-up: Jai Parkash, Cong
Margin: 8,974
Previous winner: Jai Parkash
- 17. KAITHAL**
Winner: Leela Ram, BJP
Runner-up: Randeep Surjewala, Cong
Margin: 1,246
Previous winner: Randeep Surjewala
- 18. PUNDRI**
Winner: Randhir Singh Gollen, Ind
Runner-up: Satbir Bhana, Cong
Margin: 12,824
Previous winner: Dinesh Kaushik
- 19. NILOKHERI (SC)**
Winner: Dharam Pal Gonder, Ind
Runner-up: Bhagwan Dass, BJP
Margin: 2,222
Previous winner: Bhagwan Dass Kabirpanthi
- 20. INDRI**
Winner: Ram Kumar, BJP
Runner-up: Rakesh Kamboj, Ind
Margin: 7,431
Previous winner: Karan Dev Kamboj
- 21. KARVAL**
Winner: Manohar Lal Khattar, BJP
Runner-up: Tarlochan Singh, Cong
Margin: 45,188
Previous winner: Manohar Lal Khattar
- 22. GHARAUNDA**
Winner: Harvinder Kalyan, BJP
Runner-up: Anil Kumar, Cong
Margin: 17,402
Previous winner: Harvinder Kalyan
- 23. ASSANDH**
Winner: Shamsheer Singh Gogi, Cong
Runner-up: Narendra Singh, BSP
Margin: 1,703
Previous winner: Bakhtish Singh Virk
- 24. PANIPAT RURAL**
Winner: Mahipal Dhanda, BJP
Runner-up: Devender Kadian, JJP
Margin: 21,961
Previous winner: Mahipal Dhanda
- 25. PANIPAT CITY**
Winner: Parmod Kumar Vij, BJP
Runner-up: Sanjay Aggarwal, Cong
Margin: 39,545
Previous winner: Rohita Rewri
- 26. ISRANA (SC)**
Winner: Balbir Singh, Cong
Runner-up: Krishan Lal Panwar, BJP
Margin: 20,015
Previous winner: Krishan Lal Panwar
- 27. SAMALKHA**
Winner: Dharam Singh Chhoker, Cong
Runner-up: Shashi Kant Kaushik, BJP
Margin: 14,942
Previous winner: Ravinder Machrouli
- 28. GANAUR**
Winner: Nirmal Rani, BJP
Runner-up: Kuldeep Sharma, Cong
Margin: 10,280
Previous winner: Kuldeep Sharma
- 29. RAI**
Winner: Mohan Lal Badoli, BJP
Runner-up: Jai Tirath Dahiya, Cong
Margin: 2,662
Previous winner: Jai Tirath Dahiya
- 30. KHARKHAUDA (SC)**
Winner: Jaiveer Singh, Cong
Runner-up: Pawan Kumar, JJP
Margin: 1,544
Previous winner: Jaiveer Singh

- 31. SONEPAT**
Winner: Surender Panwar, Cong
Runner-up: Kavita Jain, BJP
Margin: 32,878
Previous winner: Kavita Jain
- 32. GOHANA**
Winner: Jagbir Singh Malik, Cong
Runner-up: Raj Kumar Saini, LSP
Margin: 4,152
Previous winner: Jagbir Singh Malik
- 33. BARODA**
Winner: Sri Krishan Hooda, Cong
Runner-up: Yogeshwar Dutt, BJP
Margin: 4,840
Previous winner: Sri Krishan Hooda
- 34. JULANA**
Winner: Amarjeet Dhanda, JJP
Runner-up: Parminder S Dhull, BJP
Margin: 24,193
Previous winner: Parminder Singh Dhull
- 35. SAFIDON**
Winner: Subhash Gangoli, Cong
Runner-up: Bachan Singh Arya, BJP
Margin: 3,658
Previous winner: Jasbir Deswal
- 36. JIND**
Winner: Dr Krishan Lal Middha, BJP
Runner-up: Mahabir Gupta, JJP
Margin: 12,508
Previous winner: Dr Hari Chand Middha
- 37. UCHANA KALAN**
Winner: Dushyant Chautala, JJP
Runner-up: Prem Lata, BJP
Margin: 47,452
Previous winner: Prem Lata
- 38. NARWANA (SC)**
Winner: Ram Niwas, JJP
Runner-up: Santosh Rani, BJP
Margin: 30,692
Previous winner: Pirthi Singh
- 39. TOHANA**
Winner: Devender Singh Babli, JJP
Runner-up: Subhash Barala, BJP
Margin: 52,302
Previous winner: Subhash Barala
- 40. FATEHABAD**
Winner: Dura Ram, BJP
Runner-up: Virender Siwatch, JJP
Margin: 3,300
Previous winner: Balwan Singh Daulatpuria
- 41. RATIA (SC)**
Winner: Lakshman Napa, BJP
Runner-up: Jarnail Singh, Cong
Margin: 1,216
Previous winner: Ravinder Baliata
- 42. KALANWALI (SC)**
Winner: Shishpal Singh, Cong
Runner-up: Rajinder Singh, SAD
Margin: 19,243
Previous winner: Balkaur Singh
- 43. DABWALI**
Winner: Amit Sihag, Cong
Runner-up: Aditya Devi Lal, BJP
Margin: 15,647
Previous winner: Naina Chautala
- 44. RANIA**
Winner: Ranjit Singh, Ind
Runner-up: Gobind Kanda, HLP
Margin: 19,431
Previous winner: Ram Chand Kamboj
- 45. SIRSA**
Winner: Gopal Kanda, HLP
Runner-up: Gokul Setia, Ind
Margin: 602
Previous winner: Makhan Lal Singla

- 46. ELLENABAD**
Winner: Abhay Singh Chautala, INLD
Runner-up: Pawan Beniwal, BJP
Margin: 11,922
Previous winner: Abhay Singh Chautala
- 47. ADAMPUR**
Winner: Kuldeep Bishnoi, Cong
Runner-up: Sonali Phogat, BJP
Margin: 29,471
Previous winner: Kuldeep Bishnoi
- 48. UKLANA (SC)**
Winner: Anoop Dhanak, JJP
Runner-up: Asha Khedar, BJP
Margin: 23,693
Previous winner: Anoop Dhanak
- 49. NARNAUND**
Winner: Ram Kumar Gautam, JJP
Runner-up: Capt Abhimanyu, BJP
Margin: 12,029
Previous winner: Capt Abhimanyu
- 50. HANSI**
Winner: Vinod Bhayana, BJP
Runner-up: Rahul Makkar, JJP
Margin: 22,260
Previous winner: Renuka Bishnoi
- 51. BARWALA**
Winner: Jogi Ram Sihag, JJP
Runner-up: Surender Punia, BJP
Margin: 3,908
Previous winner: Ved Narang
- 52. HISAR**
Winner: Dr Kamal Gupta, BJP
Runner-up: Ram Niwas Rara, Cong
Margin: 15,832
Previous winner: Dr Kamal Gupta
- 53. NALWA**
Winner: Ranbir Gangwa, BJP
Runner-up: Randhir Panihar, Cong
Margin: 9,672
Previous winner: Ranbir Gangwa
- 54. LOHARU**
Winner: Jai Parkash Dalal, BJP
Runner-up: Somvir Singh, Cong
Margin: 17,677
Previous winner: Om Parkash Barwa
- 55. BADHRA**
Winner: Naina Singh Chautala, JJP
Runner-up: Ranbir S Mahendra, Cong
Margin: 13,704
Previous winner: Sukhvinder
- 56. DADRI**
Winner: Sombir, Ind
Runner-up: Satpal Sangwan, JJP
Margin: 14,272
Previous winner: Rajdeep
- 57. BHIWANI**
Winner: Ghanshyam Saraf, BJP
Runner-up: Shiv Shanker Bhardwaj, JJP
Margin: 27,884
Previous winner: Ghanshyam Saraf
- 58. TOSHAM**
Winner: Kiran Choudhry, Cong
Runner-up: Shashi Ranjan Parmar, BJP
Margin: 18,059
Previous winner: Kiran Choudhry
- 59. BAWANI KHERA (SC)**
Winner: Bishamber Singh, BJP
Runner-up: Ram Kishan Fauji, Cong
Margin: 10,895
Previous winner: Bishamber Singh
- 60. MEHAM**
Winner: Balraj Kundu, Ind
Runner-up: Anand Singh Dangri, Cong
Margin: 12,047
Previous winner: Anand Singh Dangri

- 61. GARHI SAMPLA-KILOI**
Winner: Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Cong
Runner-up: Satish Nandal, BJP
Margin: 58,312
Previous winner: Bhupinder Singh Hooda
- 62. ROHTAK**
Winner: Bharat Bhushan Batra, Cong
Runner-up: Manish Kumar Grover, BJP
Margin: 2,735
Previous winner: Manish Kumar Grover
- 63. KALANAUR (SC)**
Winner: Shakuntla Khatak, Cong
Runner-up: Ramavtar Balmiki, BJP
Margin: 10,624
Previous winner: Shakuntla Khatak
- 64. BAHADURGARH**
Winner: Rajinder Singh Joon, Cong
Runner-up: Naresh Kaushik, BJP
Margin: 15,491
Previous winner: Naresh Kaushik
- 65. BADLI**
Winner: Kuldeep Vats, Cong
Runner-up: Om Prakash Dhankar, BJP
Margin: 11,245
Previous winner: Om Parkash Dhankar
- 66. JHAJJAR**
Winner: Geeta Bhukkal, Cong
Runner-up: Rakesh Kumar, BJP
Margin: 14,999
Previous winner: Geeta Bhukkal
- 67. BERI**
Winner: Raghuvir Singh Kadian, Cong
Runner-up: Vikram Kadian, BJP
Margin: 12,952
Previous winner: Raghuvir Singh Kadian
- 68. ATELI**
Winner: Sitaram, BJP
Runner-up: Atar Lal, BSP
Margin: 18,406
Previous winner: Santosh Yadav
- 69. MAHENDRAGARH**
Winner: Rao Daan Singh, Cong
Runner-up: Ram Bilas Sharma, BJP
Margin: 10,220
Previous winner: Ram Bilas Sharma
- 70. NARNAUL**
Winner: Om Prakash Yadav, BJP
Runner-up: Kamlesh Saini, JJP
Margin: 14,715
Previous winner: Om Prakash
- 71. NANGAL CHAUDHARY**
Winner: Abhe Singh Yadav, BJP
Runner-up: Mula Ram, JJP
Margin: 20,615
Previous winner: Abhe Singh Yadav
- 72. BAWAL (SC)**
Winner: Dr Banwari Lal, BJP
Runner-up: Dr ML Ranga, Cong
Margin: 32,245
Previous winner: Dr Banwari Lal
- 73. KOSLI**
Winner: Laxman Singh Yadav, BJP
Runner-up: Yaduvender Singh, Cong
Margin: 38,624
Previous winner: Bikram Singh Thekedar
- 74. REWARI**
Winner: Chiranjeev Rao, Cong
Runner-up: Sunil Kumar, BJP
Margin: 1,317
Previous winner: Randhir Singh Kapriyaas
- 75. PATAUDI (SC)**
Winner: Satya Parkash, BJP
Runner-up: Narender Singh Pahari, Ind
Margin: 36,579
Previous winner: Bimla Chaudhary

- 76. BADSHAHIPUR**
Winner: Rakesh Daultabad, Ind
Runner-up: Manish Yadav, BJP
Margin: 10,186
Previous winner: Narbir Singh
- 77. GURUGRAM**
Winner: Sudhir Singla, BJP
Runner-up: Mohit Grover, Ind
Margin: 33,315
Previous winner: Umesh Aggarwal
- 78. SOHNA**
Winner: Sanjay Singh, BJP
Runner-up: Rohtas Singh, JJP
Margin: 12,453
Previous winner: Tejpal Tanwar
- 79. NUH**
Winner: Aftab Ahmed, Cong
Runner-up: Zakir Hussain, BJP
Margin: 4,038
Previous winner: Zakir Hussain
- 80. FEROZEPUR JHIRKA**
Winner: Mamman Khan, Cong
Runner-up: Naseem Ahmed, BJP
Margin: 37,004
Previous winner: Naseem Ahmed
- 81. PUNHANA**
Winner: Mohd Ilyas, Cong
Runner-up: Rahish Khan, Ind
Margin: 816
Previous winner: Rahish Khan
- 82. HATHIN**
Winner: Praveen Dagar, BJP
Runner-up: Mohammad Israil, Cong
Margin: 2,887
Previous winner: Kehar Singh
- 83. HODAL (SC)**
Winner: Jagdish Nayar, BJP
Runner-up: Udai Bhan, INLD
Margin: 3,387
Previous winner: Udai Bhan
- 84. PALWAL**
Winner: Deepak Mangla, BJP
Runner-up: Karan Singh Dalal, Cong
Margin: 28,296
Previous winner: Karan Singh Dalal
- 85. PRITHLA**
Winner: Nayan Pal Rawat, Ind
Runner-up: Raghubir Tewatia, Cong
Margin: 16,429
Previous winner: Tek Chand Sharma
- 86. FARIDABAD NIT**
Winner: Neeraj Sharma, Cong
Runner-up: Nagender Bhadana, BJP
Margin: 3,242
Previous winner: Nagender Bhadana
- 87. BADKHAL**
Winner: Seema Trikha, BJP
Runner-up: Vijay Pratap Singh, Cong
Margin: 2,545
Previous winner: Seema Trikha
- 88. BALLABHGARH**
Winner: Mool Chand Sharma, BJP
Runner-up: Anand Kaushik, Cong
Margin: 41,713
Previous winner: Mool Chand Sharma
- 89. FARIDABAD**
Winner: Narender Gupta, BJP
Runner-up: Lakhman Kumar Singla, Cong
Margin: 21,713
Previous winner: Vipul Goel
- 90. TIGAON**
Winner: Rajesh Nagar, BJP
Runner-up: Lalit Nagar, Cong
Margin: 33,841
Previous winner: Lalit Nagar

MAHARASHTRA VERDICT

2019

ELECTED



Devendra Fadnis BJP Aaditya Thackeray SHIV SENA



Nitesh Rane CONGRESS Vijay Thorat CONGRESS

REJECTED



Pankaja Munde BJP Vasant Chavan CONGRESS



Udaynaraje Bhosale BJP Pankaj Bhujbal NCP

Modi calls it stunning victory

Hints at BJP govt in Haryana, lauds Khattar, Fadnavis for dedication & hard work

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24

Terming the Assembly poll results in Haryana and Maharashtra as an "unprecedented victory" for the BJP, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today virtually endorsed that incumbent Manohar Lal Khattar and Devendra Fadnavis in their respective states will have a re-run for the next five years.

Addressing party workers here at the BJP headquarters, Modi said the CMs were "first-timers" in the government, as they did not have any experience in governance before getting the chance to run the state in 2014. "But with their dedication and hard work, they could win hearts of people for a repeat mandate. I wish them all the best for their second stint."

On the Haryana results, the PM said as he knew people in the state seldom repeat a gov-



PM Narendra Modi being garlanded by BJP chief Amit Shah, working president JP Nadda and Union ministers Rajnath Singh and Nitin Gadkari at the party headquarters in New Delhi. MUKESH AGGARWAL

ernment, but this time around the BJP could emerge the largest party in the Assembly, which is "no mean achievement" particularly when the Chief Minister and his team worked with a slender majority of only two seats.

"This is no mean achievement, as in the last Assembly elections the party could get 33 per cent of votes, but this time it has increased to 36 per cent," he said. Showing no disappointment for the BJP not going

past the half-way mark in Haryana, Modi recalled that the party played a distant second fiddle in the state politics until 2014. "The BJP used to be offered seats in single digits for which the party didn't even have any choice. We

used to feel happy if the party could win seats in double digits. In that context, the BJP emerging the single largest party is laudable," Modi said.

The PM also stressed Fadnavis proved himself by becoming the first Chief Minister in past 50 years to have completed the full five-year term. "There were governments with even two-third majority, yet there were no Chief Ministers in 50 years who could complete the full five-year term," he said.

Earlier, the BJP chief Amit Shah stressed both Maharashtra and Haryana weren't traditional strongholds of the party. "This is the first victory in the two states in Modi 2.0. The vote share of the BJP in Haryana has gone up by 3 per cent from the 2014 state elections," said Shah, while asserting that the party would deliver good governance in the state for the next five years.



Cong supporters celebrate ex-CM Prithviraj Chavan's win in Karad. PTI

Voters turn their back on turncoats

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 24

Some prominent opposition leaders who had joined the ruling BJP or Shiv Sena, including cabinet minister Jaydutt Kshirsagar, have bitten the dust in the Maharashtra Assembly elections.

Kshirsagar, fighting on the Shiv Sena ticket, was defeated by his nephew and NCP candidate Sandip Kshirsagar. Vaibhav Pichad, son of former NCP minister Madhukar Pichad, had joined the BJP few days before the elections. He lost to Dr Kiran Lahamate of the NCP by 57,689 votes from the Akole seat.

Lahamate was a BJP worker for many years and had been in the camp opposed to the Pichad family.

Irked by state BJP's decision to induct Vaibhav, Lahamate joined the NCP and won the election. Two MLAs who had joined the Shiv Sena before the polls — Pandurang Barora and Nirmala Gavit — also lost the elections from Shahapur and Igatpuri.

Barora was an NCP MLA and Gavit a Congress legislator. Former minister Harshvardhan Patil, who left the Congress to join the BJP, so that he could contest from his home turf, Indapur, lost to NCP's Duttatray Bharane.

Gopaldas Agrawal, Congress MLA from Gondia and head of the Public Accounts Committee during 2014-19, had joined the BJP before the polls. But he failed to retain the seat this time.

MAXIMUM CITY GIVES MIN SEATS TO CONG

Riven by infighting ahead of the polls, the Congress managed to win just four seats of the 29 it contested in Mumbai, faring poorly than in 2014

Congress candidates Aslam Sheikh, Varsha Gaikwad and Amin Patel retained their Malad West, Dharavi and Mumbadevi constituencies, respectively, while party nominee Zeeshan Siddique wrested the Bandra East seat from the Shiv Sena

In 2014, the Congress had won five seats in Mumbai, which has 36 Assembly segments. One of its sitting MLAs, Kalidas Kolambkar, who had won from Wadala, successfully contested as the BJP nominee from Mumbai South Central

There were others who succeeded in winning the elections after joining the ruling parties. Congress leader and former Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, who joined the BJP and was made cabinet minister, won from Shirdi. NCP leader Ganesh Naik, who joined the BJP, won from Airoli against NCP's Ganesh Shinde by 57,622 votes. Ranajagitsinh Patil, another NCP heavyweight (and nephew of party stalwart Ajit Pawar) who had joined the BJP won from Tuljapur. — PTI

Ajit wins Baramati with 1.65 lakh votes

Pune: NCP leader Ajit Pawar on Thursday won from the Baramati seat by a huge margin of 1,65,265 votes. Ajit Pawar, nephew of NCP chief Sharad Pawar, polled 1,95,641 votes, while his nearest rival, Gopichand Padalkar of the BJP, bagged just 30,376 votes. According to NCP office-bearers, this was a record-breaking victory margin for Ajit in the Pawar family's bastion. PTI

Maha ex-cop wins, 3 others taste defeat

Mumbai: Former police inspector and BJP candidate Rajesh Padvi defeated Congress' Padmakar Valvi by a margin of over 7,000 votes. Among three retired police officials who lost the elections was former 'encounter specialist' Pradeep Sharma. Padvi, whose last posting was at Andheri police station, contested from Shahada in Nandurbar district. PTI

Deshmukh brothers carry forward legacy

Mumbai: Late CM Vilasrao Deshmukh's sons Dhiraj, a debutant, and Amit, will be attending the Assembly together. Vilasrao Deshmukh, who was CM between 1999-2003 and 2004-2008, nurtured his home district Latur during his political career. Dhiraj won Latur Rural seat by 1.21 lakh votes. His elder brother Amit retained his Latur City seat for a third consecutive time. PTI

NOTA secures second position in Latur

Latur: The NOTA option has secured second slot in the Latur Rural Assembly segment, from where Dhiraj Deshmukh posted a handsome victory in his maiden poll outing. Dhiraj, the Congress candidate, secured 1,35,006 votes (67.64%). The None of the Above clinched 27,500 votes (13.78%) to secure second position. PTI

BSP fails to win any seat; Maha chief out

New Delhi: The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) on Thursday removed its Maharashtra unit chief as the party failed to open its account in the Assembly elections. BSP in-charge of Maharashtra Ashok Siddharth said Suresh Sakre contested from Nagpur (North) against the wishes of the party and did not campaign for other candidates. PTI

Arrogance of power rejected, says Pawar

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 24

With trends suggesting that the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance is falling well short of its target of winning 220 Assembly seats in Maharashtra, NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Thursday said the message was that people did not like "the arrogance of power".

