



Mute spectators  
to freedom  
struggle

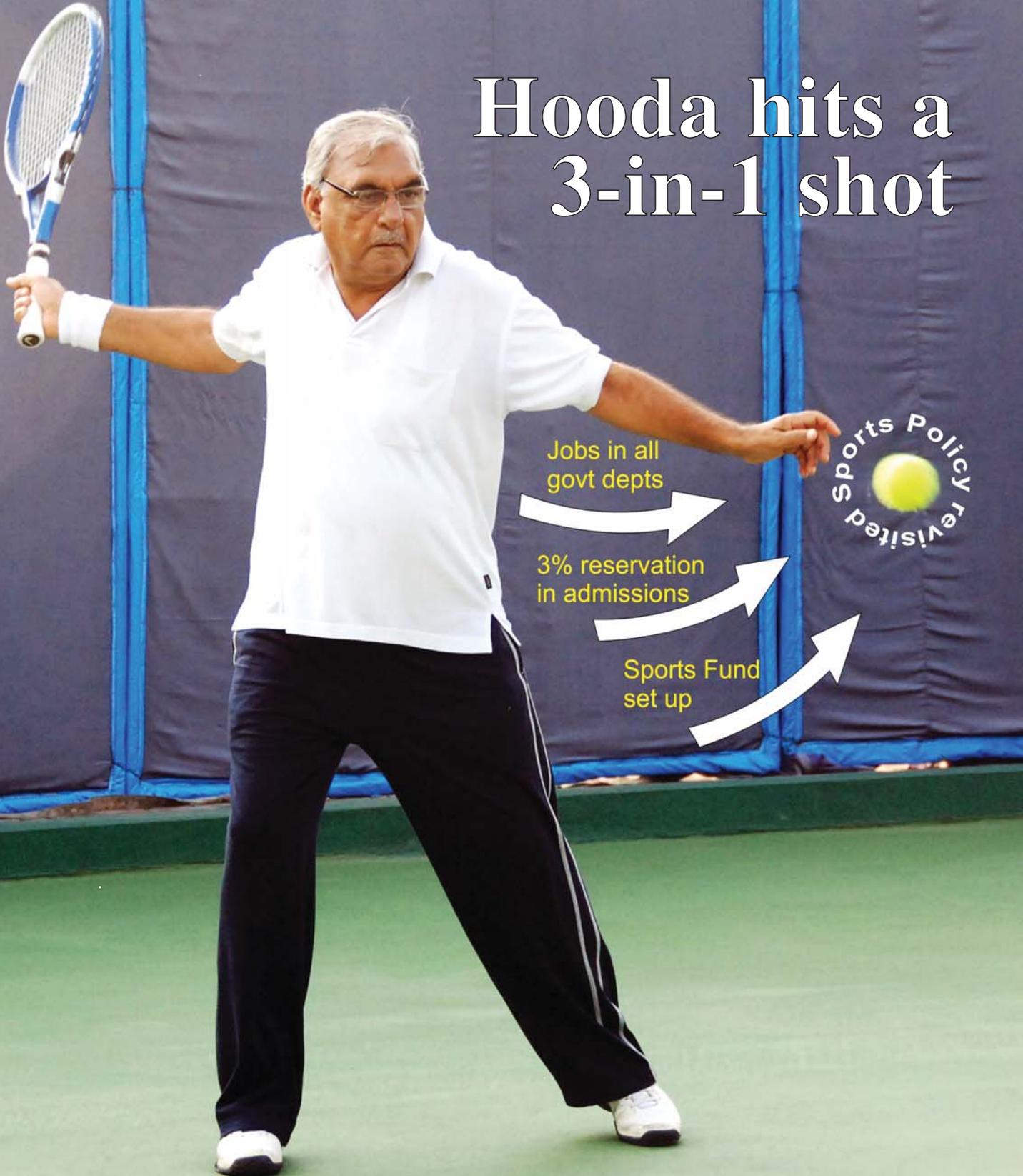
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HARYANA

# REVIEW

August 2011, Vol 25, Issue 8, Rs 15

## Hooda hits a 3-in-1 shot



Jobs in all  
govt depts

3% reservation  
in admissions

Sports Fund  
set up

Sports Policy  
Revisited

# Dreams Come True In Haryana!

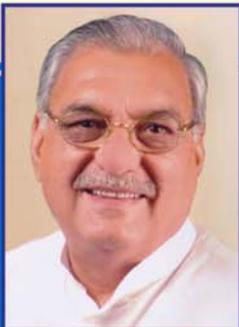
## Free Plots For The Poor



### Haryana Committed To Absolute Welfare Of All Sections Of Society

Haryana Government is providing free residential plots of 100 sq. yards each to 6.5 lakh eligible families belonging to Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes and other weaker sections living below poverty line under the '**Mahatama Gandhi Gramin Basti Yojna**'.

