

Panchayat Dept to set up 1,000 digital libraries in rural areas

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HISAR, APRIL 14
The State Panchayat Department will be setting up 1,000 libraries, equipped with digital facilities, in villages with aim to provide better playing field for competitive examination to youths in rural areas.

Inaugurating first digital library in Dult village of Fatehabad district on Thursday, the Development and Panchayat Minister Devender Singh Babli said the work to establish such libraries has started in the first phase in the state.

“3,200 buildings have been identified across the state and all of them will house digital libraries. In subsequent phases all 6,225 villages will be covered under the project,” he said.

A graduate youth of the village Kuldeep Kumar said presently the students have to go to Bhuna and Hisar for coaching for competitive examinations.

“Such libraries that will be equipped with books, magazines and newspapers, internet facility and digital display board will prove a boon for



Minister Devender Singh Babli inspects the digital library at Dult village in Fatehabad. TRIBUNE PHOTO

BUILDINGS IDENTIFIED

“3,200 buildings have been identified across the state and all of these will house digital libraries. In subsequent phases, all 6,225 villages will be covered under the project.” Devender Singh Babli, DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYAT MINISTER, HARYANA

those who are serious for competitive examinations,” he added.

The youth said the village library has a capacity of 30 seats and they has urged the minister to increase it so that more students can benefit.

Aiming to improve education standards, the minister

said the libraries will be equipped with fiber-based internet facility, computers, chairs, tables and other requisite infrastructure.

He also urged the villagers to maintain the libraries as these will benefit the village youth who so far have been lagging behind due to lack of

facilities and study material. Babli said the state government has been focusing to improve education and medical facilities in the rural areas.

The government is preparing a blueprint of the entire state in order to provide city-like facilities in the villages, he added.

“We are planning to set up Sanskriti Bhawans (Culture buildings) in villages where women can sit and exchange their views while doing social and religious activities,” the minister said.

3 die in two accidents in Sonapat

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SONEPAT, APRIL 14
As many as three persons were killed in two separate accidents in Sonapat district on Thursday. Two canter drivers were killed when their vehicles collided with each other near a water tank in Nahra village on Bahadurgarh road, while a CISF personnel was killed in a mishap on Jasrana-Farmana road.

In the first incident, the deceased have been identified as Naresh Kumar (46) of Chhara village of Jhajjar district and Ajay Yadav of Sitamarhi district of Bihar.

Neetu, son of Naresh Kumar in his complaint said his father was driving the canter. As he reached near the water tank at Nahra village a canter laden with woods, coming from the opposite side, hit his father's vehicle.

In the other accident, the deceased's brother Subhash of Jasrana village in his complaint said that his younger brother Baljeet, who is working in CISF, was on the way to Farmana on his motorcycle. A combine machine driver hit his brother.

Cases in both the incidents have been registered under the various Sections of the Indian Penal Code.

Over 50% ANM posts vacant in Karnal dist

PARVEEN ARORA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, APRIL 14

Though the state government claims to provide better health services in the government-run hospitals, the ground reality is different. Not only the government hospitals are facing acute shortage of doctors, but around 50 per cent posts of auxiliary nurse midwife (ANMs) are lying vacant across the district.

As many as 163 posts of ANMs are sanctioned in the government hospitals, of them, only 79 are filled, while 84 are lying vacant. ANMs are mainly posted at PHCs, CHCs, and sub-centres for immunisation, family planning, maternal and child healthcare services along with implementation of other health-related national programme.

As per sources, due to the shortage of ANMs, the available staff members have to face difficulties in catering to the need of the beneficiaries.

Not only this, 147 posts of staff nurse out of 248 sanctioned, and 16 out of 25 posts of nursing sister are lying vacant in the district. Due to the shortage of nursing sister



Those sacked can be adjusted

“The government had recruited staff nurses and paramedical staff during the Covid, but now from April 1, we have been removed. These staff members can be adjusted on the vacant posts on contract basis.” SACKED STAFF NURSE APPOINTED DURING COVID PANDEMIC

“We have sent the requirement to the higher authorities and hopefully the posts will be filled soon. We are ensuring that patients are taken care of with the available staff members.” Dr Yogesh Sharma, CIVIL SURGEON

and staff nurse, patients are at the receiving end. The hospitals have to depend on limited staff and sometime they have to spend extra hours for the nursing care of patients, said an ANM.