"The people, however, have asked the Nationalist Congress Party to remain in the opposition," Pawar added, stating that it would not try to form government. According to the results available till now, the BJP had won three seats and was leading in 98 seats. Its ally Shiv Sena had won three seats and was leading in 57 seats. The NCP had won one seat and was leading in 54 Assembly seats, while Congress was leading on 45 seats.

"People have not accepted the talk of 220 seats (out of 288). The NCP accepts people's mandate humbly. The

People have not accepted the talk of 220 seats. The NCP accepts people's mandate humbly. The Congress, NCP and other allies wholeheartedly co-operated with each other. — Sharad Pawar, NCP CHIEF

Congress, NCP, PWP, Swabhimani Shetkari Sanghatana and other allies wholeheartedly co-operated with each other. The election result shows people did not like the arrogance of power," the NCP chief said. Without naming leaders of the ruling parties, Pawar also observed "some people crossed the limit of holding extreme views".

"People have asked us to sit in the opposition. The thought of trying to get into power doesn't even cross our minds. We will work to expand our base." — PTI

Verdict BJP's moral defeat: Cong

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24

The poll verdict in Haryana and Maharashtra is a moral defeat of the BJP and what it stands for, the Congress said on Thursday, hoping that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will now focus on the problems confronting the country and its people.

Senior Congress spokesperson Anand Sharma said BJP president Amit Shah's claim of victory in Haryana does not hold as the party is short of a majority. There has also been a significant drop in the BJP's vote percentage in just four months after its Lok Sabha election victory in the state, he said.

Claiming that the verdict of Haryana is against the BJP, Sharma said all parties opposing the BJP must come together as has been appealed by former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda. "We accept the verdict of the people with humility.

'BJP VOTE SHARE DIPS'

BJP is a party with no principles and its definition of victory is also fast changing. The party has actually lost the election, as its vote shares have decreased in both states, even far less than what they had in LS poll.

Anand Sharma, CONGRESS SPOKESPERSON

This verdict is a moral defeat for the BJP and what they stand for," he told reporters at a press conference.

Modi, Shah and its entire leadership are away from the ground realities and their campaigns did not talk about people's issues, Sharma said.

Even after "misuse" of official machinery and state resources in massive campaigns in the two states, the BJP's vote share fell significantly, he claimed. There is a need to create a massive awareness programme that will come out in the form of a

'jan andolan'. "They cannot terrorise the Indian voters anymore", Sharma said.

The Congress party hopes that Modi will now look into the problems confronting the country, will concentrate on his work and will not run by his boastful claims, false narratives and promises, he said.

Hitting out at the Modi government on the country's economy, Sharma claimed it is in shambles and unemployment is on the rise.

The rupee is getting beaten down and there is farm distress in the country, but the prime minister is not talking about it, he alleged.

"The prime minister, the BJP leadership, their chief ministers did not talk about these issues, but campaigned on other issues," Sharma said. Taking a swipe at the exit polls, he said they were proved wrong in these elections. The Congress leader said it is ironic that the BJP remains in a denial mode. — PTI

BYPOLL RESULTS BJP WINS 17 ASSEMBLY SEATS, CONGRESS 11

SP net gainer with 3 wins, Cong almost doubles vote share

SHAHIRA NAIM

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 24

Winning three seats, the Samajwadi Party emerged as the net gainer in the byelections to the 11 Assembly seats, the results of which were declared on Thursday.

Despite intensive campaigning by CM Yogi Adityanath and his team of ministers, the BJP failed to measure up to its claim of sweeping all 11 seats. Technically, it won only seven, as the Pratapgarh seat went to its alliance partner Apna Dal.

The BJP has won the Iglas (Aligarh), Lucknow Cantt, Govind Nagar (Kanpur), Manikpur (Chitrakoot), Ghosi (Mau), Balha (Bahraich) and Ganghoh (Saharanpur) seats while the Apna Dal retained the Pratapgarh seat. The alliance had won all these seats in 2017.

SP had only the Rampur seat in its kitty. While it retained this politically significant seat for the 10th consecutive time, it added Zaidpur (Barabanki) and Jalalpur (Ambedkar Nagar) seats to its tally, taking its strength to 49 in the Vidhan Sabha. BJP candidate Kirat Singh defeated Congress candidate Nooman Masood in Gangoh (Saharanpur) by 5,419 votes.

Interestingly, Masood was leading by 3,880 votes till the 26th round. However, by the

ALARM BELLS FOR MAYA

The bypoll results serve as an early alarm to BSP supremo Mayawati. The party lost its Jalalpur seat, came second in Iglas and its candidate was third in Manikpur, once its stronghold

In the 2017 Vidhan Sabha elections, the BSP cornered 22.2% of votes, which came down to 19.26% in the Lok Sabha elections. It has further shrunk to 17% in the bypoll

On the contrary, the Congress has increased its vote share from 6.2% in 2017 to 6.31% in 2019 LS poll. It has almost doubled it to 11.6% as per today's results

28th round he started trailing and finally lost. Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra hit out at the ruling party, saying: "The BJP is so arrogant that in Gangoh it made our winning candidate leave the counting centre so that their minister could reverse the people's decision. The DM was called five times to reduce the lead. This is an insult of democracy". Another surprise result was thrown up in Jalalpur BSP's sitting seat. Here BSP's Dr Chhaya Verma dramatically lost despite leading till the 18th round. SP's Subhash Rai who had been trailing in the third spot rapidly recovered and emerged the winner.

Cong wins in MP, now just 1 short of full majority

BHOPAL, OCTOBER 24

Victory in the byelections in the tribal belt of Jhabua in Madhya Pradesh and Chitrakote in Chhattisgarh has given the Congress some reason to cheer after the humiliating show in the LS poll.

Kantilal Bhuria of the Congress won the Jhabua ST seat, defeating Bhanu Bhuria of the BJP by over 27,000 votes and Rajman Benzam won the bypoll from the Naxal-affected Chitrakote constituency, reserved ST seat, by 17,862 votes against Lachhram Kashyap of the BJP.

Bhuria, former PCC chief and former union minister, sustained the lead right through the 25 rounds of counting. Bhanu Bhuria who headed the youth wing of the BJP fought gamely. Bhanu, however, said the Congress won the election with ample help from the administration. The Congress workers had done little to deserve any credit, especially after two successive defeats of the father and son duo in a span of six months.

The Jyotiraditya Scindia faction which has been at



RELIEF FOR NATH: CM Kamal Nath termed the Jhabua result as the victory of people's confidence in Cong.

odds with Kantilal Bhuria wanted a previous MLA Xavier Meda to be fielded from Jhabua. Former Chief

Minister Digvijaya Singh and Chief Minister Kamal Nath, however, insisted on Kantilal who had just lost the Lok Sabha elections to GS Damor in May. Damor had also defeated Kantilal Bhuria's son Vikrant in the Assembly elections in November last.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath termed the result in Jhabua as the victory of people's confidence in the Congress and his government. "People have expressed faith in the government's work and have given their seal of approval for it. It is a gift of

Diwali to Congress by the voters of Jhabua," he said. Kantilal Bhuria termed it as "a victory of CM Kamal Nath and his works and expressed his gratitude towards him". Asked whether he would become minister in the Nath cabinet, he said, "It is the prerogative of the Chief Minister to make a person minister or not."

At 115 seats the Congress just needs one member's support from outside for majority. There are four independents, two BSP and one SP member backing Kamal Nath's ministry. — PTI

Cong wins Mandawa seat, RLP retains Khinwsar in Rajasthan

YASH GOYAL

JAIPUR, OCTOBER 24

The ruling Congress government on Thursday raised its MLAs tally to 108 by one more seat as its woman candidate Rita Choudhary won the Mandawa Assembly bypoll by defeating BJP's Sushila Sigara by a margin of 33,704 votes.

Meanwhile, NDA's sole partner Rashtriya Loktantrik Party (RLP) candidate Narayan Beniwal, brother of MP and RLP convener Hanuman Beniwal, defeated Congress' former minister Harendra Mirधा by a margin of 4,630 votes. The BJP did not field its candidate on this seat and given support to alliance RLP candidate.



NOW, CONG TALLY IS 108

Having over two-third majority in the House of 200, the Congress has now 108 MLAs, BJP's figure reduced from 73 to 72, while RLP maintained at three, CPM two and others 15

Having over two-third majority in the House of 200, the Congress has now 108 MLAs, BJP's figure reduced from 73 to 72, while RLP maintained at three, CPM two and others 15.

In January, the Congress had also won the Ramgarh Assembly election (which was postponed in 2018 following the death of a candidate) by defeating BJP's Sukhwant Singh.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said Rita won by a huge margin, while on the Kheenvsar seat the loss margin has sharply decreased to 4,630 as against 55,000 vote difference in May's Lok Sabha polls in this segment.

The BJP lost its Mandawa seat, which was won in 2018 elections by Narendra Kumar Kheechar, who later vacated this seat after winning the Jhunjhunu LS seat. RLP's Beniwal had vacated Kheenvsar seat after winning LS polls from the Nagaur seat in May 2019.

Alpesh Thakor, who defected to BJP, loses

AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 24

OBC leader and BJP candidate Alpesh Thakor on Thursday lost the byelection to Radhanpur Assembly seat in Gujarat.

Congress' Raghubhai Desai defeated Thakor by over 3,500 votes, an official said. Thakor, who emerged as an OBC leader during the Patel quota agitation and won the Radhanpur seat in the 2017 polls on Congress' ticket, later quit after differences with the state party leadership. The byelection to the seat became necessary after he resigned as an MLA.

He earlier opposed the inclusion of Patidar community in the Other Backward Class (OBC) category for reservation. His close aide Dhavalsinh Jhala, who



Ruling BJP and Cong win three seats each in bypolls to six Guj Assembly seats

also switched over to the BJP, also lost the by-election from Bayad Assembly seat. — OC

The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Hit hard by hubris

Setbacks in Haryana, Maharashtra a wake-up call for BJP

THE Assembly elections and the Lok Sabha polls are poles apart, even if these are held within months of each other. Euphoric over its emphatic victory in the 2019 General Election, the BJP had conveniently forgotten this basic truism of electoral politics. The results of the Haryana and Maharashtra Assembly polls have bitterly reminded the saffron party that extrapolating the bigger battle's outcome to that of the smaller one is a perilous strategy. The ruling party's tally of seats has dropped significantly in both states. The fall has been harder in Haryana, where Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar faces a Herculean task cobbling together a coalition government. In Maharashtra, ageing stalwart Sharad Pawar has shown the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance that he is no also-ran even in the twilight of his career.

The BJP, which had won all 10 Lok Sabha seats in the northern state in May this year, committed the blunder of writing off the beleaguered Congress and the fledgling Jannayak Janata Party (JJP). With the Grand Old Party's high command lying low, it all boiled down to how hard ex-CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda and former Union Minister Selja could push themselves. And both did a fairly good job as the Congress comfortably emerged as the second-largest party — quite a turnaround after its forgettable show in the 2014 Assembly elections. Another key factor was Khattar's failure to dispel the perception that the state government was being remote-controlled from New Delhi.

The plank of national security had done the trick for the BJP in this year's Lok Sabha polls in the backdrop of the Pulwama terror attack and the Balakot airstrikes. The party tried to run a similar tape in the Assembly elections, where local issues are of paramount importance. In the self-congratulatory mode after the abrogation of Article 370, the BJP came a cropper in addressing the concerns of farmers and other major vote banks. The voters of Haryana and Maharashtra have pricked the party's bubble of invincibility. Accepting the mandate with humility and recalibrating its policies should be the way forward. There is no room for complacency any more.

Regularising illegal colonies

Populism apart, providing amenities a major challenge

BY approving the proposal to regularise unauthorised colonies in Delhi, the Centre has sought to trump the ruling AAP ahead of the Assembly elections slated for February 2020. To address its core base — the *aam aadmi* — Arvind Kejriwal's government had been doling out sops in the form of free electricity, water and bus rides for women, to name a few. By announcing the decision to grant ownership rights to those living in illegal colonies, a move expected to benefit 40-50 lakh people, mostly migrants or those belonging to the low-income groups, the Centre has tried to steal AAP's thunder. While Kejriwal had accused the Central government of wanting to demolish these colonies, Union Minister Hardeep Puri returned the barb, blaming AAP for 'delaying' the decision. It is also significant that while the Centre initiated the NRC to identify 'non-citizens', it has opted to be more inclusive in Delhi, electoral gains perhaps the prime mover.

The 1,797 unauthorised colonies are spread over all 70 constituencies, with nearly two lakh voters in each constituency. The government has said ownership rights would be given to the residents at extremely low rates and the colonies would be categorised depending on the type of land they have come up on. The process is to begin with the delineation of boundaries for which there was a proposal to use satellite images or even drone mapping. The Centre has accused the Delhi Government of not doing so and seeking time till 2021. The proposal does not apply to 69 affluent colonies, a major stumbling block earlier.

Regularisation may push up property prices but the challenge lies in providing infrastructure in a city already stretched to its limits. There is a lesson for both the AAP and BJP after the Maharashtra and Haryana elections. You can't rest on your laurels and take voters for granted. Constant striving and maintaining connect are the only ways not to yield ground.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The only thing more dangerous than ignorance is arrogance. — **Albert Einstein**

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

LAHORE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1919

Mr. Norton on Lord Sinha.

MR. Eardley Norton's ill-tempered attack on Lord Sinha in the pages of a recent issue of the *Looker On* must have been noticed by many. It was reproduced, we have not really been able to understand why, by almost all Indian-edited papers, perhaps with the solitary exception of ourselves. Mr. Norton brought some definite charges against Lord Sinha. We are glad to find that Mr. S.R. Bomanji writing to the press from England nails to the counter almost all these charges. One of these charges was that Lord Sinha was elected President of the Bombay Congress in 1915 by official authority. Mr. Bomanji, who was one of the Secretaries of the Reception Committee, says that he knows it as a matter of fact that it was at the earnest request of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta and Sir Dinshaw Wacha backed by Mr. Bhupendranath Basu and other Congress leaders that Lord Sinha ultimately agreed to accept the Presidency of the Congress. As regards the other charge that Lord Sinha never subscribed to the Congress funds Mr. Bomanji writes: "I know he personally paid a considerable sum of money to the Congress and paid off a substantial portion of the debt which the Bengal Congress Committee owed to the British Committee." On the other charge brought by Mr. Norton that Lord Sinha had submitted the draft of his Presidential address to Lord Carmichael for approval, Mr. Bomanji observes: "I know it is not true and I speak on the best authority; he sent to Lord Carmichael a printed copy of his speech when he was sending other copies to the Press." Any comment on the above is needless. We hope that Mr. Norton will, after this, withdraw all that he said. That is the only honourable course left open to him.

Two states, one message

BJP's cloak of invincibility is off, but the Opposition is stuck without a leader



NOUS INDICA
RAJESH RAMACHANDRAN

AFTER two high-profile Assembly elections, it may seem odd to analyse the performance of the loser instead of finding reasons to praise the winner. Well, the story of the Opposition snatching defeat from the jaws of victory is infinitely more interesting than a lacklustre, down-to-the-wire victory for the ruling party. Despite being two completely dissimilar states, Maharashtra and Haryana have thrown up results that have a lot in common: while the BJP dropped more than 10 per cent seats, thereby losing its sheen of invincibility in Maharashtra, it has lost even its majority in Haryana. Most Haryana ministers have lost, again proving that the Modi magic is not enough to tide over anti-incumbency. In short, the abrogation of Article 370 or Hindutva hyper-nationalism is no counter to the lack of governance, administrative sloth and representational politics, termed loosely as caste combinations.

Yet, the Opposition could not win these elections. And the prime reason is the brand of politics pursued by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who gets it wrong election after election. He refused to anoint a strong satrap for Maharashtra; and his antipathy for Bhupinder Singh Hooda has cost his party the government in Haryana. This is a strange situation where the primary Opposition party's leader lands up to perform during the polls, only to vanish later, leaving the cadre and its regional leaders in the lurch. There is something seriously wrong with Rahul Gandhi's leadership, particularly when he is compared with the 78-year-old Sharad Pawar and 72-year-old Hooda. Pawar single-handedly campaigned all across his strongholds in Maharashtra, turning the tide in favour



IRONY: Bhupinder Singh Hooda's performance is a bigger setback to Rahul Gandhi than to BJP Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

Despite a stunning show, the Opposition could not taste victory. The prime reason: the brand of politics pursued by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi.

of his party, NCP, which emerged as the single-largest Opposition party.

The Congress has always taken the larger share of seats in the Maharashtra alliance, but this time around, the NCP has proven that though it contested a lesser number of seats, it is the bigger and stronger partner. This, despite the BJP trying its best to poach and get NCP's second-rung leaders to defect. What was missing in the campaign for the Congress was a tall leader, who could sway the masses or concentrate all the anti-government forces, factors and emotions. The results could have been different had the alliance worked as one under the leadership of Pawar. But then, Congress president Sonia Gandhi could never trust Pawar, or for that matter any organic mass leader who could pose a threat to her son.

Hooda was on the verge of splitting the Congress in Haryana until the first week of September. Rahul Gandhi's chosen men in Haryana, Ashok Tanwar and Randeep Surjewala, had been proven disastrous, yet the high command did its best to push the party's tallest leader out. Somehow Hooda managed to hang on and his performance is actually a bigger setback to Rahul than to BJP Chief Minister

ML Khattar, because Hooda managed to win 100 per cent more seats than the Congress did in 2014. Hooda's comeback could have been more spectacular had he been in the saddle after Surjewala's miserable defeat in the bypolls earlier this year.

That brings us to the biggest question: what is essentially wrong with Rahul's politics? He claims to usher in alternative politics of social transformation. But this cannot be achieved by frequently flying out for vacations and flying in to abuse Modi. Transformative politics happens on the ground and Rahul as a politician always relied on others to even manage Amethi, his family inheritance, finally losing it after he threw out the man who worked hard all these years for him. A politician who claims to represent new ideas in politics had to rely on Kerala's moth-eaten minority politics to re-enter Lok Sabha.