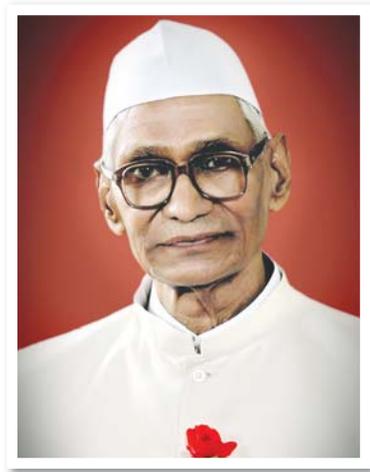
A sum of Rs. 2400 crore will be spent on providing basic infrastructural facilities to these plot owners.



The work on distribution of plots under the 'Mahatama Gandhi Gramin Basti Yojna' is being done on war-footing in the State. This is one of the most unique and revolutionary scheme in the country. This scheme will help strengthen the weaker sections of society by providing them with a permanent asset. Under this scheme, plots have already been distributed to 2,32,882 eligible families.

**Bhupinder Singh Hooda**  
Chief Minister, Haryana

# WISHING 65th INDEPENDENCE DAY



**Jagannath Pahadia**  
*Governor of Haryana*



I convey my felicitations and warm greetings to the people of Haryana on the 65th Independence Day of our country. I pay tributes to our known and unknown great martyrs, freedom fighters and patriots whose sacrifices and hard work liberated our country from the shackles of slavery. On this historic day, I urge my fellow countrymen to extend their co-operation in cementing the bonds of universal brotherhood, peace and communal harmony so that the objective of aoll-round progress can be achieved.

# *Independence Day Greetings*



**Bhupinder Singh Hooda**  
*Chief Minister of Haryana*

On the occasion of the 65th Independence Day of our great nation, I extend my greetings and good wishes to the people of Haryana and pray for the progress and prosperity of the state. Today we breathe in a free nation, thanks to our great freedom fighters and lakhs of people who, for the pride of the nation, spent their youth in jails and sacrificed their lives. We salute the deeds of these great people and take inspiration from them. Let us remember them and resolve to realise their dreams.