A contractual staff nurse, who was appointed during Covid and now has been sacked with others, said the state government had recruited staff nurses and paramedical staff during the

Covid pandemic, but now from April 1, they have been removed. These staff members can be adjusted on these vacant posts on contract basis, so that the patients care did not be suffer at the hospitals. Dr Yogesh Sharma, Civil Surgeon, said they had sent the requirement to the higher authorities and hopefully the posts would be filled soon. “We are ensuring that patients are taken care of

Now, DHBVN to remove electricity poles from roads

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

REWARI, APRIL 14

The Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (DHBVN) has decided to itself remove electricity poles installed on roads, resulting in view problems being faced during the construction and widening of roads due to the poles.

It has also set the deadline to shift all such poles by April 30. PC Meena, managing director, DHBVN, said it had been observed that electricity poles installed on the roads become a hurdle when it comes to the construction and widening of the roads.

DEFAULTERS TO FACE MUSIC

“The government or private agency involved in road construction will be informed through notice about the shifting cost of poles. If the agency doesn't deposit the cost, it will be added to its electricity bill in next two months. An official

The government agency associated with road construction or private firms many times delay the shifting of such poles that leads to

the possibility of road mishaps. “Hence, the DHBVN has decided to shift such poles itself by April 30 in view of people's safety.

Now, the government or private agency involved in road construction will be informed through notice about the shifting cost of such poles. If the agency does not deposit the shifting cost, it will be added to their electricity bill in the next two months,” said Meena.

The MD said at present, the work of the widening of many roads was under way and the poles coming in the middle of all those roads would be shifted soon.

Badhra MLA approves ₹5-crore water project

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HISAR, APRIL 14

Badhra MLA Naina Chautala approved Rs 5.16 crore worth potable water project for Jhohu village of Charkhi Dabri on Thursday.

The JJP MLA during her visit to the village laid the foundation stone of a park to be constructed at a cost of Rs 18 lakh.

Addressing the villagers in a function organised by the BR Ambedkar Seva Samiti, the MLA said she will make efforts for inclusion of the Nayak community in the Scheduled Caste (SC) category. The Nayak community had raised the demand during the event.

She said Ambedkar had



JJP MLA Naina Chautala distributes property cards to villagers of Jhohu village in Charkhi Dabri.

worked to unite the country by empowering the deprived sections of the society. “Ambedkar dreamt of social and economic empowerment of the weaker sections of the

society,” she said.

She also remembered the former Deputy PM Devi Lal and said he started the mother-child care scheme and old age pension/allowance for

women.

On the occasion, the MLA distributed property cards to 47 villagers of Jhohu block under the Swamitva Yojna of the government.

Action against centres issuing fake certificates

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 14

Kamal Soi, member, National Road Safety Council, Government of India, said the Haryana Transport Minister had assured the state that it would initiate action against ill-equipped centres issuing fitness certificates to vehicles plying in the state.

In a press conference here, he brought to light issues in implementing the statutory rule with respect to the issuance of fitness certificates of vehicles. “These shortcomings have created impediments in effectively implementing Section 56 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1998,” he said. — TNS

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President

1 held with country-made rifle in Y'nagar

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

YAMUNANAGAR, APRIL 14

The Crime Investigation Agency (CIA)-I of Yamunana-gar police arrested a person with a country-made illegal rifle and a live cartridge near City Centre in Yamunanagar on Thursday.

The accused Shivam alias Tushar of Shamli district of Uttar Pradesh was living with his uncle in Jagadhari. A case has been registered against the accused under the Arms Act. The accused was produced before a court in Jagadhri which sent him to judicial custody.