So, his great disdain for the old guard is just skin-deep, or more precisely a bundle of prejudices over personal choices, and has nothing to do with politics of probity or justice. Most in his coterie are just as feudal, opportunistic and corrupt as those he dislikes. The only difference is that his coterie com-

prises inefficient inheritors who cannot win elections or defeat the Sangh Parivar. The worst aspect of Rahul's leadership is his hypocrisy about integrity, inheritance and modernity. The Congress has not had new ideas, purges or leaps of faith under his leadership. Yet, neither Sonia Gandhi nor Priyanka Vadra campaigned during these elections, leaving the field open for Rahul, proving once again his primacy in the family-run concern.

Now that it has been proven that the BJP is indeed vulnerable to anti-incumbency, be it over flood mismanagement in western Maharashtra or governance deficit in Haryana, the Opposition ought to look beyond the Gandhi family for leadership. Pawar, Mamata Banerjee, Jaganmohan Reddy and many others have already established the fallacy of the family's claim to the Congress legacy. A grand merger of the Congress and its many splinters could prove a game-changer, particularly providing the Opposition the leadership that the country sorely lacks now.

It is wrong to compare Modi with Vladimir Putin or Recep Erdogan because the BJP still needs the mobilising muscle of the RSS cadre to win elections. In this context, an effective Opposition could always upstage the incumbent with cunning and efficiency. But that cannot be the Rahul-led Congress. Yet, the Congressmen, though the best opportunists in Indian politics, are still not convinced that the family is nothing but the sum total of satraps without adding anything to the party. Once this realisation dawns on them, the Congressmen ought to drop the burden of Rahul's personal prejudices, looking within for a better leader like Captain Amarinder Singh, who keeps performing despite Rahul's apathy.

If the Congress does not choose a new leader, anti-BJP parties as a whole will be forced to think beyond the Gandhi family for the sake of our democracy. Finally, even for opportunistic power-grabbers, these results prove that power is within an arm's reach for those who think, dare and take on Modi at the Centre and in the states.

Gifting, the big dilemma

ANIRUDH DHANDA

I AM again confused. Should I try contributing to the economy of the country by buying gifts on Diwali or stick to the long-taken vow to refrain from this useless and painfully tiring activity?

Buying a gift is a tedious exercise. More than the money involved, you have to invest time in thinking if the gift would be appropriate for the person. What would suit his taste or what his household would love to display?

Even in case of gifting on general occasions like birthdays and anniversaries you have to be very careful. A vase or a bedcover on a birthday or just anything lying in the house on an anniversary are absolute disas-

ters. It is particularly tricky when you want to pass off something gifted to you by someone, which you yourself don't like. It is possible that you are gifting back the same suit length that was given by the same friend on your previous birthday! Such passing off of a gift is a social risk.

Though a gift is bestowed voluntarily, it may have an underlying wish and expectation of return. That would be the case where gifting is being done as a quid pro quo. A gift can also be a thanks-giving act for the deed done to you by the other person, perhaps for a service rendered free of cost. And Diwali is the most opportune time to express gratitude in the form of a thoughtful gift. Again, weird things may happen.

You may be the sixth person giving the same vase or same cake the other person has received since morning. If you are in public life, you may not even know the face hidden behind the huge box that he carries to your room. The wives are also decked up since morning with a tray of sweets and dry fruits to be offered to the 'gifters', known personally or through business cards stapled on the top of the gift box.

Gifting also has its codes. A significant fraction of gifts are unwanted. At times, the giver pays more for the item than the recipient values. A 2009 study in the *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology* found that although givers tend to think a fancier, expensive gift will be appreciated more, receivers are happier with

cheaper, more practical presents.

Nathan Novemsky, a professor of marketing at Yale University, cautions not to overdo the gift wrap. Pretty wrapping raises expectations for a gift and increases the risk of the receiver being disappointed if the present doesn't live up to their expectations. A heavy box containing a fluffy cake may result in immediate disappointment.

It also helps to ask what he or she wants because there comes a point in everybody's life when you just don't want any more useless, though well-intentioned, junk.

The best, I would say, is to stay home, away from the market. This also will save fuel and the environment from toxic fumes!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let Sikhs take first step

Apropos 'Let's imbibe Guru's message of harmony' (October 24), the writer has rightly concluded that the country must act sincerely on the Guru's teachings on universal brotherhood. However, he seems to be asking for the moon. For, leave alone the country as a whole, first let the Sikhs sincerely adopt and practise the Guru's preachings, not only regarding social harmony, but also those prohibiting them to perform Brahmanic religious rituals, which the Guru condemned vociferously.

BALVINDER, BY MAIL

Wary of Khalistani agenda

The leader of the New Democratic Party, Jagmeet Singh, can become the kingmaker with his party's 24 seats in Trudeau's minority government. But Trudeau will do well to keep in mind Punjab CM Capt Amarinder Singh's earlier advice about keeping a check on Khalistani forces if he takes NDP's help to form the government. The CM's concerns about the burgeoning Khalistani elements and influence in the Canadian government must be taken seriously. Jagmeet Singh reportedly has Khalistani leanings.

PS KAUR, BY MAIL

Why not disqualified?

Refer to 'U-turn may not help Khaira, Jaito MLA' (October 24); they ought to have been disqualified from the state Assembly as they were ousted from the AAP and further 'voluntarily gave up their membership' in the wake of forming a new political outfit which contested the 2019 Lok Sabha elections but couldn't win a solitary seat. It shows the inefficiency of the Speaker, who did not attend to the matter for nearly a year, and later permitted the rebel MLAs to withdraw their resignation.

SIRAT SAPRA, FAZILKA

Kerala paradox

Reference to 'Haryana has 3rd highest crime rate: NCRB report' (October 23); Kerala has recorded the highest crime rate in India, followed by Delhi and Haryana. It is strange since Kerala has always led with the highest literacy rate. And now, it has the highest crime rate! If there is no control on crime in such a literate state, what about states where the literacy rate is already poor?

GARIMA SHARMA, CHANDIGARH

Haryana crime rate

The NCRB report has rated Haryana as the third highest crime state, with 1,072 murders

and 1,099 rapes. The state registered 2,408 cases of rioting and over 20,000 thefts. The most surprising fact is that in the past few years, crime against women and children have increased rapidly. The condition of police reforms is more deplorable than other states. Unnecessary political interference must be avoided and police personnel should be equipped with police manuals and the latest legal challenges.

DEVENDER KUMAR, SIRSA

BCCI in safe hands

Much is expected from the new BCCI president Sourav Ganguly because he is known as a person with practical approach in the action-oriented field of cricket ('Dada takes charge', October 24). His words after assuming the charge speak volumes of his awareness of ground realities. The future of cricket in the country is now in safe and able hands. It will also show the way to other sports bodies to give the reins of respective sports to capable sportspersons for better results on the field.

DV SHARMA, MUKERIAN

Ganguly inspires

Refer to 'Ganguly takes over' (October 24); the Committee of

Administrators has done a good job, though arduous, by selecting Sourav Ganguly as BCCI's 39th president. The formation of a Cricketers' Association is an appreciable move towards maintaining the genuineness of the sport and enabling players to have a say in how to run its administration. All state units should also be firmly directed to comply with the Lodha Committee's recommendations.

SUNENA, CHANDIGARH

For meaningful Diwali

Diwali is the celebration of lights and happiness, but we celebrate it by burning crackers and polluting our environment by generating poisonous gases — 'Jab diyon se ho sakta hai ujjiyara toh kyon lein hum patakon ka sahara?' Light diyas and share sweets with neighbours. Shun bad habits like drinking, gambling and violence. Plant more trees. Stay away from crackers and start making your resolutions for the coming year. Celebrate Diwali by taking blessings from your parents and elders. Share your love with poor children and illuminate their home through some act of charity. A single smile on the face of a poor child can make your Diwali most successful and rewarding.

SUBER SINGH PARIHAR, JALARI

Regional leaders make their presence felt



RADHIKA RAMASESHAN
SENIOR JOURNALIST

IN the end, regardless of the numbers and the degree of competition among the stakeholders, it is the spirit of the mandate emanating from the Maharashtra and Haryana Assembly polls that is likely to leave its imprint not only on the states but also on the country. Every electoral outcome carries one or more messages for the players and the electorate. The latest Assembly elections — the first to be held after the BJP's spectacular showing in the Lok Sabha polls in May 2019 — came with a cautionary tale for the ruling party, valuable counsel for the Congress and hope and optimism for the regional parties that have emerged as king-makers or pressure groups in both Haryana and Maharashtra after a long spell of a near-hegemonic hold over the polity by the BJP.

Dismissed as 'tiresomely one-sided' by political pundits and a 'BJP-all-the-way' reading by most pollsters, with one honourable exception, the results sprang a surprise. Doubtless, the BJP and its ally, the Shiv Sena, swung Maharashtra for a second innings, but the result had a significant subtext.

First, the BJP's aspirations to surpass the Sena, that had not been the amenable of partners in Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis' first tenure, were dashed. The BJP barely reached the three-digit mark,

although objectively speaking, it contested fewer seats this time than it did in 2014 when it went solo and teamed up with the Sena after the elections. The BJP and the Sena riled each other on quite a few seats, while on one, the allies were pitted against one another, although the BJP picked up this contentious seat.

The debut of Aaditya Thackeray, son of Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray, was a source of unease for the BJP. Aaditya, who is on a serious image makeover for a party that was identified with parochialism, minority bashing and a warped sense of what 'Indianness' was, largely discarded the Sena's legacy issues such as disrupting Valentine's Day celebrations and shutting down pubs and spoke a modern language that facilitated a connect with the new urban demography. Aaditya's cheerleaders became his ventriloquists mid-way through electioneering and demanded that he should be made the CM in sync with the BJP's old formula of leaving Maharashtra to the Sena and keeping the Centre. Uddhav half-heartedly squashed the demand, while the BJP insisted that Fadnavis would continue to helm the coalition.

Fadnavis looks a tad vulnerable because the BJP has not secured the numbers it had hoped for, certainly not achieving a tally that would place it in a commanding position over the Sena. Worse, for Fadnavis, the BJP suffered its losses in Vidarbha, his backyard (he won from Nagpur south west), whose farmers were seriously impacted by successive droughts that Fadnavis' flagship irrigation schemes were unable to mitigate.

Although the 36 seats in Mumbai were not affected by poor civic infrastructure, the environmental damage caused by the reclamation of forest



OLD WARHORSE: NCP chief Sharad Pawar with granddaughter Revati Sule. He continues to be relevant in Maharashtra politics.

The Nationalist Congress Party won more seats than the Congress to become the third-largest party in the new Maharashtra Assembly. However, the more significant takeaway from the NCP's showing was that regional leaders with a grassroots connect were more capable of challenging the BJP, when push came to shove.

land at the Aarey Milk complex for Metro rail expansion and a massive cooperative bank scam that entailed the loss of lifetime savings for middle-class pensioners, the BJP had to forgo seats in the rural areas, reinforcing the trend of a rural-urban divide that was manifest in an earlier slew of Assembly polls held in December 2018. While the Congress, beset with factionalism, bereft of credible state leaders and the absence of the Gandhis for the most part from the campaign (Rahul Gandhi addressed occasional meetings), proved hopelessly ineffective in taking advantage of the anti-incumbency sentiment against the Maharashtra government, its ally, the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), took as much advantage as its leader, Sharad Pawar, could in the twilight of his political career.

The BJP hollowed out to the NCP,

spiriting away its local weighty leaders who controlled the cooperatives and other sources of institutional patronage to the extent it could. Pawar was not deterred. He soldiered on, invoking his Maratha legacy. Perhaps, a defining image of the election was of Pawar campaigning in heavy rain at Satara, where the BJP had taken away a strong local influencer, Udayan Rajee Bhosale, a descendant of Chhatrapati Shivaji. The combination of sympathy and his political inheritance worked because Bhosale lost to the NCP's new candidate. The NCP won more seats than the Congress to become the third-largest party in the new Assembly. However, the more significant takeaway from the NCP's showing was that regional leaders with a grassroots connect were more capable of challenging the BJP, when push came to shove.

The BJP's attempts to frame Pawar

and his political confidant, Praful Patel, on graft charges and for alleged links with the Mumbai underworld, did not upset the NCP's prospects because the allegations were levelled on election eve and smacked of ruthless cynicism.

If the Congress cared to objectively analyse the results of the Maharashtra and Haryana polls, two features will not escape its attention. One, they underscored the indisputable place that the regional satraps hold, irrespective of how 'powerful' a high command might be. The performance put in by Pawar, Bhupinder Singh Hooda and young Dushyant Chautala underscored the importance of identifying and nurturing provincial leaders. Indeed, had the Gandhis given Hooda and his son, Deepender Hooda, enough political and managerial latitude well in advance, and not pitted factions against one another through rootless players, Haryana might have turned in a different narrative.

Second, the involvement of the Gandhis in these elections was minimal. Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra were absent, while Rahul put in a token appearance. What did that signify? That the Congress seriously needed to revisit its command structures?

For the BJP, the takeaways were that overuse of aggressive nationalism had its limitations; economics cannot be decoupled from politics; and the Assembly and parliamentary elections are qualitatively different. Doubtless, it has morphed a Lok Sabha election into a presidential-style mandate for an individual. A state election has its own dynamics, one of them being that *dal-roti* issues take precedence over an offensive against Pakistan.

India should tread warily on free trade treaty



JAYSHREE SENGUPTA
SENIOR FELLOW, OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

India must not be at a disadvantage in opening up to countries that are highly competitive. The country has to weigh carefully the gains to be had from signing the treaty under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). The main advantage will be that India would be able to purchase its raw material and intermediate goods at concessional prices from other members.

THE recent one-on-one talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at Mamallapuram on trade and investment had one tangible outcome. There will be a mechanism in place soon to study the problems pertaining to trade and investment between the two countries. It will be important to sort out various trade issues before India accepts the terms and conditions of the mega free trade treaty, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), comprising 16 countries — 10 ASEAN nations plus China, Japan, India, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. It will be the world's biggest economic bloc, covering nearly half of the global economy, a little less than half of the world's population, and accounting for 39 per cent of the world's GDP. Joining it perhaps will give India an advantage to negotiate the terms and conditions from within. Many members of the deal are now quite impatient about completing the treaty by November 2019.

While it is true that most of the world trade is taking place within regional arrangements and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), India must not be at a disadvantage in opening up to countries that are highly competitive; its most important competitor is China. India has to weigh carefully the gains to be had from signing the treaty, which may mean making itself vulnerable to having its markets inundated with Chinese goods.

The main advantage will be that



FORMIDABLE: China subsidises its exports and its financial architecture supports export production massively. China is India's most important competitor.

India would be able to purchase its raw material and intermediate goods at concessional prices from other members under the mega FTA. On its own, if India has to purchase these goods in the international markets, these would cost much more. Intermediate goods are vital for making Indian exports competitive.

The other advantage which many economists are pointing out is that India has to integrate itself into the global value chains which produce parts of goods in different countries but are assembled in a host country like China. The edge lies in being able to enter into a chain of global orders by multinational corporations to developing countries to produce goods that are sold internationally

under well-known brand names. Most of the countries to our East are participating in the global value chains and reaping the benefits of an increase in income and employment.

The treaty may also lead to more FDI inflows from member countries, now that the government has reduced the corporate tax rates. FDI can create jobs and rev up exports and reverse the economic slowdown.

In the recent past, however, according to a research paper by Niti Aayog, India's numerous FTAs with regional partners have not yielded positive results. In most cases, the FTAs have been followed by an increase in imports from the partner country; India has trade deficits with 13 member countries of the RCEP. The India-ASEAN FTA

has led to a bigger trade deficit than before. With South Korea, Japan and Thailand, too, there have been similar results. The surge in imports takes place as soon as the FTA is concluded, but a similar thrust in exports is missing. The auto trigger mechanism of higher tariffs proposed by India to check the sudden surge in imports may be ineffective due to lack of monitoring infrastructure. Slack export production in India is due to lack of competitiveness in today's world, as shown by the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index on which India has slipped 10 places to the 68th rank.

We are losing out to our neighbouring countries due to higher logistics costs and lack of proper port facilities that lead to higher turnaround time for ships. Indian companies' labour costs are high because India is not resorting to sweatshop wages. On the whole, in terms of quality and price, we seem to be lagging behind our neighbours and that is why foreign firms leaving Chinese shores due to the US-China trade war and an increase in tariffs are not coming to India. Also, industrial growth was only 1.1 per cent in August.

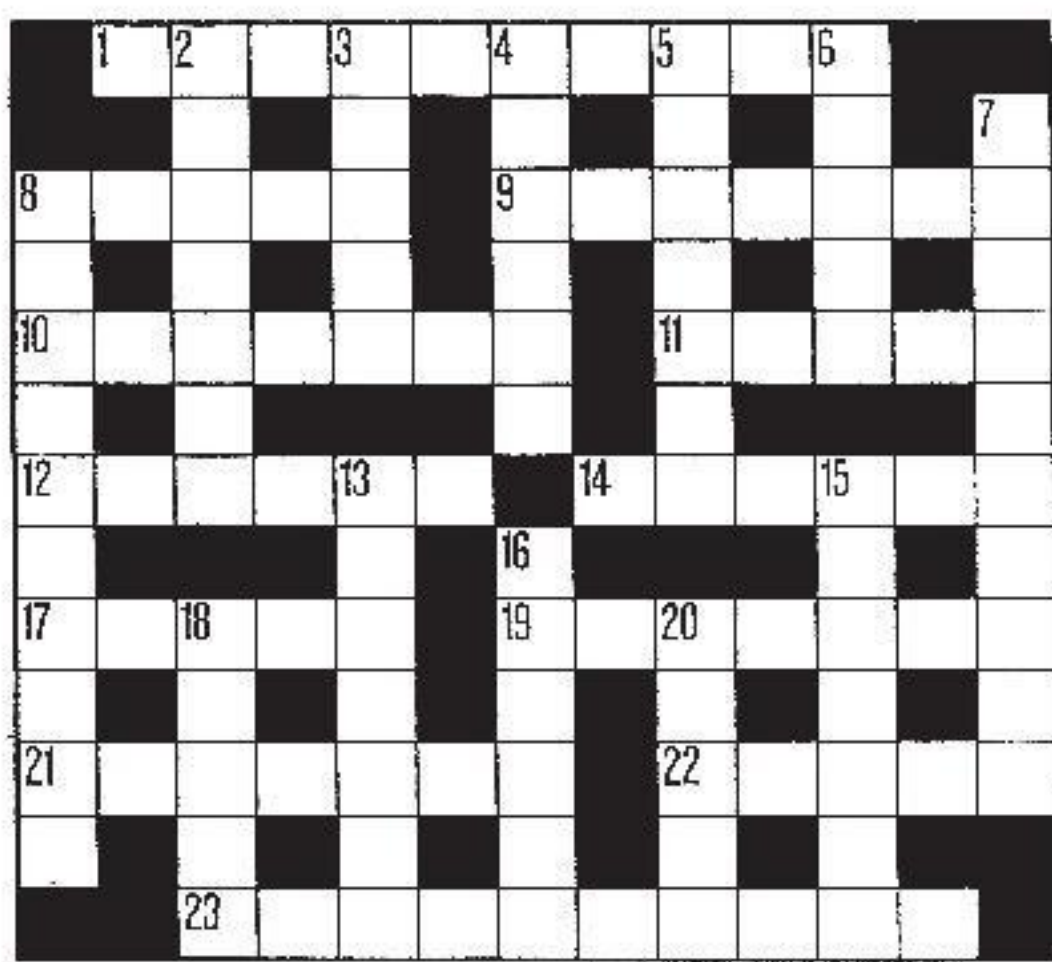
India has an advantage in services exports and has demanded freer movement of its service personnel within the RCEP and data localisation. This will give a boost to our services exports despite the language barrier. This demand has not been accepted by the RCEP so far. All that the treaty wants India to do is to reduce its tariff lines on

80 to 90 per cent of imported goods. Reducing tariffs on almost all imports would be like an open invitation to all 15 members to flood Indian markets with their goods. India is not able to compete with China on many items and New Zealand in dairy; it is this lack of competitiveness which has led to greater unpreparedness for India.