HARYANA

# REVIEW

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## EDITORIAL

### Haryana, the trendsetter

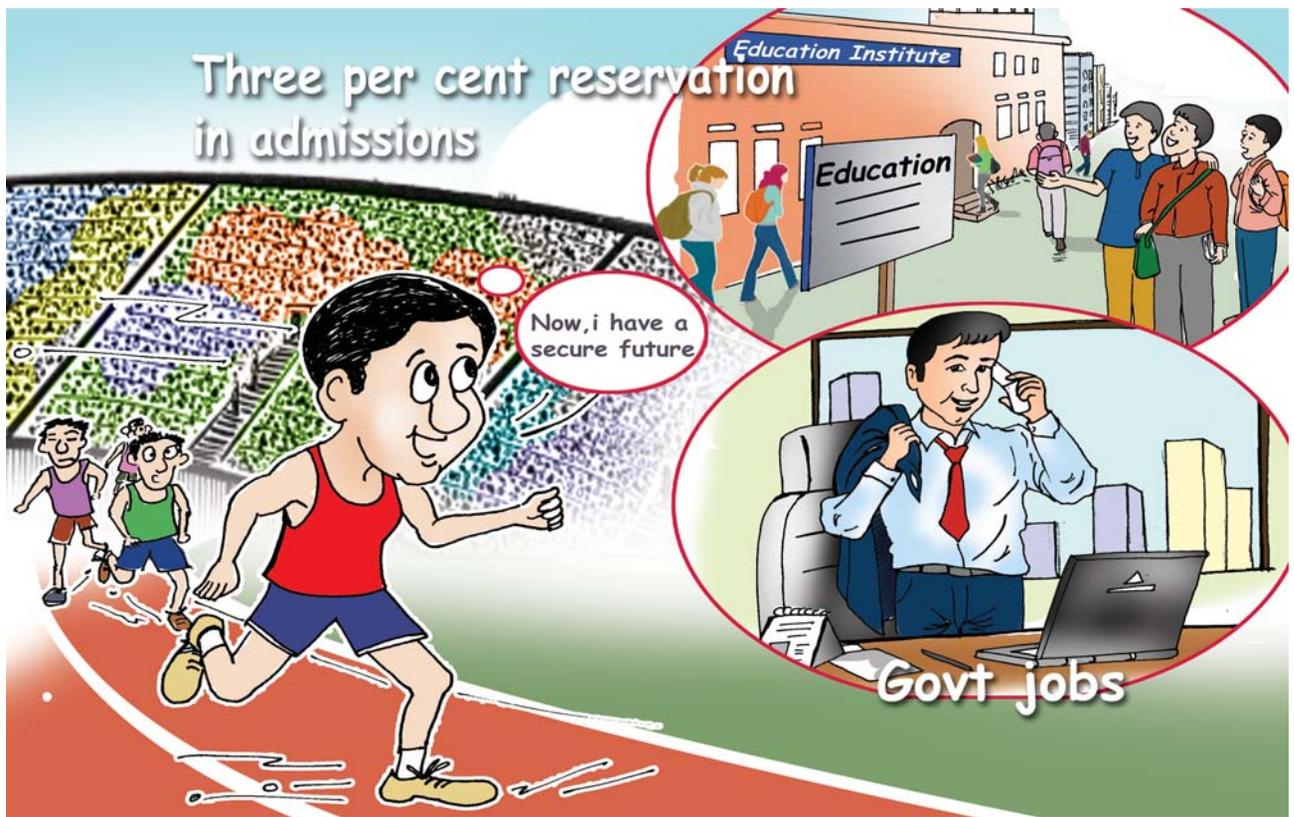
It's easy to follow others, but difficult to make people do tomorrow what you do today. It takes out-of-the-box thinking, pragmatic approach, futuristic outlook and foresightedness, to be a leader, and a trendsetter. Being a leader in true sense of the term, Haryana, led by the Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, keeps treading the trail-blazing path.

Countless number of many first-time decisions in the social welfare segment notwithstanding, Haryana crossed a key milestone on this path with its much acclaimed land acquisition, relief and rehabilitation policy. Hailed by none other than the Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh, and the National Advisory Council Chairperson, Mrs Sonia Gandhi, for its pro-farmer approach, the policy continues to hog the limelight, and, better still, is now being hawked as a model, and followed by other states. So much so, even the Central Government factored in Haryana's policy while evolving its own model.

Pacing up decision-making, Haryana has come out, in less than a fortnight, with two major policy announcements on sports and transfer of powers to panchayati raj institutions (PRIs). Determined to give sports a definitive push, and its sportspersons a decisive edge, the state government has updated and revised its Sports Policy twice in the last two years. Giving its 2009 policy a once-over, Haryana has virtually converted it into "Bring Medal, Get Job" roadmap for its outstanding players. A product of clear thinking and clearer vision, the policy, especially such ambitious additions as opening up portals of all government departments for jobs to sportspersons, have all the ingredients of a model to be emulated by others. No gainsaying the fact that deep thinking has inspired the revision.

Another bold and historic decision of the Haryana Government to lend financial (Rs 50 lakh grant to every gram panchayat) and decision-making muscles to the Panchayati Raj Institutions, has virtually made them first among equals. All funds/ grants-in-aid under all schemes shall now be transferred directly to the bank accounts of gram panchayats. Better still, these will now be able to grant administrative approval to all works to be undertaken under various schemes, except those under HRDF, without any limit. Earlier, funds would be routed through DCs or ADCs.

In this issue of *Haryana Review*, the Cover Story seeks to turn the spotlight on the revised Sports Policy. An attempt has also been made to delve deep into the decision to empower the PRIs. Besides the usual columns and photo feature on monsoon, we have articles on the landmarks of Independence struggle in Haryana and the Teej festival. ■