Khattar, Hooda pay tributes to Ambedkar

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 14

The Chief Minister (CM) Manohar Lal Khattar and the Leader of Opposition Bhupinder Singh paid tribute to Dr BR Ambedkar on his 131st birth anniversary and extended their greetings to the public on Baisakhi on Thursday.

The CM on the occasion said following the path shown by Dr Ambedkar, the State Government has launched several welfare schemes for various sections of the society, especially the Scheduled Castes and the

Backward Classes.

The Government has been making continuous efforts regarding lifting the economically weaker sections of the society so as to realise the vision of Antyodaya in the state.

While extending greetings on the occasion of Baisakhi, the CM said the festival of Baisakhi conveys the message of happiness and prosperity across the country.

Meanwhile, Hooda said Dr Ambedkar became the voice of the poor and backward, and worked to eliminate the evils of Indian society through the Constitution.

Right time to control spread of top borer, farmers told

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, APRIL 14

With the spread of top borer insect in sugarcane fields across the region, scientists of ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Regional Centre, Karnal, have issued an advisory for farmers.

The scientists had found eggs, moths, larvae and adults of top borer insect in the fields.

They say it is the right time to control the spread of this insect which had caused losses to farmers in the last season.

“We have found all the

stages of top borer insect in the fields in the region.

It can be controlled at this stage. We advise farmers to remain vigilant and adopt measures suggested by the scientists,” said Dr SK Pandey, head, Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Regional Centre.

He maintained that CO-0238 variety of sugarcane is most susceptible to top borer and presently, this variety covers around 60-70 per cent area of the region.

This variety was launched by the Karnal Regional Centre in 2009 and in 2012, it had covered around 98 per cent

area under various sugar mills of Haryana, UP and Punjab, he said.

“The management of top borer is required at this time as the crop cultivated in October had witnessed losses due to this insect. The crop cultivated in February and March is facing the insect's effect,” Dr SK Pandey said.

He appealed the farmers to spray Chlorantraniliprole 18.5 SC insecticide either in April-end or in the first week of May at collar drenching. Farmers should use 150ml of this insecticide in 300 litres of water for one acre, he said.

Higher fuel charges push up cost of harvesting

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMBALA, APRIL 14

A continuous increase in the fuel prices have pushed the cost of harvesting as well.

Farmers said they were already suffering heavy losses due to poor yield and now, the increased prices of harvesting have worsened their trouble.

Last year, the combine operators had charged Rs 1,400 to 1,500 per acre, but this year, charges have been increased to Rs 1,600 to 1,800 per acre.

Pradeep Chauhan, a farmer from Sambhalkha village, said: “I had sown



Combine operators charge Rs 1,600 to Rs 18,00 per acre. TRIBUNE PHOTO

wheat in 16 acres, but due to poor weather, the yield has dropped to just around six quintal per acre. My yield should have been over 18 quintal. Due to higher

diesel prices, the cost of harvesting has also increased.”

“Last year, I had paid Rs 1,500 per acre for harvesting, but this year, the prices

have increased to Rs 1,700 per acre. We can't even blame the combine owners for the hike. The government should announce compensation for farmers,” he added.

Rajiv Kumar, a farmer from Hasanpur village, said: “I got my crop harvested today and the average yield was around 12 quintals per acre. Last year, it was over 20 quintals. The cost of harvesting has increased to Rs 1,700 per acre. While the cost of production is increasing every year, the MSP has not been increased in the same proportion.”

Vikramjit Singh, a com-

bine operator, said: “Rising diesel prices are the main reason behind the increased rates. The prices vary from person to person, but it will remain Rs 1,800 per acre. The cost of labour is also increasing and the margins have been decreasing continuously.”

Dr Girish Nagpal, Deputy Director Agriculture, Ambala, said: “The crop looked healthy initially, but unwanted rains and early heat wave have left an adverse effect on the yield. The average yield has dropped to 10 to 15 quintal per acre, while the yield should have been 20-23 quintal.”