First and foremost, India has to improve its industrial growth rapidly which may not be easy, given our creaky infrastructure, shortage of skilled labour and complex bureaucracy. For all RCEP members, except China, the domestic market is small and hence, they need to expand exports and are doing so aggressively. China subsidises its exports and its financial architecture supports export production massively. Being an authoritarian state, it has a smoother bureaucracy and there is little scope for disruptions in production. That is how China has become the world's biggest exporter.

China has to give more access to Indian exports, especially of pharmaceuticals and agricultural products. Hopefully, the Modi-Xi meeting will lead to addressing the reasons for India's ballooning trade deficit of \$53 billion in 2018-19. There are too many non-tariff barriers in place in China which have to be removed, which could lead to more investment flows between the two countries. Otherwise, progressively low tariff rates which form the core of the RCEP treaty, will seriously hurt our dairy, steel, MSME and textile sectors.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Suave (4-6)
- 8 Romany (5)
- 9 Power of endurance (7)
- 10 Caller (7)
- 11 Standard of perfection (5)
- 12 Downgrade (6)
- 14 Greek Aegean island (6)
- 17 Largest African country (5)
- 19 Result (7)
- 21 Tropical cyclone (7)
- 22 Move stealthily (5)
- 23 Tough and realistic (4-6)

DOWN

- 2 Resisted (7)
- 3 Lover's meeting (5)
- 4 Piecrust (6)
- 5 Rascally (7)
- 6 Din (5)
- 7 Nod off (4,6)
- 8 Bring about (4,4,2)
- 13 Frankness (7)
- 15 Bishop's jurisdiction (7)
- 16 Associate familiarly (6)
- 18 Profundity (5)
- 20 Unspoken (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

Across: 1 Apathy, 4 Across, 9 Spartan, 10 On end, 11 Match, 12 Endgame, 13 Warts-and-all, 18 Infidel, 20 Vital, 22 Huron, 23 Up to now, 24 Return, 25 Devour.
Down: 1 Assume, 2 Adapt, 3 Hatchet, 5 Crowd, 6 Overall, 7 Sadden, 8 Under a cloud, 14 At first, 15 Devotee, 16 Dither, 17 Glower, 19 Donor, 21 Tango.

SU DO KU

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

EASY

CALENDAR

OCTOBER 25, 2019, FRIDAY

- Vikrami Samvat 2076
- Shaka Samvat 1941
- Kartik Shaka 3
- Kartik Parvishte 9
- Hijari 1441
- Krishan Paksh Tithi 12, up to 7.08 pm
- Brahma Yoga up to 9.56 pm
- Ender Yoga up to 6.03 am
- Purvaphalguni Nakshatra up to 11.00 am
- Moon enters Virgo sign 4.23 pm
- Dhan Triyodshi Vrat.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

FORECAST

SUNSET: FRIDAY 17:41 HRS
SUNRISE: SATURDAY 06:32 HRS

Sunny Partly Cloudy Cloudy Rainy Foggy

CITY	MAX	MIN
Chandigarh	30	18
New Delhi	31	17

PUNJAB	MAX	MIN
Amritsar	32	15
Bathinda	33	16
Jalandhar	32	15
Ludhiana	30	15

HARYANA	MAX	MIN
Bhiwani	32	19
Hisar	33	15
Sirsa	33	17

HIMACHAL PRADESH	MAX	MIN
Dharamsala	21	13
Manali	17	05
Shimla	21	10

JAMMU & KASHMIR	MAX	MIN
Jammu	30	15
Leh	—	—
Srinagar	22	04

UTTARAKHAND	MAX	MIN
Dehradun	29	16
Mussoorie	21	10

TEMPERATURE IN °C

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਰਕਾਰ
ਐਲ.ਜੀ./ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਸੰਗਤ।
ਟੈਂਡਰ ਮੰਗਵਾਉਣ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਨੋਟਿਸ
ਈਮੇਲ ਆਈ.ਡੀ-ਮਸਾਂਗਟ242@gmail.com
ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਨੰ. MCSANGAT/2019 ਮਿਤੀ:.....
ਐਲ.ਜੀ./ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਸੰਗਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਸਿਵਲ ਵਰਕ ਦੇ ਕੰਮ ਸੁਝਾਈ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਪੀ.ਐਚ.ਪੀ.ਡਬਲਿਊ.ਡੀ. ਬੀ. ਐਂਡ ਆਰ. ਵਿਭਾਗ ਕੋਲ ਸੂਚੀਬੱਧ ਯੋਗ ਨੋਕੋਦਾਰ/ਸੁਸਾਇਟੀਆਂ ਤੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਟੈਂਡਰ ਮੰਗਵਾਉਣ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਈਮੇਲ ਵਿਸਥਾਰਪੁਰਵਕ ਮੱਦਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ ਲਈ ਮਿਤੀ 24.10.2019 ਤੋਂ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> ਦਾ ਹਵਾਲਾ ਲਓ। ਕੰਮ ਦੀ ਲਾਗਤ 78.21 ਲੱਖ ਰੁਪਏ। ਰਕਮ ਬਿਆਨ ਕੁੱਲ ਦਾ 2% ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਟੈਂਡਰ ਖੁੱਲਣ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ: 15.11.2019, ਸਮਾਂ ਸਵੇਰੇ 11:00 ਵਜੇ। ਸੋਚ ਕੋਈ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ ਸਿਰਫ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। DPR/PR/D7116 ਸਾਰੀ/- ਕਾਰਜਸਾਧਕ ਅਫਸਰ, ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਸੰਗਤ।

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS
Tender Notice No.:03 Dated: 22.10.2019
Joint Director, Irrigation & Power Research Institute invites bids from eligible authorized firms/bidders for noted work:
(1) Dismantling and disposing of material of Hydraulic Division 1(HO-1) building, Models of Hydraulic Division 1(HO 1), Buildings of Majitha Division. Rs. 36 lakhs
For details terms and conditions of Notice Inviting Bids, refer to website <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> w.e.f. 22.10.2019.
Corrigendum, if any, will be issued on website only.
Sd/- Joint Director,
Irrigation & Power Research Institute,
Amritsar.
DPR/Pb/D7107

DIRECTORATE OF POLICE,
COMMUNICATION & TECHNICAL SERVICES
HIMACHAL PRADESH, SHIMLA-171002.
(e-mail ID: sp-wir-hp@nic.in & cts-staterc-hp@nic.in)
Tel No. 0177-2623058, 2625120
PHYSICAL EFFICIENCY TEST FOR THE POST OF CONSTABLE/CTS.
Physical Efficiency Test for the post Constable CTS has been fixed on 01.11.2019 to 02.11.2019 at Police Line Bharani Shimla. All eligible candidates are requested to visit website hppolice.gov.in and check the notice board for detail, with request to the Physical Efficiency Test. Call letters have already been sent to all eligible candidates through registered post. In case call letter not received even then they are advised to appear for Physical Efficiency Test on the date fixed along with all original documents and one self attested photocopy.
Sd/- Superintendent of Police,
Commn. & Tech. Services,
HP, Shimla-2.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W) Firuzpur acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the works/services listed below. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make online payments against these tenders. Document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipt, FDR etc. are not allowed.
Tender Type Bidding System Date of uploading tenders Bid closing Date/Time Date and time of opening of E-Tender
Open Single packet System 25.10.2019 at 12:00 Hrs. 18.11.2019 after at 15:00 hrs. 18.11.2019 after Time 15:05 hrs.
Sl.No. Tender No. Details of Tender
1 54-2019 Refilling of 948 nos. of fire extinguishers along with testing and maintenance for the period of Three years (Thirty Six Months) for FZR Division
Advertised Value Tender Document Cost Earnest Money Validity of offer Period of Completion
₹6,78,791.70 ₹2,000 ₹13,600 45 Days 36 months
For more details please log on to www.ireps.gov.in 3413/19
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SECURITIES & EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (SEBI)
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)
SEBI invites Request for proposal for Annual Maintenance Contract and Facility Management Services for Document Management System.
Refer to RFP No. SEBI/ITD/HO/RFP/2019/10/2- under title REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL for AMC & FMS for DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM at www.sebi.gov.in for more details under 'Tenders'. The last date for submission of bids is by 3:00 PM of November 19, 2019.
Chief General Manager - IT (SEBI)
davp/15204/11/0315/1920

ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ
ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਨੰ. 9 ਮਿਤੀ: 24.10.2019
ਰਾਜਪਾਲ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਦੀ ਤਰਫ ਕਾਰਜਸਾਧਕ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ, ਮਕੈਨੀਕਲ ਮੰਡਲ, ਡੀ.ਐਚ.ਐ. ਡੀ. ਮ ਸ਼ਾਖਾ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਹੇਠਲੇ ਵਰਤਿਤ ਕੰਮਾਂ ਲਈ ਯੋਗ ਟੈਂਡਰਕਾਰਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਲਿਫਟਾਫਾਬੰਦ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਮੰਗੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ। ਟੈਂਡਰ ਫਾਰਮ ਮਿਤੀ 4.11.2019 ਨੂੰ ਬਾਅਦ ਦੁਪਹਿਰ 1.30 ਵਜੇ ਤੱਕ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾਣਗੇ ਅਤੇ ਉਸੇ ਦਿਨ ਬਾਅਦ ਦੁਪਹਿਰ 2.30 ਵਜੇ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹੇ ਜਾਣਗੇ। ਬਿਆਨ ਰਕਮ ਤੋਂ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਸਵੀਕਾਰ ਨਹੀਂ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।
ਲੜੀ ਨੰ. ਕੰਮ ਦਾ ਨਾਂ ਬਿਆਨ ਰਕਮ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ਾਂ ਦੀ ਕੀਮਤ ਮੁਕੰਮਲ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਸਮਾਂ ਕੰਮ ਦੀ ਅੰਦਾਜ਼ਨ ਲਾਗਤ
1 Providing Service Field Staff for Maintenance of Govt. Buildings under Jurisdiction of Mech. Div. PWD B&R, Patiala (From 01.11.2019 to 31.3.2020) 13600/- ਰੁ. 2000/- ਰੁ. 5 ਮਹੀਨੇ 6,78,600/- ਰੁ.
2 Annual Mtc. Contract for 2 Nos., Elevator (KONE Make) in JCC Barnala (From 1.11.2019 to 31.3.2020) 2200/- ਰੁ. 2000/- ਰੁ. 5 ਮਹੀਨੇ 1,08,300/- ਰੁ.
3 Annual Mtc. Contract for 4 Nos. Elevator (KONE Make) in DAC Barnala for the year (From 1.11.2019 to 31.3.2020) 3800/- ਰੁ. 2000/- ਰੁ. 5 ਮਹੀਨੇ 1,88,100/- ਰੁ.
ਬਾਕੀ ਸਾਰੀਆਂ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ ਮੌਕੇ 'ਤੇ ਈਮੇਲ ਜਾਣਗੀਆਂ।
ਸਾਰੀ/- ਕਾਰਜਸਾਧਕ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ, ਮਕੈਨੀਕਲ ਮੰਡਲ, ਡੀ ਤੇ ਮ ਸ਼ਾਖਾ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।
DPR/Pb/D7124

CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES
TENDER NOTICE
Electronic tenders on the prescribed proforma for construction/interior decoration of Chandigarh Pavilion to be set up in 56 Sq. meter non AC bare space in Hall No. 12-A, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi for participation in the India International Trade Fair 2019 are invited from the contractors who are already having experience for the construction/interior decoration of at least four pavilions for organizing exhibitions/fairs organized by the Govt./Semi Govt. organizations.
The detailed terms and conditions are mentioned in the tender form which is available at e-tendering site of Chandigarh Administration i.e. etenders.chd.nic.in. The last date and time for the receipt of tenders is 05 November, 2019 till 5.00 P.M. and tenders will be opened on 06 November at 10.00 A.M. in the office of Director Industries, U.T., Chandigarh, Plot No. 39, Industrial Area, Phase-II, Chandigarh in the presence of intending tenderer(s) or their representative(s) who may wish to be present.
Director Industries,
U.T., Chandigarh.
Phone: 0172-2679006, 2679007.
davp 15309/11/0001/1920

2 truck drivers shot dead by militants in Shopian

Fourth terror-related incident where Kashmir's ₹8,000-cr apple industry hit

SUHAIL A SHAH
ANANTNAG, OCTOBER 24
In the fourth terror-related incident to target the Kashmir's Rs 8,000-crore apple industry, suspected militants today shot dead two drivers of apple-laden trucks in Shopian district, leaving another one injured on the spot.
One of the killed drivers was identified as Ilyas Khan from Alwar area of Rajasthan, while the identity of the second deceased was yet to be ascertained. The injured has been identified as Jeevan Singh of Hoshiarpur in Punjab.
Singh, who had been hit by

PREVIOUS THREE INCIDENTS
■ On October 16, militants had killed a migrant labourer from Chhattisgarh and an apple trader from Punjab in separate incidents in South Kashmir
■ On October 14, two militants had shot dead the driver of a Rajasthan truck and assaulted an orchard owner in Shopian
■ On October 7, a truck driver from Alwar Rajasthan was also killed by the militants in Shirmal area of Shopian district

A senior police official confirmed the incident, saying, "The drivers had completed the loading of two trucks and when they were busy loading the third truck, they were shot at by the armed militants".
The intense firing in the area created scare among the locals, while the security agencies, immediately after receiving the information, rushed to the spot and cordoned the entire area. A search operation has been launched to catch the militants. This is the fourth incident when the people associated with the apple industry have been targeted.
While the educational institutions in Kashmir continue to remain shut from the last 80 days, The National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar, which has more than 2,000 outstation students, has resumed classes from October 23.
Rakesh Sehgal, director of

BJP gets severe jolt in BDC polls



Tarsem Singh Saroch, winner from Suchetgarh in the Block Development Council elections. TRIBUNE PHOTO

DINESH MANHOTRA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, OCTOBER 24
All hopes of the BJP to get a cakewalk in the Block Development Council (BDC) elections were dashed this evening as the party performed poorly even in its citadels.
Despite boycott by the National Conference (NC), Congress and PDP, the BJP managed to get only 53 seats out of the total 148 in the Hindu-dominated Jammu region, considered as the stronghold of the party.
The party candidates even lost in the home blocks of all senior leaders, allegedly due to infighting, including that of state president Ravinder Raina where the opposition "supported" independents emerged victorious.
The BJP even failed to win any seat from the Nagrota Assembly segment which is the home constituency of the sitting Lok Sabha member Jugal Kishore Sharma.
Despite the absence of the opposition candidates, the BJP failed to win even respectable seats in its bastions, namely, Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Udhampur and Reasi districts. Except Kishtwar district, the BJP failed to perform on expected lines in other districts of the Jammu province.
The Congress, which is the arch-rival of the BJP in these districts, had boycotted the elections. Despite this, the latter failed to perform as expected.

Outstation students of NIT back in classes

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 24
At the Indian Institute of Hotel Management in Srinagar, outstation students who had left for home after tension erupted in Kashmir are now back to attend classes.
Rohit Singh, a second year undergraduate student of Hospitality and Hotel Management, who returned from Mad-

hya Pradesh, said: "The classes are going on normally but it is only the absence of internet that's a little bothersome," adding that they never felt unsafe in Kashmir: "We feel the same like we have felt in all the previous years. The locals also treat us very well," he said.
The students are preparing for Diwali, their annual

festival, in the campus.
While the educational institutions in Kashmir continue to remain shut from the last 80 days, The National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar, which has more than 2,000 outstation students, has resumed classes from October 23.
Rakesh Sehgal, director of

Gehlot warns DDA VC over construction waste

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24
Delhi's Environment Minister Kailash Gehlot on Thursday asked the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) to initiate prosecution against DDA's Vice-Chairman if the urban body failed to remove construction and demolition waste from a 10-acre land near Karkardooma metro station by October 25.
I have directed the DPCC to immediately issue prosecution notice to the DDA vice-chairman. At a time when pollution levels are rising due to stubble-burning, we cannot tolerate such things
Kailash Gehlot, DELHI'S ENVIRONMENT MINISTER
The minister conducted an inspection of the site, located opposite GD Goenka Public School, on Thursday afternoon and expressed shock at the situation.
Plumes of dust billowed in the air as construction and demolition debris lay strewn around. The site is close to Anand Vihar, one of the 14 pollution hot spots in the national capital.
The Anand Vihar air quality station recorded an AQI of 384 on Thursday.
An AQI between 0 and 50 is considered "good", 51 and 100 "satisfactory", 101 and 200 "moderate", 201 and 300 "poor", 301 and 400 "very poor", and 401 and 500 "severe".
The minister said DPCC officials inspected the site on October 16 and issued a notice to the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) on October 22, asking it to remove the debris within 72 hours. "The land-owning agency is yet to initiate any action."
There was no immediate reaction available from the DDA. — PTI

INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT

TAX RECOVERY OFFICER, VANIJYA NIKUNJ, UDYOG VIHAR, PHASE-V, GURUGRAM (HARYANA) AUCTION SALE OF AGRICULTURE LANDS IN HARYANA
Date of Auction: THURSDAY, THE 28th NOVEMBER, 2019 at 11.30 a.m.

Venue: At Conference Room, 8th Floor, HSIIDC Building, Vanijya Nikunj, Udyog Vihar, Phase-V, Gurugram (Haryana).

DETAILS OF AGRICULTURE LANDS

Sr. No.	Description of Property	Reserve Price
1.	Agriculture Land at Village Parsaoli, Tehsil Manesar, Distt Gurugram, Haryana (in Seven Land portions) measuring 9.29 Acres (74 Kanal 15.66 Marla).	Rs. 5,06,88,935/- (Rupees Five Crores Six Lacs Eighty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty Five only).
2.	Agriculture Land at Village Bhokrakha, Tehsil Manesar, Distt. Gurugram (Haryana) ((in Four Land portions- Located near Pataudi-Daruhera Road) measuring 5.84 Acres (46 Kanal 15 Marla).	Rs. 3,26,84,094/- (Rupees Three Crores Twenty Six Lacs Eighty Four thousand and Ninety four only).
3.	Agriculture Land at Village BhoraKhurd, Tehsil Manesar, Distt. Gurugram (Haryana) (in 12 Land portions) measuring 152.64 acres (1221 Kanal 2.5 Marla).	Rs. 85,37,19,016/- (Rupees Eighty Five Crores Thirty Seven Lacs Nineten Thousand and Sixteen only).
4.	Agriculture Land at Village Sidhrwall, Tehsil Manesar, Distt. Gurugram (Haryana) (in Three land portions) (2 Portions near Mannat Dhaba-touching NH-8,) measuring 7.25 acres (58 Kanal).	Rs. 38,56,64,623/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Crores Fifty Six Lacs Sixty Four Thousand and Six Hundred and Twenty Three only).

NOTES:
1) For Inspection on: 14th NOVEMBER, 2019, kindly assemble at Income Tax Office, Gurugram before 12 Noon for site visit.
2) VACANT POSSESSIONS OF THE LANDS WILL BE GIVEN.
3) FOR KHASRA, KHATA & KEWAT NO. OF ALL LANDS PLEASE VISIT TAX RECOVERY OFFICER, UDHYOG VIHAR, PHASE-V, GURUGRAM.