**COVER STORY**

**Haryana blazes a new sports trail**

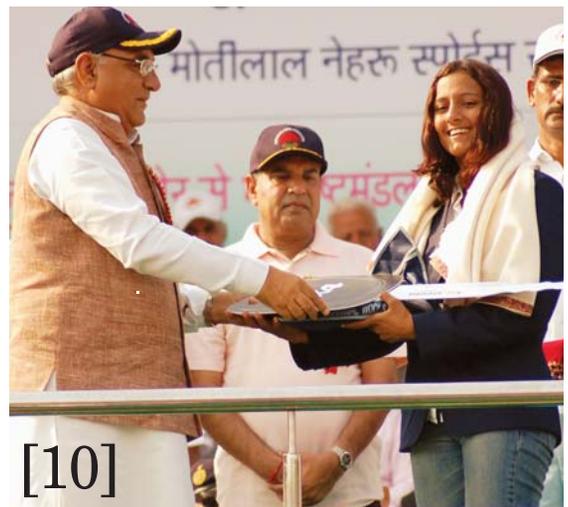
The state government revisits its Sports Policy, widens the ambit of jobs for outstanding sportspersons by throwing open portals of all departments, boards and corporations; reserves three per cent seats for admission to professional/technical institutes and universities; and sets up Haryana Sports Development Fund

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**Bright future awaits players**

The Haryana Government's revised Employment Guarantee Policy ensures a secure future for the outstanding sportspersons of the state

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Readers may send their comments to [haryanareview@gmail.com](mailto:haryanareview@gmail.com) or to SCO 23, First Floor, Sector 7-C, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh - 160 019



*The Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, announcing changes in the Sports Policy. Looking on is Cabinet Minister, Mr Randeep Singh Surjewala*

# Haryana blazes a new sports trail

The state government revisits its Sports Policy, widens the ambit of jobs for outstanding sportspersons by throwing open portals of all departments, boards and corporations; reserves three per cent seats for admission to professional/technical institutes and universities; and sets up Haryana Sports Development Fund with a corpus of Rs 5 crore

Parveen K Modi

Winning, they say, is the name of the game. And who would know it better than the Haryana Government, led by Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

This time-tested adage holds true, especially for the tiny state of Haryana whose sportspersons have made it big, both on the national and global canvas. If they are inspired and motivated to do well and win laurels by an indulgent

and sportingly supportive Haryana Government, their improved showing encourages the government to further incentivise and reward performance on the sporting field.

Determined to transform Haryana

from a sports nursery into a sports-power-house-in-the-making, the state government has adopted a holistic approach to the development of sports to ensure that Haryana, which has done remarkably well on many a front, stands out in this field as well.

The wide sweep of its wholesome approach, amply reflected in the sports policy, arches from spotting young talent in school to grooming them at the state-of-the-art infrastructure, into sportspersons of national and global repute; and assuring outstanding sportspersons who do the state and the country proud, a secure future by rewarding them with state-level recognition, never-before kind of cash awards, and government jobs.

### MEASURES BEGIN TO TELL

Action speaks louder than words. The slew of incentives and measures taken by the state government under the Sports Policy, have generated a favourable environment and enabled Haryana to carve a niche for itself on the global sports map. Unveiled in 2009, the policy had perhaps the most robust incentive matrix which has been further liberalised after the state government revisited it late last month.

The prospect of landing a high-ranking government job, handsome cash award and honour at a state-level public reception, attended by lakhs, goaded top players into trying that extra bit, which made all the difference at many a sports meet. The sentiment found an echo in the performance and medals tally at the National, Commonwealth and Asian Games.

Statistics bear out that the conscious and concerted efforts made by the state government to promote sports, have paid rich dividends. Haryana, even a diehard sceptic would concede, has succeeded in evolving a vibrant sporting culture.

Accounting for national population share of just over two per cent, Haryana's athletes constituted 16 per cent of the Beijing-bound Olympian contingent in 2008. Its boxers and wrestlers scripted a remarkable success story, evoking international curiosity and admiration. And in the Olympics and Asian Games, one-third of the medals the country won, were bagged by the sportspersons of Haryana.

"I am proud of Haryana's talented and hard-working players. They accounted for about one-third of the

**I am proud of Haryana's talented and hard-working players. They accounted for about one-third of the medals won by the country in the Commonwealth and Asian Games. At Ranchi National Games, the state bagged third position after Services and Manipur. If you look at the state's size and population, it's indeed an incredible performance.**

**-Bhupinder Singh Hooda**  
*Chief Minister, Haryana*

medals won by the country in the Commonwealth and Asian Games. At Ranchi National Games, the state bagged third position after Services and Manipur. In the National Rural Tournaments, organised by the Central Government, we were overall runners-up after Tamil Nadu. What's more, the state has come first in the under 16 National PYKKA Tournament. If you look at the state's size and population, it's indeed an incredible performance", the Chief Minister said.