NOTE: The above Agriculture Lands are being auctioned on directions of order of Hon'ble SUPREME COURT OF INDIA- M/s. Raiganj Consumer Forum Vs UOI & other-T.C. (C) No. 2/2004 connected with W.P. (C) No. 188/2004.-Reg.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:
(1) The highest bid shall be subject to approval of the Tax Recovery Officer – Gurugram (Haryana).
(2) The highest bidder has to deposit 25% of his highest bid as Earnest Money in the shape of Demand Draft in favour of "the Chairman, Committee-GFIL" A/c No. 55024544491 on the spot.
(3) The balance amount alongwith poundage fees @ 2% upto Rs. 1000/- and @ 1% of the purchase price exceeding Rs. 1000/- shall be deposited within 15 days from the date of auction in the above manner, failing which 25% deposit shall be forfeited to the Govt.
(4) The Properties as Agriculture lands are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS".
(5) The purchasers are requested to please inspect the property (Agriculture Land) in advance and bid at above venue.
NOTE:
(i) All the intending bidders will have to deposit Rs. 5,00,000/- as Caution Deposit (Refundable) by way of Demand Draft in favour of "The Chairman, Committee-GFIL" A/c No. 55024544491 at the entrance of the Auction Hall.
(ii) Further, intending bidders participating in the auction shall have to compulsorily show the Demand Draft of Earnest Money (25% of Reserve Price or their purchase price) at the time of depositing Caution Deposit.
(PUNAM BAHL),
Tax Recovery Officer – Gurugram (Haryana),
5th Floor, HSIIDC Building, Vanijya Nikunj, Udyog Vihar, PHASE-V, Near Shankar Chowk, N.H.-8. GURUGRAM.
Ph: 0124-2450157 or visit: <http://incometaxchandigarh>

4-day laser show for cracker-free Diwali

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24
The Delhi authorities are offering residents laser light shows to mark the Hindu festival of Diwali this weekend and wean them away from bursting tens of thousands of firecrackers that cause a deadly spike in air pollution.
The air quality in the capital has already worsened with levels of PM 2.5, tiny particulate matter that goes deep into the lungs, already twice that of safe limits because of crop stubble fires in the surrounding farm states.
"Let's celebrate a smoke-free Diwali with this laser show and do our bit in making this festival pollution free," Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said in front page ads on Thursday. He asked residents to gather in the shopping district of Connaught Place and watch the laser shows that will run for four days beginning Saturday.
While Diwali is celebrated throughout the country, New Delhi accounts for nearly half of India's demand for firecrackers.
Although firecrackers push up pollution levels, the authorities have been reluctant to ban them.
"We support every initiative to help improve Delhi's air but banning firecrackers on Diwali and letting fireworks go on Christmas and New Year is hypocrisy," said Tajinder Pal Singh Bagga, a spokesman for the ruling BJP.
"The prototype (of green crackers) was made available only recently and it would take a long time to scale up production," said Rajiv Jain of the Delhi Fireworks Traders' Association.
"The transition will be rather slow due to the sheer size of the industry." — Reuters

Nigerian arrested for overstaying

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24
A Nigerian 'celebrity', who also acted in some Bollywood movies, was apprehended by CISF personnel at the Delhi airport on Thursday for allegedly overstaying in the country.
Olamilekan M Akanbi Ojora was intercepted around 4 am at the Indra Gandhi International Airport after security personnel found him roaming suspiciously in the terminal area. The man had a ticket to Goa on a Vistara flight and when he was questioned, he divulged that his visa had expired, they said. The CISF officials later contacted immigration and Central intelligence agencies, which confirmed that the man's visa had expired in 2011. — PTI

Novice Reena shocks Cong veteran Musafir in Pachhad

First woman to win from segment I Victory margin 2,742

HIMACHAL VERDICT 2019

AMBIKA SHARMA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, OCTOBER 24 BJP's Reena Kashyap (34) emerged the first woman to win the Pachhad reserved seat by defeating Congress' GR Musafir by a narrow margin of 2,742 votes today.



BJP's Reena Kashyap celebrates her victory with MP Suresh Kumar.

Table with 4 columns: Round, Congress, BJP, Ind. Shows Reena Kashyap (BJP) with 22,048 votes and GR Musafir (Cong) with 19,306 votes.

Reena secured 22,048 votes while Musafir, who suffered his third consecutive loss in the Assembly poll, secured 19,306 votes. The Trans-Giri area supported the BJP while the non-Trans-Giri area stood by the Congress as well as BJP rebel Dayal Pyari.

Cakewalk for BJP in Dharamsala bypoll

Ind Rakesh Kumar second | Cong nominee pushed to 3rd spot, loses security

LALIT MOHAN TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, OCTOBER 24 The ruling BJP won the Dharamsala bypoll today. It's nominee Vishal Nehria polled 23,397 votes, independent Rakesh Kumar 16,724 and Congress' Vijay Inder Karan 8,189.

Marred by infighting, the Congress was pushed to the third spot. Vishal Nehria won by a margin of 6,673 votes.

Congress candidate Vijay Inder Karan lost his deposit. As per rules, any candidate, who gets lesser votes than 1/6th of the total valid votes polled, loses his deposit. The Congress candidate got 8,212 votes whereas he had to get 8,666 votes to save his deposit.

All other four candidates in the fray also lost their deposits. Puneesh Sharma got 2,345 votes, Manohar Lal Dhiman 887 votes, Subhash Chand Shukla 368 votes and Nisha Katoch 435 votes.

Though Musafir gained more votes than the BJP in the fifth, sixth and seventh rounds, he could not recover the loss suffered in other rounds. Dayal Pyari secured the second highest votes in the sixth, eighth and ninth rounds but fell to the third position in all other rounds.



BJP's Vishal Nehria celebrates with supporters after winning the Dharamsala bypoll on Thursday. KAMALJEET

Table with 4 columns: Round No, Congress, BJP, Ind. Shows Vishal Nehria (BJP) with 23,397 votes and Rakesh Kumar (Ind) with 16,724 votes.

maintained it till the last round. Independent candidate Rakesh Chaudhary got marginal votes from the urban area of Dharamsala and its surroundings. However, he made significant gains in the OBC belt of rural areas

but failed to beat the BJP wave. After victory, several BJP leaders have started taking credit for the victory. The lacklustre performance by the Congress was being attributed to the infighting in the party. The best bet of party, former minister and AICC secretary, Sudhir Sharma, refused to contest the elections just two days before the last day of filing of nomination papers.

Karan addressed a press meet yesterday and accused Sudhir Sharma of working against him. Sudhir Sharma had, however, denied the charges.

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED. Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001. Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB20108CG03813. (PUBLIC NOTICE) VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE SCHEME has been launched by PSPCL...

Uttar Pradesh Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd. (ISO 90001 : 2008 Certified Company) Visheshwariya Bhawan, Gomtinagar, Lucknow. Notice No. 2095/GM/EZ/E-Tender/RNN/2019 Dated: 22.10.2019. E-TENDER PRESS NOTICE

ਦਫਤਰ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਪ੍ਰਿੰਸਦ, ਬਠਿੰਡਾ ਨਿਲਾਮੀ ਨੋਟਿਸ. ਹਰ ਆਮ ਅਤੇ ਖਾਸ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਪ੍ਰਿੰਸਦ, ਬਠਿੰਡਾ ਕੰਪਲੈਕਸ ਦੀ ਨਵੀਂ ਇਮਾਰਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਗਰਾਊਂਡ ਫਲੋਰ ਤੋਂ ਫਾਟ ਫਲੋਰ 'ਤੇ ਬਣੀਆਂ ਦੁਕਾਨਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਲਾਇਸੈਂਸ 'ਤੇ ਦੇਣ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਮਿਤੀ 01.11.2019 ਨੂੰ ਸਵੇਰੇ 11:00 ਵਜੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਬਠਿੰਡਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ...

National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (An Autonomous Scientific Society of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India) Birla Farms, Bada Phull, Rupnagar (Ropar) - 140001, Punjab. Recruitment Notice

National Highways Authority of India (Ministry of Road Transport & Highways) PUBLIC NOTICE. The public is hereby informed that the user fee rate shall be revised w.e.f. 01.11.2019 (00:00 hrs) for the year 2019-20 for Chak Bamniya Toll Plaza at 50.835 Km on NH-71 in the state of Punjab

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERING. The Executive Engineer, IPH Division, Hamirpur invites following tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following work(s) through e-tendering process:

PUNJAB STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION. SCO NO. 74-75 SECTOR 17-B, BANK SQUARE, CHANDIGARH - 160017. PBX: 0172-5197857, 5197867, 5197861, FAX: 0172-2705855. "PUBLIC NOTICE"

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Department of School Education & Literacy) ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF JOINT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING (NCERT)

ਖ਼ਬਰੀ ਨੋਟਿਸ. ਪੰਜਾਬ ਇੰਸਟੀਚਿਊਟ ਆਫ ਟੈਕਸਟਬੁਕ ਟੈਕਨਾਲੋਜੀ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰੀ ਹੁਕਮ ਨੰ: 531, ਮਿਤੀ 02.06.2016 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਸਰਬਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ, ਸੂਨੀਅਰ ਸਹਾਇਕ ਦੇ ਹੱਕ ਵਿੱਚ ਮਿਤੀ 17.08.2016 ਤੋਂ ਮਿਤੀ 15.07.2017 ਤੱਕ 334 ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦਾ ਅਸਥਾਈ ਛੁੱਟੀ ਮਨਜ਼ੂਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਸੀ...

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD (Power Wing) CORRIGENDUM-1 NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER. NIT No. 2883/BMB Dated 26.09.2019. Name of Officer: Superintending Engineer/DPH Circle, BMB (PW) Slapper (HP)

ਇੰਸਟੀਚਿਊਟ ਆਫ ਮੈਟਲ ਹੈਲਥ, (ਗੋਰਮਿੰਟ ਮੈਟਲ ਹਸਪਤਾਲ) ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ, ਫੋਨ ਨੰ: 0183-2423920. ਨਿਲਾਮੀ ਨੋਟਿਸ. ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟਰ, ਇੰਸਟੀਚਿਊਟ ਮੈਟਲ, ਹਸਪਤਾਲ, ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤਸਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਕੰਡਮ ਸਮਾਨ ਦਾ ਨਿਰੀਖਣ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਮਿਤੀ 30.10.2019 ਨੂੰ ਸਵੇਰੇ 11:00 ਵਜੇ ਤੋਂ ਦੁਪਹਿਰ 1:00 ਵਜੇ ਤੱਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ...

ਕੋਰਟ ਨੋਟਿਸ. ਅਦਾਲਤ ਸਮਾਹਤਾਂ ਏਕ ਵਨ ਮੰਡਲ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀ, ਆਨੀ ਵਨ ਮੰਡਲ ਸਿੱਖ ਲੂਹਰੀ. ਮੁਕਦਮਾ ਨੰ: 142/A/16-17. ਸਰਕਾਰ ਬਨਾਮ ਜੀਵਾ ਨੰਦ. ਤਪੋਕੋਕ ਮੁਕਦਮਾ ਨੰ: 142/A/16-17 ਮੇਂ ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਪ੍ਰੀਤਮ ਚੰਦ ਪੁੱਤ੍ਰ ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਜੀਵਾ ਨੰਦ ਗਾਂਧ ਕੁੰਡ, ਡਾਕਘਰ ਕੁਸ਼ਾਬ, ਤਹਸੀਲ ਨਿਰਮੰਡ, ਜਿਲਾ ਕੁਲਕੁਲ, ਹਿ.ਪ. ਕੋ ਕੌੜੀ ਬਾਰ ਸਮਾਨ ਦੁਆਰਾ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ...

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB DEPARTMENT OF FOOD CIVIL SUPPLIES & CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FARIDKOT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE. LABOUR-CARTAGE WORK FOR FARIDKOT-1 & FARIDKOT-2 CLUSTERS FOR THE REMAINING PART OF THE YEAR 2019-20.

How long? SC questions K-curbs

Apex court refers petitions against Articles 370, 35A to Constitution Bench

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24
As restrictions imposed in Jammu and Kashmir after nullification of Article 370 of the Constitution entered 80th day, the Supreme Court on Thursday wondered how long the state administration intended to continue with such curbs, including the Internet blockade.

While hearing petitions challenging restrictions on movement and communication blockade in the Valley, a Bench headed by Justice NV Ramana told the Centre and the Jammu and Kashmir Administration to come up with a clear reply and find out other methods to deal with the matter.

It told Attorney General KK Venugopal and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre and the state respectively, that authorities



Youths walk past a paramilitary trooper in Srinagar. TRIBUNE PHOTO

'GIVE A CLEAR REPLY'

“You have to come out with a clear reply. You have to find out other methods to deal with it. How long do you want these restrictions? You may impose restrictions in national interest but it has to be reviewed from time to time.” **Supreme Court Bench**

might impose restrictions in national interest but the curbs needed to be reviewed from time to time.

“You have to come out with

a clear reply. You have to find out other methods to deal with it,” the Bench told Mehta, adding, “How long you want these restrictions?

You may impose restrictions in national interest but it has to be reviewed from time to time,” said the Bench which also included Justices R Subhash Reddy and BR Gavai.

Mehta said the restrictions were being reviewed on a daily basis and around 99% area was restriction free.

The Solicitor General's submissions were countered by advocate Vrinda Grover, representing Kashmir Times Executive Editor Anuradha Bhasin, who said Internet shut down still continued in the Valley.

Mehta said such decisions had trans-border implications as it might lead to increase in terrorist activities in the Valley. “Let us not have an ostrich approach,” he said referring to the 2016 protests after killing of Burhan Wani by security forces. Internet was blocked for

around three months and no petition was filed then, he added. The Bench posted all petitions on restrictions in Kashmir for hearing on November 5.

The top court referred the petitions challenging the validity of provisions of Articles 370 and 35-A — filed before August 5 nullification of the controversial provisions — to a five-judge Constitution Bench which is already seized of petitions against nullification of Articles 370 and 35-A and bifurcation of the state into two union territories. The Constitution Bench is to take up the matter on November 14.

Noting that these matters were old and there was no urgency to hear them, the Bench said, “When the Constitution bench will decide the Article 370 issue, we think these petitions might not survive.”

India takes on Turkey, Malaysia over Art 370

SANDEEP DIKSHIT

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24
India today took on all three of its detractors on Kashmir — some US lawmakers, Malaysia and Turkey — calling them as lacking understanding about the objective situation.

While US lawmakers severely criticised India's communication lockdown in Kashmir, Malaysia and Turkey are being seen as siding with Pakistan ever since Parliament abolished Article 370 of the Constitution on August 5.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said a few lawmakers at the US Congressional hearing on Kashmir on Tuesday displayed limited understanding of India's history and Constitutionally guaranteed fundamental rights. His main regret was that the hearing should have ascertained facts related to cross-border terrorism. Though two witnesses — Arati Tikoo Singh and Ravi Batra — tried to hammer home this point, members of the Congress seemed more focused on the situation as at present.

Kumar also termed Pakistan facilitated visits for diplomats to its part of Kashmir as an eye-wash and felt Islamabad should instead show them proof of destroyed terrorist launch pads or proof of their sincerity in taking credible, verifiable and irreversible steps to stop cross-border terrorism. On Malaysia, Kumar said India had noted the comments of its PM Mahathir bin Mohamad on Kashmir and said those were “unacceptable in keeping with the facts”. Mahathir had said: “We felt that the people of Kashmir had benefited from the UN resolution, and all we are saying is that we should all abide, not just India and Pakistan, but even the US and other countries. We speak out our mind and we don't retract and change. Otherwise, what's the good of having the UN?” he had asked.

Mahathir had also contradicted External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on the issue of extraditing radical preacher Zakir Naik. While Jaishankar maintained that Naik's extradition was discussed between the two PMs, Mahathir said that was not the case. As the acrimony seems to be spilling over into the trade arena, Malaysian leader Anwar Ibrahim insisted on steps to find a way to solve this amicably.

“A few lawmakers at the US Congressional hearing on Kashmir displayed limited understanding of India's history. My main regret is that hearing should have ascertained facts related to cross-border terrorism” **Raveesh Kumar, MEA SPOKESPERSON**

PM to visit Saudi Arabia next week

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Saudi Arabia next week to scout for investments as India encounters a sustained period of economic slowdown. However, PM Modi decided not to go to Turkey after it disagreed with the Indian position on the lockdown in Kashmir. He has also skipped the Non-Aligned Summit.

In Riyadh, Modi will focus on defence, investment issues

The PM's main event is to attend the Future Investment Initiative (FII) Forum in Riyadh, where apart from delivering the keynote address, he will hold talks with Saudi Arabia King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on defence and investment-related issues, MEA's Secretary (Economic Affairs) TS Thrumurti told mediapersons here today. Called “Davos in the Desert”, the third edition of the FII is a marquee event for nations and corporates eyeing Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund. — TNS

PMC scam: HDIL promoters get judicial custody

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 24
HDIL promoters Rakesh Wadhawan and his son Sarang, arrested in connection with the Rs 4,355-crore PMC Bank scam, were remanded to judicial custody on Thursday by a special court here.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) produced Housing Development Infrastructure Ltd's (HDIL) Chairman and Managing Director Rakesh and his son before special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court judge P Rajvaidya, after their remand ended.

The court remanded the duo in judicial custody after the Central agency did not seek their further custody. The Wadhawans were arrested last month by Mumbai Police's Economic Offences Wing (EOW).

The EOW had registered a case against them and top officials of the Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank earlier this month for allegedly causing losses to the tune of Rs 4,355.43 crore to the bank.

It alleged that the bank management, in cahoots with the Wadhawans, concealed from the banking regulators' scrutiny huge loan defaults by the HDIL group firms. — PTI

PC sent to ED custody till Oct 30 in INX case

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24

A Delhi court today sent former finance minister P Chidambaram to custodial interrogation by the Enforcement Directorate till October 30 in the INX Media money laundering case.

Special judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar allowed the ED to quiz Chidambaram in custody, while also directing it that he be taken to AIIMS immediately in case of any medical complication.

The court said the other conditions of his custody will be the same, including providing him home-cooked food.

The probe agency had sought seven-day custodial interrogation of the 74-year-old senior Congress leader. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Chidambaram, said the former minister is very ill and sought two-day interim bail for treatment in Hyderabad.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the ED, opposed the plea and said it would be a serious miscarriage of justice if the agency's investigation is curtailed.

Mehta told the court that documentary evidence has come to light which shows Chidambaram's connection to money laundering. “Three kind of evidence



Senior Congress leader and former Finance Minister P Chidambaram at the ED office in New Delhi on Thursday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

'TAKE TO AIIMS IF ANY MEDICAL COMPLICATION'

- Special judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar allowed the ED to quiz P Chidambaram in custody, while also directing it that he be taken to AIIMS immediately in case of any medical complication
- The court said the other conditions of his custody will be the same, including providing him home-cooked food

has come forward—e-mails exchanged between family members and co-conspirators, details of benami properties beneficially owned by the family members and co-conspirators and statements of witnesses and others who owned or were associated with the benami properties. The arrestee needs to be confronted with the new evidence,” he claimed.

The law officer said Chi-

dambaram has answered 65 questions and after that his pace decreased while answering specific queries supported by “clinching” documents and “incriminating” materials during interrogation.

“Given the volume of the materials and his pace, his interrogation could not be completed,” Mehta said and sought more time from the court.

He told the court that there were “glaring discrep-

ancies” between statements of witnesses, co-conspirators and Chidambaram and therefore he needs to be confronted with witnesses and new evidence that has come forward.

Sibal, however, said there is no basis for further remand and the agency could have easily confronted Chidambaram with the witnesses all these days.

“Why did the agency not confront him with witnesses in the past seven days? Only his statement was recorded,” he said.

The court then asked the Solicitor General as to why Chidambaram was not confronted with any witness so far. To this, Mehta said the ED wanted to record his statement and there was a time limit. The judge looked at the remand application and said that at this pace even 50 days will be less.

“This was your ground last time too for seeking custodial interrogation that he needed to be confronted with witnesses. You recorded his statement for five days. Did not confront him with any witness. Now you are saying he needs to be confronted with more questions. At this pace, even 50 days will be less,” the judge said. — PTI

Uddhav insists on 50:50 in Maha Govt

Ajit Pawar (NCP) continued his winning streak from Baranati, forcing all his rivals to lose their deposits.

The BJP, which had poached several leaders from the Congress and the NCP, ensured their victory. Former Leader of the Opposition Radhakrishna Vikhe-Patil, who defected from the Congress; Ganesh Naik, who defected from the NCP; and Nitesh Rane, whose father Narayan Rane had moved from the Shiv Sena and the Congress, were among the winners.

Among the big losers today were Women and Child Welfare Minister Pankaja Munde of the BJP, who lost from her Parli seat to cousin Dhananjay Munde, contesting on an NCP ticket. Rohini Khadse, daughter of BJP leader Eknath Khadse, lost from Muktainagar to a Shiv Sena rebel candidate.

Udayanraje Bhosale, a descendant of Shivaji Maharaj who resigned as the NCP's Lok Sabha MP from Satara to contest the by-election as a BJP candidate, was among those defeated. Sharad Pawar had campaigned against Bhosale in pouring rain last week.

While Independents bagged 13 seats, Prakash Ambedkar's

'WILL SIT IN OPPN'

“People have asked us to sit in the Opposition and we will accept that.”

Sharad Pawar, NCP LEADER

Vimukt Bahujan Aghadi, which was seen as a spoiler, and AIMIM won two seats each. Early today, there were some dramatic moments after a section of leaders from the Shiv Sena and the Congress mooted the idea of a non-BJP government.

The idea was, however, shot down by NCP leader Sharad Pawar. “People have asked us to sit in the Opposition and we will accept that,” Pawar told reporters. He said there was no proposal to back a non-BJP government. “No decision has been taken... there is no proposal,” he said.

Pawar felt that the personal attacks on him by Prime Minister Narendra Modi may have got him some sympathy. “I want to thank Modi, Home Minister and other leaders who visited the state and said things about me... some people crossed all limits,” he said.

Pak lists norms for Kartarpur pilgrims

general (South Asia and SAARC), signed the agreement at the Kartarpur Zero Point at the International Border. Indian pilgrims of all faiths and persons of Indian origin can use the corridor and the travel will be visa-free. Pilgrims need to carry only a valid passport, while persons of Indian-origin need to carry Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card along with the passport of their country, according to a statement issued by the Home Ministry in New Delhi.

Online registration of devotees on portal prakash-purb550.mha.gov.in began soon after the agreement was signed. The pilgrims will have to register themselves online on the portal and exercise their choice to travel on any day. The pilgrims will be allowed to carry a maximum of Rs 11,000 and a 7-kg bag, and will not be allowed to venture beyond the shrine. Speaking to the media after the signing of the agreement, Faisal said Prime Minister Imran Khan had fulfilled his promise and completed the corridor in a year.

“Under the agreement, the corridor will remain open seven days a week from dawn to dusk. A total of 5,000 or so Indian pilgrims will arrive every day and leave the same day. They (pilgrims) will have to only bring their passport for their identity and it will not be stamped. India will share the



Officials of India and Pakistan sign an agreement on the Kartarpur corridor at Zero Point near Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur. PTI

- | Do's | Don'ts |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ₹11,000 cash allowed 7-kg baggage permitted Children below 13 years and elderly above 75 to travel only in groups Can carry only eco-friendly material, preferably cloth bags Pilgrims to return the same day and can't venture beyond shrine Can carry kirpans of all types | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No carrying of firearms, knife, blade, narcotic and psychotropic drugs Smoking, drinking and tobacco use prohibited Playing loud music and photographing others without permission not allowed Advised not to touch any unattended article No to counterfeit currency |

list of those visiting the gurdwara 10 days before their travel plan,” he added.

The pilgrims will be informed by SMS and email of the confirmation of registration three to four days in advance of the date of travel.

Each visitor will be required to pay US \$20 as fee, though

India has requested Pakistan not to charge the Indian pilgrims. Faisal clarified that Indian pilgrims visiting Pakistan through this corridor would not be allowed to visit other gurdwaras of the Punjab province. Khan will formally inaugurate the corridor on November 9.

Phogat, Dutt bite dust, Sandeep lone 'Soorma'

In Baroda, sitting Congress MLA Shri Krishan Hooda defeated Yogeshwar Dutt by 4,840 votes. The Bharatiya Janata Party had also fielded TikTok star Sonali Phogat from Adampur Assembly seat of Hisar.

She, too, had to face defeat at the hands of sitting legislator and senior Congress leader Kuldeep Bishnoi, who thrashed her by 29,471 votes.

TikTok sensation Sonali Phogat of BJP lost by over 29,000 votes

The Bharatiya Janata Party had invited ridicule from the Opposition when the party fielded the three sports-persons ahead of the polls.

Modi had even canvassed for Babita, the younger of the Phogat sisters on whom Aamir Khan's movie ‘Dangal’ was based, as well as Dutt. At the Charkhi Dadrally, Modi had claimed Chinese President Xi Jinping had appreciated the movie. Towards the end of his campaign, PM Narendra Modi had addressed a rally near Gohana and sought votes for Dutt.

Khattar govt may be...

Bedi were trounced. While minister Anil Vij retained his Ambala Cantonment seat, Public Health and Engineering Minister Banwari Lal won from Bawal. The BJP had denied ticket to sitting ministers Rao Narbir Singh and Vipul Goel.

Kuldeep Bishnoi retained his hold over Adampur, defeating TikTok sensation Sonali Phogat by over 29,000 votes. JJP chief Dushyant Chautala and his mother Naina Chautala

la won the Uchana Kalan and Badhra seats, respectively. Dushyant trounced Prem Lata, wife of former Union Minister Birender Singh. BJP's state president Subhash Barala lost the Tohana seat by more than 20,000 votes to JJP's Devender Babli. Senior Cong leader Ran-deep Singh Surjewala lost by a mere 1,246 votes to BJP's Leela Ram from Kaithal. Cong's Kiran Choudhry retained her Tosham seat.

Punjab Congress wrests 3 more seats

Raminder Singh Awla polled 76,073 votes against 59,439 by SAD's Raj Singh. The BJP suffered a jolt, losing both Mukerian and Phagwara seats.

Balwinder Singh Dhaliwal won the Phagwara seat, bagging 49,210 votes. His rival Rajesh Bagha of the BJP

polled only 23,093 votes. Insiders blamed infighting for the defeats.

Mukerian witnessed a see-saw battle till Indu Bala of the Congress won by 3,642 votes, the lowest victory margin in the bypolls. The Congress tally in the 117-member Punjab Assembly now is 80.

BJP retains both seats in HP

Independent and polled 11,651 votes, the BJP managed to win the reserved constituency of Pachhad by a margin of 2,742 votes. Party candidate Reena Kashyap polled 22,048 votes, while seven-time Congress

legislator Gangu Ram Musafir put up a stiff fight as he polled 19,306 votes. The Congress failed to put up a formidable fight, owing to lack of strong senior leadership and acute paucity of resources.

Jewellers anticipate good business on Dhanteras

Say high price of yellow metal unlikely to deter customers

VIJAY C ROY
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 24 Notwithstanding high price, the yellow metal is unlikely to lose sheen this Dhanteras, which falls tomorrow. Having witnessed improved sales since Navratras, followed by 'Karva Chauth', jewellers in the region are hopeful that Dhanteras will bring good business, with customers looking to buy jewellery for investment purpose and following the ritual of purchasing gold on this auspicious day.

Dhanteras is considered an auspicious day for buying gold, silver and other valuables and is largely celebrated in the northern and western parts of India.

The sharp rise in the price of yellow metal has weakened its demand in the domestic market in the current fiscal. Gold prices were at Rs 38,400 per 10 grams (24 carat) in Chandigarh on Thursday. Jewellers are of the view that customers will be undeterred by high prices on Dhanteras.

"Gold prices saw sharp rise in July and August and it did have an impact on buying sentiment. However, the trend has steadied now, and we are hopeful that Dhanteras and Diwali will be favourable," said TS Kalyanaraman, chairman and managing director,



ILLUSTRATION: SANDEEP JOSHI

Kalyan Jewellers. To push the sales, almost all jewellers in the organised space are offering discount on labour charges and have launched other attractive schemes. Credit card companies are also offering attractive discounts and cashback offers for their customers.

There are around 3.85 lakh to 4.10 lakh jewellers in India, according to World Gold Council estimates. Out of this, roughly 35% are based in northern states and contribute 15% to the total gold demand.

"This is beyond doubt that overall market has

been hit but the impact is more in the unorganised sector. Overall, the organised sector is growing and eating the share of the non-organised players. We hope that players in the organised sector will witness good sales during Dhanteras," said Anil Talwar, founder, All India Gems and Jewellery Trade Federation.

Echoing similar sentiments, Pankaj Arora, national chairman, Jewellery Division, Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), said, "There has been spike in sales in the past few weeks. Going by

the current sentiments, we hope the high price will not act as a deterrent to gold buyers on Dhanteras."

Jewellers in Amritsar pointed out that declining deposit rates and recent scam in Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank have also led to people preferring gold over bank deposits.

"The bank deposit rates have gone down and people have apprehensions that their money is not safe in banks and hence prefer to buy physical gold," said Aswani Kumar Namesha, a jeweller from Amritsar.

₹92,000-cr shocker for telcos as SC backs govt on AGR

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24 In a major setback to telecom service providers, the Supreme Court today ruled that the Centre was entitled to recover adjusted gross revenue (AGR) of over Rs 92,000 crore from them.

Allowing the Centre's appeal against a Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal's (TDSAT) order, three-judge Bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra upheld the definition of AGR formulated by the Department of Telecom.

As per the New Telecom Policy, telecom service providers are required to share a percentage of their AGR with the government as annual licence fee. But the TDSAT had held that AGR will include only revenue arising from licence activities and that capital assets and receipt from the sale of scrap cannot be included in gross revenue for computation of licence fee. The TDSAT had



APEX COURT RULING

- Allowing the Centre's appeal against a TDSAT order, three-judge Bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra upheld the definition of AGR formulated by the Department of Telecom
- As per the New Telecom Policy, telecom service providers are required to share a percentage of their

adjusted gross revenue (AGR) with the government as annual licence fee

- But the TDSAT had held that AGR will include only revenue from licence activities and capital assets and receipt from the sale of scrap cannot be included in gross revenue for computation of licence fee

Vodafone Idea shares crumble 27% intra-day

- Shares of Vodafone Idea crashed over 27% intra-day after the SC ruling to recover adjusted gross revenue (AGR) of about ₹92,000 crore from telecom service providers
- The shares finally plummeted 23.36% to close at ₹4.33 on the BSE. During the day, it tanked 27.43% to ₹4.10 — its 52-week low
- Airtel also tumbled 9.68% to Rs 325.60 during the trade. But, later it bounced back and closed 3.31% higher at ₹372.45

exempted a large number of streams from the definition of AGR, like capital receipts, bad debt, distribution margins to dealers, forex fluctuations, sale of scrap and waiver of late fee.

Now, the top court has reversed the TDSAT's findings, leading to huge financial burden on telecom service providers.

"We are of the considered opinion that interest and

penalty have rightly been levied. Once an amount of shortfall has not been paid, it has to carry 50% of the penalty on defaulted amount, as agreed. Thus, we find no substance in the submission that interest, penalty, and interest on penalty cannot be realised. It is as per the agreement," the top court said, adding there was no ground to reduce it.

Airtel owed Rs 21,682.13

crore as licence fee to the government while Vodafone and Reliance Communications owed Rs 19,823.71 crore and Rs 16,456.47 crore, respectively, the DoT had said, adding the state-owned BSNL owed Rs 2,098.72 crore and MTNL owed Rs 2,537.48 crore. The total amount to be recovered from telecom companies was to the tune of Rs 92,641.61 crore, it had said.

Maruti Q2 net profit dips 39%

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24 Maruti Suzuki India today reported 38.99% decline in consolidated net profit at Rs 1,391.1 crore in the second quarter. Revenue stood at Rs 16,123.2 crore as against Rs 21,553.7 crore in the year-ago period, down 25.19%. MSI said in a regulatory filing. — PTI



The interior of Toyota's electric LQ Concept car is seen at the Tokyo Motor Show, in Tokyo, on Thursday. REUTERS

IndiGo posts ₹1,062-cr loss

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24 IndiGo's parent InterGlobe Aviation today posted a net loss of Rs 1,062 crore for the September quarter as higher costs and mark-to-market losses took a toll on the bottom line. Total income rose 31% to Rs 8,539.8 crore in the second quarter of the current fiscal. — PTI

State Council of Educational Research and Training, (SCERT) Punjab Block-E, 6th Floor, Punjab School Education Board Complex, Phase-8, S.A.S. Nagar

Public Notice

State Council of Educational Research & Training, (SCERT), Punjab has assigned the work of conducting the Punjab State Teacher Eligibility Test (PSTET) 2018 on 15th of December, 2019 (Sunday) to Punjab School Education Board (PSEB). Eligible candidates can apply for this test online on the website of PSEB www.pseb.ac.in. The details regarding eligibility conditions, fees, starting and closing date of application for the test along with other guidelines are also available on this website. Any change in the schedule of test will be notified on the website only.

DPR/Pb/D7109 Sd/- Director, SCERT, Punjab.

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

1. The Executive Engineer W/S and Sanitation Division No. 2, Tarn Taran invites bids (to be submitted in the e-procurement portal) for the construction of following works:

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Est. Cost (in lacs)	Date/Time of submission of Bid	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bid	Completion Period
1.	Water Supply Scheme Kirtowal Khurd Bifurcated from existing Water Supply Scheme Kirtowal Kalan, Block Patti, Distt. Tarn Taran. Under NABARD - XXIII	36.41	From 25.10.2019 to 14.11.2019 up to 17:00 hrs.	15.11.2019 at 13:15 hrs.	6 Months + 3 Months O&M

2. Bidders are advised to note minimum qualification criteria & instruction in bidding document.

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

Sd/- Executive Engineer, W/S and Sanitation Div. No. 2, Tarn Taran. Phone No. 01825222688 Email id: eeuwssdiv2t@gmail.com

DPR/Pb/D7106

Department of Water Supply and Sanitation Government of Punjab (Punjab Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Improvement Project (World Bank Funded))

No. 6067 Date 24.10.2019

1. The Chairman GPWSC's invites bids (to be submitted in the e-Procurement Portal) for the construction of following works:

Sr. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost. (in Lacs)	Date/Time of submission of Bid	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bid	Completion Period
1	Water Supply Scheme Padhri Khurd, (OH/FC), Block and Distt. Tarn Taran. (Under PRWSSIP-1A)	32.23	From 25.10.2019 to 14.11.2019 up to 17:00 hrs.	15.11.2019 at 12:00 hrs.	6 months + 3 months O&M

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

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

Executive Engineer, W/S and Sanitation Div. No. 1, Tarn Taran, Phone No. 0185222688, Email id: eeuwss_tt@yahoo.in

DPR/Pb/D7110

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB, DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION PUNJAB NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS

NO. E-TENDER-13/WSSD/DIV.NO.1 PATIALA/EE/2019-20 DATED:- 24-10-2019

THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION PUNJAB INVITES ONLINE BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING WORK:

1. DESIGN, INSTALLATION, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMISSIONING OF PORTABLE PACKAGE TYPE SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT OF 50 KLD CAPACITY WITH SUITABLE TECHNOLOGY INCLUDING 12 MONTHS OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECTS AT AERONAUTICAL COLLEGE IN AVIATION CLUB, SANGRUR ROAD, PATIALA.

Closing Date and Time:- As per Website For Details Log onto:- <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

Note: 1. Any corrigendum to the Tender /RFPP notice shall be published on the above website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, W/S & Sanitation Div. No. 1, Patiala

DPR/Pb/D7126

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB DEPARTMENT OF IRRIGATION

<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE E-TENDER NOTICE NO. IB/LEHAL/PTA/2019-20/005 DATED: 23 /10/2019

E-Rates on work order basis and through rate are hereby invited from enlisted Contractors/Agencies/L&C Societies on behalf of the Governor of Punjab for the work mentioned below as per schedule:-

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost (in Rs.)	Earnest money for Contractors (in Rs.)	Earnest money for Society
1	Estimate for colour washing, distemping & snowcem on exterior portion in office of Patiala Circle I.B., Patiala.	19413	388	194
2	Estimate for whitewashing, colour washing, distemping, painting, wood work etc in the Office of Patiala Circle I.B., Patiala.	54337	1087	543
3	Estimate for whitewashing, colour washing, distemping, painting, wood work etc in Lehal Division I.B., Patiala.	70388	1408	704
4	Estimate for colour washing, distemping and snowcem on exterior portion in Lehal Division I.B., Patiala.	28184	564	282

Important Dates and times:-

Events	Date	Time
i) Date of Sale of Tenders	23-10-2019	04:00 PM
ii) Closing of Sale of Tenders	04-11-2019	12:00 PM
iii) Submission of Tenders	04-11-2019	02:00 PM
iv) Technical Bid Opening	04-11-2019	03:00 PM
v) Opening of Financial Bid	Will be intimated later on.	

1. Detailed Notice inviting tender and other terms and conditions can also be seen on above website. Any addendum/corrigendum will be issued only on website. Kindly see/visit above website regularly.

2. For any enquiry regarding E-Tendering of procurement, Contractor/Agencies/L&C Societies may contact at E-Mail ID https://eproc.punjab.gov.in and Helpline No. 0172-2791326, 0172-2791226

Sd/- (Er. Harshpreet Singh), xeblehal@gmail.com Executive Engineer, Lehal Division I.B., Patiala.

DPR/Pb/D713

India leapfrogs 14 spots in World Bank's ease of doing business list

FM promises further GST simplification to improve position

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24 India has jumped 14 places to take the 63rd position on the World Bank's ease of doing business ranking released on Thursday, figuring among the top 10 performers on the list for the third time in a row mainly due to the successful implementation of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman today said efforts will be made to further simplify the GST which would further improve India's ranking.

Sitharaman also said she is making efforts to resolve differences between the Corporate Affairs Ministry and Enforcement Directorate over the issue of attachment of property of Bhushan Power & Steel Ltd (BPSL). The ED wants to attach the property of BPSL under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) while the Ministry for Corporate Affairs is



opposed to this stand. Just back from Washington after meetings with World Bank and IMF officials, Sitharaman pointed out that India was ranked 142nd in 2014 and was at the 100th spot last year. India is now at the 77th position due to reforms in insolvency, taxation and other areas.

However, there are apprehensions that countries tend to game the system because of the way in which the rankings are compiled. Economists have said the legal systems of some countries may lend themselves to higher rates of economic development but the necessary causal link between the two

cannot be easily established. After a controversy last year over higher rankings to India and Chile, then World Bank Chief Economist Paul Romer had said he did not have "confidence in the integrity" of the rankings and suggested that the data may have been tilted towards some countries. But he later took back his comments and resigned.

However, the rankings bring some relief to the country's financial managers who have to contend with the disappointment of RBI, World Bank and IMF slashing economic growth forecasts.

"This is the third year in a row that India makes to top 10 in Doing Business, which is a success which very few countries have done over the 20 years of the project. Without exception, the other countries that have done this are very small, population-wise, and homogeneous," Simeon Djankov, World Bank's Director of Development Economics said.

Fitch cuts India's growth forecast to 5.5%

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24 Fitch Ratings today slashed India's GDP growth forecast in the current fiscal to 5.5% saying a large credit squeeze emanating from shadow banks has pushed economic growth to a six-year low.

Fitch, which had in June this year put India's GDP growth at 6.6% for the fiscal year that began in April 2019, said the recent government measures to boost economy, including a cut in corporate tax rates, will gradually nudge growth to 6.2% in the next financial year (2020-21) and to 6.7% in the year after, Fitch said.

The projection is lower than 6.1% that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had forecast in early October. GDP expansion will pick up to 6.2% in the next financial year (2020-21) and to 6.7% in the year after, Fitch said.

PROJECTION LOWER THAN RBI'S ESTIMATES

- Fitch, which had in June this year put India's GDP growth at 6.6% for the current fiscal, said the recent government measures to boost economy, including a cut in corporate tax rates, will gradually nudge growth
- The projection is lower than 6.1% that the Reserve Bank of India had forecast in early October
- GDP expansion will pick up to 6.2% in the next financial year (2020-21) and to 6.7% in the year after, Fitch said

The Indian economy decelerated for the fifth consecutive

quarter in April-June, with GDP expanding by a meagre 5%, down from 8% recorded a year earlier. This is the lowest growth outturn since 2013.

"Weakness has been fairly broad-based, with both domestic spending and external demand losing momentum," Fitch said. "The Indian economy is being held back by a large squeeze in credit availability emanating from non-banking financial companies (NBFCS)." — PTI

CLASSIFIEDS

SITUATION VACANT

Gynaecologist MBBS, MS, DGO, fresher, experienced required for multispecialty hospital in Girls Ayurvedic Medical College, Distt. Yamunanagar, Haryana. Salary negotiable, free furnished accommodation. Contact: 98964-41527. (CL19102308)

Narain Smart School Patiala Samana Road, Patiala (CBSE Affiliated) requires Faculty for Mathematics and Science. Walk in interview on 29th October, 2019 between 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in the school Campus. Contact no: 91159-85103, 90153-54073. Email: narainSMARTschool2016@gmail.com (CL19102595)

Baba Mehar Singh Memorial College of Education, VPO Purana Shalla, Tehsil and District Gurdaspur invites applications for regular posts of Assistant Professors in Education (04) preferably in the subject of Math, Science, Social Sciences, Punjabi, English, Asst. Prof. in Health and Physical Education, Fine Arts, Performing Art (Music), Librarian as regular Faculty. Application must reach within 07 Days after publication. Qualification & pay scale as per norms of NCTE/ GNDU Amritsar. E-mail: bmsmcollege@rediffmail.com (CL19103022)

Urgently competent Teachers required for Akal Academy Sujapur (District Pathankot) and anywhere in Punjab for KG/general, English and Physical Education (B.Ped or M.Ped). Transport facility available from Pathankot. Fluency in English is must. Eligibility: Graduation or above in required stream, salary: 12,000 to 18,000. Walk-in interview: Akal Academy Nava Pind (Sujanpur) near Power House, Colony No. 1, District Pathankot on 29.10.2019 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact: 98759-87329. aasujanpur@akalacademy.ac.in (CL19103047)

ADMISSION GUIDANCE

Registration open for all Paramedical Courses like DMLT/ X-Ray/ OT/ MPH/ DPT/ Optometry/ Ultrasound/ VLDL and Live Stock/ Blood Bank/ Dental Hygiene/ Mechanic/ Community Health Worker/ ECG/ ICU/ MR/ Diet and Nutrition/ Pathology/ Speech and Hearing/ all Pharmacy (Homeopathic/ Ayurveda/ Vetry/ Allopathic etc. Note: All courses valid for Govt. jobs abroad. Contact: Gurkirat Edo. Point (Regd.) 0181-3910586, 098779-81586. (CL19101604)

ASTROLOGY

Solution of all difficult problems in business, family disputes, sautan dushman relief, lost love, child, divorce, forgein travelling, love marriage, vashikaran, muthkarani. Contact Baba Khan Bangal 96345-39252. (CL19103066)

MEDICAL/SURGICAL

Vascular Surgery for Diabetic Foot Ulcers, Deep Vein Thrombosis, Varicose Veins, Angiography, Bypass Surgery, Skin Graft for Burns, Dialysis, Ventilators available. Lifeline Super Speciality Hospital, Zirakpur 98141-04203. (CL19100397)

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Commercial property for sale property measuring 1001 sq.yds (53x171), two side open on main GT Road (on North & Federal Bank on East) towards Delhi, near Dholewal, Ludhiana is available for sale. Excellent location for Bank, dealership's, Hotels & MNC's. Interested can contact the owners: 98143-21360 (M), 98882-00055 (M). (CL19103139)

LOST & FOUND

Flat buyers agreement of property # 701 Tolstoy House, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi has been lost. If found call: 88007-97673. (CL19103020)

PUBLIC NOTICES

I, Ravinder Kumar Malhotra s/o Son Nath, r/o B-49/649, St. No. 5, Tripuri, Patiala, have changed my name to Ravinder Malhotra. (CL19102874)

I, Anita Kaur W/o Baldev Singh R/o 1161, Phase-2, Urban Estate, Patiala (Punjab)-147002 declare that I have changed my name from Anita Kaur to Anita Rani for all intents and purposes. All concerned please note. (CL19102868)

It is notified for the information that my original qualifying examination certificate of main Senior Secondary Examination of year 2012 and Roll No. 2710176 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Ishan Garg, Shashvat Garg Niwas, VPO Kuthera Kherla, Tehsil Amb, Distt. Una (HP). 94184-60744. (CL19102899)

I, Hardip Singh s/o Avtar Singh Village Naringarh, Tehsil Amloh (Fatehgarh Sahib), have changed my name as Hardeep Singh. (CL19102902)

I, Kiran Devi w/o Sunil Garg r/o H.No. 113-A, Gali No. 2, Rajiv Puram, Karnal, have changed my name to Kiran Garg. (CL19102943)

I, Vandana Devi w/o Sh. Satpal Singh (d/o Tarsem Lal) r/o house No. 350, Type-2, Sector-1, Naya Nangal, Tehsil Nangal, District Rupnagar, Punjab have changed my name from Vandana Devi to Vandana Saini. (CL19102982)

I, Sandip Singh s/o Bawa Singh r/o H.No. 367, 3B1, Mohali, SAS Nagar, Punjab have changed my minor son's name from Rishan Singh Bangar to Rishan Singh. (CL19103013)

DISCLAIMER

"The Tribune Trust does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."

PUBLIC NOTICES

I, Girish s/o Shyam Lal Manocha r/o 369/34, Janta Colony, Rohtak, have changed my name to Girish Manocha. (CL19102963)

I, Sandip Singh s/o Bawa Singh r/o H.No. 367, 3B1, Mohali, SAS Nagar, Punjab have changed my minor daughter's name from Tanishdeep Kaur Bangar to Tanishdeep Kaur. (CL19103018)

I, Bimla w/o Rajesh Kumar r/o # 532, Ph. 2, Ramdarbar, Chandigarh have changed my name to Vimla. (CL19103031)

I, Dharm Paul s/o Sh. Chanan Ram r/o 3042/46-C Chandigarh have changed my minor son's name from Kushagra to Kushagra Kumar. (CL19103111)

I, Surjit Kaur alias Surjeet Kaur w/o Harpal Singh r/o # 97, Ward No. 13, Vikas Vihar Phase 01, Ferozepur, Punjab 152002 have changed my name to Surjit Kaur. (CL19103165)

I, Gita Rani w/o Vinod Kumar r/o Kaushik Nagar, near Idea Tower, Jind, inform that I have changed my name from Gita Rani to Geeta Rani for all future purposes. (CL19103173)

I, Madhu Sharma w/o Ajay Kumar Mohalla Zaidara VPO & Tehsil Kalanaur, Distt. Gurdaspur, have changed my name Madhu Sharma to Kamlesh Kumari. Please note. (CL19103112)

I, Rajan Gupta s/o Sh. Harish Kumar Gupta, permanent r/o Sham Villa, 4-Club Lane, Karnal - 132001, Haryana, India, having an Indian Passport No. H7191890, date of issue 07.08.2009, presently residing at H. No. 7, Cardiff Hill Lane, BUCCELEUCH, Johannesburg, South Africa. By way of Public Notice hereby inform all concerned that I have changed my name to Rajan Govender for all future intent and purposes, subject to approval of Indian Consulate in Johannesburg South Africa. (CL19103133)

I, Ajmender Singh s/o late Subhash Chander r/o Set No. 1 Block-10, Sector 6, Phase 3, New Shikla-09 declare that I have lost the original document-cum-allotment letter of DDA for flat number 1384, ground floor, Block-GH-1, Pocket-1, Sector 29, Rohini, New Delhi allotted to me somewhere during shifting my quarter. (CL19103160)

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: 0172-2670419 or

E-mail at: circulation@tribunemail.com

Advertisement: 0172-2670257 or

E-mail at: classified@tribunemail.com

Display: 0172-2670256 or

E-mail at: advt@tribunemail.com

COURT NOTICES

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Dr. Gagan Deep Kaur,
Judicial Magistrate - 1st Class-1,
Fatehgarh Sahib.

Ranbir Kaur w/o Jasbir Singh and d/o Gurdev Singh r/o Village Kami Kala (Ghannaur), Tehsil Rajpura, District Patiala, now residing at Village Mahadian, Tehsil and District Fatehgarh Sahib.

Vs.
Jasbir Singh

CNR No.
PBF03-008199-2018

Next Date: 14.11.2019

Publication issued to: Jasbir Singh s/o Ram Lal Singh r/o Village Kami Kala (Ghannaur), Tehsil Rajpura, District Patiala, Ind address: R/o Lady Margaret Road, Southhall Middle 2NQ U.K.
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 14.11.2019 at 10.00 a.m.
For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=fatehgarh
Dated, this day of 16.10.2019.

Sd/- Dr. Gagandeep Kaur, ACJ (SD)- PMJJB/ JM/C, CL19090309 Fatehgarh Sahib.

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Monika Goyal,
Addl. District and
Sessions Judge-4,
SAS Nagar.
CNR No.
PBSA01-001721-2018

Next Date: 17.12.2019
Harbhajan Singh
Vs.
Satinder Singh

Application for condonation for delay of 6 days in filing of appeal against the Judgment dated 06.12.2017 by the Court of Ms. Sonali Singh, CJJD, Dera Bassi.
Notice to: Rajesh s/o Triloki Nath r/o SCF No. 10, Sector 27-C, 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 17.12.2019 at 10.00 a.m.
For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=mohali
Dated, this day of 22.10.2019.

Sd/- Addl. District and Sessions Judge-4,
SAS Nagar.
CL19090618

COURT NOTICES

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Monika Goyal
Additional District and
Sessions Judge-4,
S.A.S. Nagar.
CNR No.:
PBSA01-007405-2017

Next Date: 17.12.2019
Sohan Singh
Versus
Kulbir Singh

Appeal against Judgement and Decree dated 9.9.2017 passed by the court of Ms. Sonali Singh, PCS, Ld. Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.), Dera Bassi in Civil Suit bearing CIS No. 1006/2014.
Notice to:
5. Labh Kaur daughter of Hazura Singh son of Sampuran Singh village Amb Chappa, Tehsil Dera Bassi, Distt. SAS Nagar (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 17.12.2019 at 10.00 a.m.

For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=mohali
Dated, this day of 23.10.2019.
Sd/- Additional District and Sessions Judge-4,
CL19095579 S.A.S. Nagar.

Civil Courts Rajpura (U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Mrs Suman Pathak
Additional Civil Judge,
Senior Division,
Rajpura.
Syndicate Bank
Versus
Mandeep Singh
Suit for Recovery
CNR No.:
PBPTA0-000296-2019

Next Date: 16.01.2020
Publication issued to:
1. Mandeep Singh son of Chottu Singh, H.No. 121, Village Khahpur Gandian, Tehsil Rajpura, District Patiala.

2. Mangal Singh son of Gurdev Singh, H.No. 82, Ganesh Nagar, Ward No. 12, Rajpura Town, Tehsil Rajpura, District Patiala.
In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 16.01.2020 at 10.00 a.m.
For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=patiala
Dated, this day of 23.10.2019.

Sd/- Additional Civil Judge,
Senior Division Rajpura,
CL19102632 Rajpura.

In the Court of
Ms Monica Sharma,
Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.),
Hoshiarpur.
CNR No. PBH002-001512-2019

Next Date: 13.11.19
1. Surinder Kaur w/o Late Nirmal Singh through her attorney Dilbag Singh s/o Nirmal Singh r/o Alawalpur, District Hoshiarpur & another.

...Plaintiffs
Versus
Darshan Singh s/o Ajit Singh s/o Harnam Singh r/o Village Kotharan, Tehsil and District SBS Nagar.

...Defendant
Application U/S 152, 153 read with Section 151 CPC for amendment-correction in judgement and decree dated 20.12.2016.

Notice to:
Darshan Singh s/o Ajit Singh s/o Harnam Singh r/o Village Khotharan, Tehsil and District SBS Nagar.

In the above noted civil suit, the defendant(s) could not be served. It is ordered that the defendant(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 13.11.2019 at 10:00 a.m.
For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=hoshiarpur
Sd/- Monica Sharma Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.), CL19102780 Hoshiarpur.

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Ms. Jagdeep Kaur Virk
Principal Judge
Family Court, Moga.
Manpreet Kaur
Versus
Mandeep Singh Gill
CNR No.:
PBM001-006052-2018

Next Date: 13.11.2019
Publication issued to:
Mandeep Singh Gill s/o Dalroop Singh Gill, Village Galib Kalan, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana now residing 8103 Forbes St. Mission B.C. V2V 6L6 Canada.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 13.11.2019 at 10.00 a.m.
For details logon to https://highcourthd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=moga
Dated, this day of 22.10.2019.

Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court,
CL19102784 Moga.

Turkey agrees to Syria truce, Trump lifts sanctions

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 24

US President Donald Trump has lifted all sanctions on Turkey after Ankara agreed to a permanent ceasefire in Syria as the American troops left the "blood stained sand", allowing the Russian and Turkish forces to take over the territory controlled by America and the Kurdish military.

Trump had last week signed an executive order to slap sanctions against Turkish officials, raising of steel tariffs and ending negotiations on a \$100-billion trade deal in protest against Turkey's military offensive in northern Syria.

The move by the US to remove sanctions comes after Turkey informed the Trump administration on Wednesday that the five-day pause that had been called on Thursday ended.

"I have instructed the Secretary of the Treasury to lift all sanctions imposed on October 14 in response to Turkey's original offensive moves against the Kurds in Syria's northeast border region," Trump told reporters on Wednesday at the White House. The sanctions will be lifted unless something happens that the US is not happy with, he said. — PTI

Republicans disrupt Prez impeachment probe hearing

Storm into room, delay US defence official testimony

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 24

A US House of Representatives impeachment inquiry developed into chaos on Wednesday as Republican lawmakers, encouraged by President Donald Trump to get tougher in fighting Democratic efforts to impeach him over dealings with Ukraine, stormed into a high-security hearing room and delayed testimony by a witness.

The more than two dozen Republican lawmakers, who were not authorised to attend the hearing, entered before Laura Cooper, the US defence official who oversees Ukraine and Russia matters, was due to testify behind closed doors before Republican and Democratic lawmakers.

The Republicans yelled complaints that the Democrats in charge of the inquiry were conducting it in private, lawmakers and aides said. Republicans who are members of the three congressional committees conducting the inquiry have taken part in the process throughout.

After a delay of about



Republican lawmakers address a press conference at Capitol Hill in Washington DC. AFP

THE INQUIRY
The inquiry is led by a Democrat — Adam Schiff — and being run by the House Intelligence, Oversight and Foreign Affairs committees. However, more than 40 Republicans are members of those committees, and permitted to take part in the hearings.

HOW THE CHAOS UNFOLDED
About two dozen Republicans pushed their way into the secure meeting room — known as a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility, or SCIF
Some brought their mobile phones, leading Democrats and some officials to accuse them of a security breach
Democrats and Republicans began shouting at each other, reports say, and the Republican protesters refused to leave the room for a number of hours, even ordering pizza at lunchtime

four hours, Cooper began her testimony. It was a dramatic confrontation in the House of Representatives inquiry that threatens Republican Trump's presidency even as he seeks re-

election next year. Democrats are investigating whether there are grounds to impeach Trump over his July 25 request in a phone call to Ukrainian President Volodymyr

Zelenskiy to investigate a domestic political rival, former Vice President Joe Biden. Biden is a front-runner for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination. — Reuters

39 found dead in UK lorry were Chinese

LONDON, OCTOBER 24

The 39 people found dead in a refrigerated container in the UK were Chinese nationals, British police announced on Thursday as they continued to question the Northern Irish truck driver on suspicion of murdering the eight women and 31 men.

Officers in Northern Ireland have also raided three properties and the National Crime Agency said it was working to identify "organised crime groups that may have played a part".

The police are continuing to question lorry driver Mo Robinson, 25, on suspicion of murdering the eight women and 31 men, the BBC reported. The trailer arrived in Purfleet on the Thames river from Zeebrugge in Belgium. Ambulance staff discovered



Flowers at the scene where the bodies were found. REUTERS

TRAGIC REMINDER
In 2000, the bodies of 58 illegal Chinese immigrants were found in a Dutch truck at the southeastern English port of Dover. Temperatures in refrigerated trailers could be as low as -25C.

the bodies in the container at Waterglade Industrial Park in Grays in Essex, a town 32 km

east of London, on Wednesday early morning. The police said the tractor

Three dead after flooding in France

PARIS, OCTOBER 24

Three persons have died after several days of heavy storms that sent rivers flooding over their banks across southern France, causing "significant damage," the interior minister said Thursday.

Rescue workers have carried out nearly 1,800 operations since Sunday, Christophe Castaner said in a statement, after eight departments were placed on high alert for flash floods.

He did not provide details on when or how the deaths occurred, but an interior ministry official said they were in the Herault, Gard and Pyrenees-Orientales departments. Around 700 homes remain without power in Herault and Gard. — AFP

16 sentenced to death for burning Bangla teen alive

DHAKA, OCTOBER 24

Sixteen persons, including the head of a madrasa, were sentenced to death by a Bangladeshi court on Thursday for burning alive a teenage girl for refusing to withdraw a sexual harassment complaint against him.

The gruesome murder took place in April when a gang of killers poured kerosene on 18-year-old Nusrat Jahan Rafi and set her afire on the roof of the madrasa in the southeastern Feni, some 162 kilometres outside Dhaka.

"They (convicts) will be hanged until death," Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal Judge Mamunur Rashid pronounced the judgement.

The incident had sparked nationwide public outrage and mass demonstrations across Bangladesh with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina ordering expedited investigation in the quickest possible time. She also met Rafi's family and vowed to bring the killers to justice.

The police said the madrasa's principal, Siraj Ud Doula, who was already in jail on sexual harassment charges, had ordered his cohorts to kill

'EARNED WRATH FOR NOT TAKING BACK PLAINT'

Eleven days after the victim made the allegation, the killers lured her to the roof of the madrasa as she went to appear for her final exams

There she was pressured to withdraw the case

The victim succumbed to her wounds a few days later at a specialised facility in Dhaka, but before that she gave a statement that she earned the principal's wrath as she refused to withdraw the complaint against him

Rafi if she refused to withdraw the allegation.

In the chargesheet, it was stated that the teen was murdered on the principal's order. The judge simultaneously fined all the convicts 1 lakh taka (USD 1,181) each to be given to Rafi's family.

The convicts include two women, a local leader of the ruling Awami League and a member of the madrasa governing committee. Bangladeshi law requires the death reference hearing in the High Court ahead of a convict's execution. — PTI

Johnson calls forelection on December 12

LONDON, OCTOBER 24

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Thursday offered MPs more time to debate his Brexit Bill but only if they agree to a General Election on December 12.

His latest announcement came soon after an urgent Cabinet meeting at 10 Downing Street and ahead of a confirmation from the European Union (EU) on whether it is open to an extension to the October 31 Brexit deadline, which is expected on Friday.

"The way to get Brexit done is, I think, to be reasonable with Parliament and say if they genuinely want more time to study this excellent deal, they can have it, but they have to agree to a General Election on 12 December," said Johnson.

"It's time frankly that the Opposition summoned up the nerve to submit themselves to the judgement of our collective boss, which is the people of the UK," he said.

Johnson had struck a renewed withdrawal agreement with the EU last week, which ditched the controversial Irish backstop clause, and went on in theory to find the backing of MPs in a vote 329 to 299 earlier this week. — PTI



SHOW OF UNITY: Protesters hold Catalan pro-independence flags during the Hong Kong-Catalonia solidarity assembly at Central district in Hong Kong on Thursday. AFP

Anger at Singapore restaurant 'grab-a-crab' machine

SINGAPORE: A Singapore restaurant on Thursday suspended a bizarre promotional stunt where customers use an arcade-style machine with a mechanical claw to catch live crabs after it sparked uproar online. A video of the machine, containing the creatures and emblazoned with a picture of a smiling red crab under the phrase "Come and catch me", went viral after being posted this week. The game sees customers pay \$3.7 to use a joystick to move the claw over the creatures before lowering it to try to grab one. AFP

Thai king dismisses 6 palace officials for misconduct

BANGKOK: Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn has dismissed six palace staffers, just days after stripping his royal consort of her titles and military ranks for what he termed disloyalty. The six palace officials were dismissed and stripped of their ranks and royal decorations on Wednesday. The most senior, a police lieutenant general with the Royal Household Bureau, sometimes represented the palace in public events. He was accused of "evil" actions - serious misconduct - and exploiting his job for personal gain. The others, attached to palace guard units, were similarly accused. AP



BRIEFLY

MUMBAI
Ganguly meets Kohli, Rohit to discuss roadmap
BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah today met captain Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma on the sidelines of the selection committee meeting, to discuss a "roadmap" for Indian cricket. It is understood that veteran Mahendra Singh Dhoni's future in international cricket was discussed during the meeting. Coach Ravi Shastri was not part of the meeting.

KOCHI
Mumbai City start campaign with win over Kerala in ISL
A late goal from Amine Chermi saw Mumbai City FC stun Kerala Blasters FC 1-0 in a closely-fought Indian Super League clash here today. The teams had several half chances to break the deadlock until Chermi's smart 82nd-minute finish settled the contest. It was Mumbai's first-ever victory over Kerala Blasters in Kochi.

NEW DELHI
India drop two spots to 106th in FIFA rankings
The Indian men's football team dropped two places to 106th position in the latest FIFA rankings issued today. The downward slide came following the Blue Tigers' 1-1 draw against lower-ranked Bangladesh in the FIFA World Cup qualifier earlier this month. Bangladesh benefited from the draw, jumping three rungs to 184th spot. Belgium have managed to hold on to the top spot, followed by France and Brazil.

DUBAI
Yuvraj to play in Abu Dhabi T10 tournament
Former India batsman Yuvraj Singh was today named Maratha Arabians' icon player for the upcoming Abu Dhabi T10 tournament. The event, beginning November 14, has the approval of the International Cricket Council (ICC).

KARACHI
Pakistan cricketers stand to lose money
Top Pakistan cricketers, including former captain Shoaib Malik and pacer Mohammad Amir, stand to lose out on millions of rupees earnings after the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) revoked all NOCs issued to players to take part in the T10 league in Abu Dhabi. A board official made it clear that only retired players, Shahid Afridi and Imran Nazir, could take part in the tournament but all other players who were issued NOCs would not be able to take part in the T10 league under the new directives.

KARACHI
Misbah is a yes man, says former player Mohsin Khan
Misbah-ul-Haq was handed the dual positions of head coach and chief selector by the PCB only because he is a "yes man" and would not risk any confrontation with the board, former batsman Mohsin Khan said. "Why has Misbah been given the posts of head coach and chief selector? Only because he is a 'tabidari' (one who follows orders). He is a yes man. The board wants people like him in their employment," Khan, a former chief coach and selector, said.

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SYDNEY
Italian legend Rossi hits 400th Grand Prix
The most experienced motorcycle rider in history marks another milestone this weekend, with veteran Valentino Rossi gearing up for his 400th Grand Prix. The Italian, still arguably the sport's biggest draw despite winning the last of his seven premier class world titles in 2009, conceded it was a "great achievement". "It's been a long, long time," said the 40-year-old, who made his debut in 1996 in the 125cc class. AGENCIES

Rohit to lead in T20s, Kohli rested

T20 series against Bangladesh to begin on Nov 3; Kohli to lead in Tests

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 24
Rohit Sharma will lead India for the T20Is against Bangladesh at home next month with regular captain Virat Kohli rested for the three-match series. Kohli will, however, return to lead the side against Bangladesh for the two Tests, starting from November 14, with the hosts eyeing their 12th consecutive Test series victory at home. World's top-ranked side India retained the squad that whitewashed South Africa 3-0 at home recently. Kohli's men lead the points table for the recently-launched World Test Championship, having scripted five wins in as many matches.

Mahendra Singh Dhoni continued to be out of the T20I squad, raising questions on the long-serving wicketkeeper's future in limited-overs cricket. There has been speculation Dhoni might retire after struggling in the World Cup in England where India were knocked out in the semifinals. Subsequently, he was left out of the squad for the limited-overs series against West Indies and South Africa.

Rishabh Pant has been earmarked as Dhoni's successor but the 22-year-old has faced flak for letting the team down with his penchant for throwing away his wicket with rash shots. India's selectors added Kerala wicketkeeper-batsman Sanju Samson, who has played a lone T20I in 2015, to the squad to keep the pressure up on Pant ahead of next year's T20 World Cup in Australia. "We're looking at younger options after the World Cup, so you can understand our thought process," chief



Indian squads for Bangladesh series

T20I: Rohit Sharma (captain), Shikhar Dhawan, KL Rahul, Sanju Samson, Shreyas Iyer, Manish Pandey, Rishabh Pant, Washington Sundar, Krunal Pandya, Yuzvendra Chahal, Rahul Chahar, Deepak Chahar, Khaleel Ahmed, Shivam Dube, Shardul Thakur
TEST: Virat Kohli (captain), Rohit Sharma, Mayank Agarwal, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane, Hanuma Vihari, Wriddhiman Saha, Ravindra Jadeja, Ravichandran Ashwin, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav, Ishant Sharma, Shubman Gill, Rishabh Pant

<< While Rohit Sharma will lead India in the three-match T20 series, Virat Kohli will be captain for the two-Test series.



"We're looking at younger options after the World Cup, so you can understand our thought process. We definitely had a chat with Dhoni and he also endorses our view of backing youngsters.

Going into domestic cricket, getting his touch back or thoughts about retirement, everything is purely his (Dhoni's) personal decision. We've already laid the roadmap for future, I'm sure you can see in the way we are selecting the teams. MSK Prasad, CHIEF SELECTOR

selector MSK Prasad said. "We definitely had a chat with Dhoni and he also endorses our view of backing youngsters."

Mumbai all-rounder Shivam Dube earned his maiden call-up to the T20 squad with strong performances in domestic cricket. — PTI

"If you have a very safe and easy career there are very less things you will learn. I have learnt a lot in the last four to five years. If you have failed a lot of times then you know how to rise up and how to succeed. I have failed a lot of times in my life so I know how to stand up and perform. That has been a blessing." Sanju Samson



I LOVE POWER-HITTING: DUBE

MUMBAI: Mumbai all-rounder Shivam Dube today said he loves power-hitting and would never give up his aggressive brand of cricket, which earned him his maiden call-up to the Indian team. The 26-year-old made into the Indian T20 squad as all-rounder Hardik Pandya is yet to recover from a back surgery. Dube pipped Vijay Shankar as the second choice all-rounder, primarily based on his big-hitting prowess. "I have a bit of natural power and I work on that," Dube said. "My father always wanted to make me an aggressive batsman and that became my lifestyle. I love power-hitting. I would like to thank God and my dad. Specially my dad, who always supported me and it was his dream (that I play for India)." This season, Dube has scored 1,012 runs in 16 First-Class matches so far. "It is a good feeling. I was expecting a call. I was sure of my selection. I felt that my performance was good," said Dube. — PTI

Shubman named captain of India C

DEODHAR TROPHY
NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24
Hanuma Vihari, Parthiv Patel and Shubman Gill were today named captains of India A, India B and India C teams, respectively, for this year's Deodhar Trophy. The teams were picked during the selection committee in Mumbai.

The Deodhar Trophy will be played at Ranchi from October 31 to November 4. The India A team will also feature experienced off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin, wicketkeeper Ishan Kishan and Jaydev Unadkat among others. Out-of-favour India all-rounders Kedar Jadhav and Vijay Shankar feature in

Karnataka take on TN in Hazare final

BENGALURU: The spotlight will be on India players Mayank Agarwal, R Ashwin and KL Rahul when the evenly-matched Karnataka and Tamil Nadu lock horns in the title clash of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here tomorrow. The Manish Pandey-led Karnataka were convincing in their victories in the knockout games but Tamil Nadu, who dominated the league phase, were a tad lucky as the rain rule allowed them to go past Punjab in the quarterfinals before young M Shahrulkh Khan guided them home in the semifinal against Gujarat. The two sides are equally matched, with a formidable batting line-up and a set of quality bowlers, though the presence of R Ashwin gives the TN attack more experience and variety. Tomorrow's clash will be decided by how the two bowling attacks perform given that both teams have a lot of depth in batting. — PTI

India to begin U-19 WC title defence against SL

DUBAI: Holders India will begin their U-19 World Cup defence with a clash against Sri Lanka on January 19 in Bloemfontein, South Africa. Four-time champions India have been grouped alongside New Zealand, Sri Lanka and first-timers Japan in Group A in the tournament, starting on January 17. India will take on Japan and New Zealand on January 21 and 24, respectively, in the 16-team tournament, the final of which is scheduled for February 9. Last edition's runners-up and three-time champion Australia will take

on West Indies in Group B opening encounter that also features England and debutants Nigeria. Group C will see Pakistan battle alongside Bangladesh, Zimbabwe and Scotland. Hosts South Africa will play their opening match against Afghanistan on January 17. UAE and Canada are the other teams in Group D. The 13th edition of the tournament will see the second phase dividing the teams into Super League and Plate tournaments. The top two teams from each of the four groups will advance to the Super League. — PTI

Saina, Sindhu in quarters

PARIS, OCTOBER 24
The Indian men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty shocked reigning world champions Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan to join PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal in the quarterfinals of the \$750,000 French Open here today.

Rankireddy and Shetty, who had claimed their maiden Super 500 title at the Thailand Open in August, notched up a stunning 21-18 18-21 21-13 win over the world No. 2 pair, which won the World Championships in 2013, 2015 and 2019. Rankireddy and Shetty, who had lost to Ahsan and Setiawan at the China Open last year, produced a gallant effort to dispatch their fancied rivals in 53 minutes. The world No. 11 Indian pair will next face Denmark's Kim Astrup and Anders Skaarup Rasmussen.

World champion Sindhu, who made early exits in the last three tournaments in China, South Korea and



Saina Nehwal beat Line Kjaersfeldt 21-10 21-11. FILE PHOTO

Denmark, beat Singapore's Yeo Jia Min 21-10 21-13 in 34 minutes to snap her recent run of early exits and enter the quarterfinals.

The world No. 6 Indian is expected to meet world No. 1 Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei next.

Eighth-seeded London Olympics bronze medallist Saina, who had won the Indonesia Masters early in the year before going through a rough patch, beat Denmark's Line

Kjaersfeldt 21-10 21-11 in 27 minutes to make it to the last-eight.

The reigning Commonwealth Games champion, who had lost in the first round in the last three events, will next take on An Se Young. The South Korean had last week knocked out Sindhu in the opening round of Denmark Open.

Saina had defeated Hong Kong's Cheung Ngan Yi 23-21 21-17 in the opening round yesterday. — PTI

Gunasekaran wins third gold

WUHAN (CHINA), OCTOBER 24
Para-athlete Anandan Gunasekaran clinched his third gold of the event, while javelin thrower Shivpal Singh bagged another gold for the country as India continued their fine show at the ongoing 7th CISM World Military Games here today.

After claiming top honours in the men's 100m and 400m IT1 events earlier, Gunasekaran won the gold in men's 200m IT1 event with a timing of 24.31 seconds. Fajardo Pardo Teodicelo of Colombia (26.11s) won the silver, while Peru's Casa Jose (27.33s) bagged the bronze.

Shivpal, 24, who hails from Chandauli village near Varanasi, clinched the gold in javelin throw with a best effort of 83.33 metres. Poland's Krukowski Marcin took silver with 78.17m, while the bronze went to Sri Lanka's Ranasinghe Mudiyaneselage Sumedha Jagath (75.35m). Shivpal had earlier



Para-athlete Anandan Gunasekaran won the gold in men's 200m IT1 event. FILE

won a silver medal in the Asian Championships in Doha in April with a personal best throw of 86.23m.

In men's 25m center fire pistol event, 2010 Commonwealth Games gold medalist Gurpreet Singh claimed the bronze medal with a total score of 585. The gold in this event went to Ukraine's Korostylov Pavlo, while China's Yao Zhaonan won the bronze.

India have so far garnered seven medals, including six gold. — PTI

Australia PM Morrison becomes water boy

CANBERRA, OCTOBER 24
Australia Prime Minister Scott Morrison acted as a water boy during a practice game between the Prime Minister's XI and Sri Lanka at the Manuka Oval.

In the low scoring T20 match, the Prime Minister's XI won the game by one wicket against the Islanders. The visitors batted first and could only put up 130/8 in their allotted 20 overs.

In reply, Harry Nielsen hit a 50-ball 79 but the hosts' batting line-up fell like a pack of cards and they lost nine wickets before Fawad Ahmed steered his side to victory with one ball to spare. — IANS



Australia Prime Minister Scott Morrison takes refreshments for the players during a practice game between the Prime Minister's XI and Sri Lanka in Canberra.

What is ICC without BCCI: Arun Dhimal

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24
India not having a "say" in the International Cricket Council is a major concern for newly-appointed BCCI treasurer Arun Dhimal, who has questioned the very relevance of the world body if it doesn't have the country in a prominent role.

After taking charge, Dhimal spoke about his immediate priorities, which include increasing the board's revenue despite the fact that the BCCI remains the richest body in international cricket.

"Could we have ever imagined that BCCI will not have a say in ICC's roadmap? It was never imagined. What is ICC without BCCI?" asked Dhimal, referring to India's absence from the ICC's newly-created working group to chalk out a fresh governance model for the body.

He also made it clear that the BCCI is not on board with the ICC as far as the Future Tours Programme (FTP) for the 2023-2031 cycle is concerned. "We do not agree to the new proposal of the ICC with regards to the increase of tournaments," he said.

Dhimal said cutting down on unnecessary expenditure would be high on his priorities. He would look to use that money to improve the financial position of First-Class cricketers. Dhimal, brother of former BCCI president Anurag Thakur, is "surprised" at the amount of money that has gone into covering legal expenses. Since 2017, the board was being managed by a Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators, which demitted office yesterday. "My goal is to increase the BCCI revenue as what has happened now is that revenues are stable but expenses have gone up,"

Dhimal said. — PTI

TODAY ON TV
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VIJAY HAZARE TROPHY FINAL
KARNATAKA VS TAMIL NADU
STAR SPORTS 9AM

Army Commander injured in J&K copter crash-landing

SHYAM SOOD

RAJOURI, OCTOBER 24

Northern Army Commander Lt General Ranbir Singh sustained injuries when the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) he was flying in crash-landed near the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district today.

Nine persons, including two Colonels, two Lieutenant Colonels and two pilots, were on board when the helicopter developed a technical snag and crash-landed in the Mandi-Bedar area, around 25 km from Poonch town and 5 km from the LoC.

"Army Commander was visiting units in Poonch sector, when the ALH



A rescue operation under way near LoC in Poonch on Thursday.

developed a technical snag and crash-landed. All passengers and crew sustained injuries. The injured were evacuated to Command Hospital, Udhampur. As per medical investigations,

all have sustained blunt and superficial injuries but are stable. The local villagers assisted the Army in evacuation of the injured. We salute them," said Jammu-based Defence PRO Lt

Col Davender Anand. Besides, a civilian, Mohammad Afzal, was injured.

The helicopter was on its way to Srinagar from a forward area in Poonch, which had been witnessing shelling from Pakistan, said sources.

The Army has ordered a court of inquiry into the incident. Sources said around 1.50 pm, the pilot noticed a snag in the helicopter while flying over Bedar area and attempted an emergency landing on the riverbank.

"We saw a helicopter return soon after it passed over the area. Before it could land, it got entangled in some wires and crashed onto a tree. Locals rushed to the site and informed the Army and police," said an eyewitness.

Held in Parliament attack case, former DU prof dies

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 24

Former DU professor Syed Abdul Rahman Geelani, who was sentenced to death by a special court but later acquitted by the Supreme Court in the 2001 Parliament attack case, died here on Thursday following a cardiac arrest, his family said.

"He passed away on Thursday evening due to cardiac arrest," a family member confirmed. Geelani, who used to

teach Arabic at Delhi University's Zakir Hussain College, is survived by his wife and two daughters.

He was also charged with sedition in 2016, after he organised an event against the hanging of Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru. Geelani was arrested in connection with the Parliament attack case but was acquitted for "need of evidence" by the Delhi HC in October 2003. —PTI



SAR GEELANI

UP withdraws order to sack 25K Home Guards

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LUCKNOW, OCTOBER 24

In a U-turn, the Uttar Pradesh Government has rolled back its October 15 order discontinuing services of 25,000 Home Guards. They have now been asked to continue till further orders.

The new order (dated October 23) by Additional Chief Secretary Awasthi states, "In view of the coming festival season, it has been decided that the present arrangement of Home Guards would continue on the basis of the Home Department budget. It has been decided to continue assigning them duty under the existing Home Guard budget."

On October 15, the Yogi government had terminated

Decides to cut down the number of working days to 15

the services of 25,000 Home Guards, assisting the state police in various duties, following which they had been protesting in various district headquarters.

Last year, the Department of Home had appointed 25,000 Home Guards in place of police personnel, whose services had been first terminated and are now continuing till further orders.

Those on the rolls stand to lose a steady income as the state government has decided to cut down the number of working days from 25 to 15 days.

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