### FIVE KEY FACTORS

Interestingly, econometric models attribute the high performance of Haryana's sportspersons to five factors: population, per capita income, past showing, climate and the host-effect. Besides enjoying distinct advantage on these counts, Haryana, having achieved and maintained a very high growth rate, ranks among top performing states in the country in almost all developmental indicators.

The high level of physical-activity sport has definite advantages in terms of preventive healthcare, counter-delinquency, gender justice and youth development. It also creates economic spin-off like demand for trained

## HIGHLIGHTS OF REVISED SPORTS POLICY

- The Employment Guarantee Policy widens its ambit to offer jobs to outstanding sportspersons in government departments, boards and corporations. So far, this offer was limited to the Police Department.
- Winners of medals of Olympic Games and gold medal in Asian Games would be offered the post of Class-II gazetted officers. Silver and bronze medal winners of Asian Games and gold and silver medal winners of Commonwealth Games and gold medal winners in world championships organized by sports federations, would be offered Class-III posts.
- Suitable employment opportunities in government departments, boards and corporations would also be offered to the participants in Olympic Games, winners of bronze medals in Commonwealth Games, winners of silver and bronze medals in World Championships and medal winners of Asian Championships.
- Three per cent seats would be reserved for sportspersons in professional or technical institutes and universities from 2011-12 in all government and non-government professional and technical institutes and universities.
- Haryana Sports Development Fund set up with a corpus of Rs 5 crore for which assistance would be sought from non-government institutes and industrial houses. It will be used for the welfare of sportspersons.

manpower and sports goods, giving a fillip to the sports industry.

“My government is keen on harnessing these benefits in the interest of the state, its supportive people, and our extremely talented, hard-working and fearless lot of young players. We contributed by raising the bar for sporting excellence. If you look at our incentive architecture, a top-class performance in a big-ticket event is a sure-fire passport to a good life. High-ranking government jobs and hefty cash awards motivate players to do their extra bit that makes all the difference at the highest level,” Mr Hooda told *Haryana Review*.

The changes made in the Sports Policy are bound to find reflection in the performance and

morale of the players. Announcing the changes, the Chief Minister said that the Employment Guarantee Policy sought to ensure a secure future for outstanding sportspersons.

### POLICY'S AMBIT WIDENED

The policy includes offer of employment in government departments, boards and corporations; reservation of seats for admission to professional or technical institutes and universities; and setting up of the Haryana Sports Development Fund with a corpus of Rs 5 crore.

Its ambit widened, the policy now opens the doors of government departments, boards and corporations for jobs to outstanding sportspersons. Until now, government jobs were offered to outstanding sportspersons

only in the Police Department. As many as 37 sportspersons have already been offered jobs in the Police Department.

Besides, it has been decided to reserve three per cent seats for sportspersons in professional or technical institutes and universities from 2011-12 in all government and non-government professional and technical institutes and universities.

Process has been set in motion for setting up the Haryana Sports Development Fund with corpus of Rs 5 crore. Assistance would be sought from non-government institutes and industrial houses for the welfare of sportspersons.

Mr Hooda said that 168 ground managers and an equal number of ground men would be appointed with



immediate effect for the Rajiv Gandhi Rural Sports Stadia constructed by the state government. With a view to promoting sports, various boards and corporations would run sports nurseries and academies.

The Chief Minister said that Haryana was the first state in the country to give maximum cash awards to medal winners of Commonwealth Games and Asian Games. Also, funds are given for the development of native villages of medal winners of Asian and Commonwealth Games.

The parameters for conferring the prestigious Bhim Puraskar have also been revised. In future, the annual Bhim Puraskar would be conferred upon three sportspersons in individual games, two sportspersons in team games, and one to para-olympic player.

### *A view of the Tau Devi Lal Stadium in Panchkula*



### Medals won by Haryana in Commonwealth Games-2010 held in Delhi

Name of championship	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Participation	Total
Commonwealth Games-2010	21	06	08	29	64
Total Medals won by India:					101
Medals won by Haryana:					35
Total expenditure:					Rs 455.5 lakh
Expenditure on 27 coaches award:					Rs 68 lakh
<b>Total :</b>					<b>Rs 523.5 lakh</b>

### Medals won by Haryana in Asian Games 2010 held at Guangzhou in China

Name of championship	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Participation	Total
Asian Games-2010	5	09	07	39	60
Total medals won by India:					64
Medals won by Haryana:					21
Expenditure:					638.00 lakh
Exp. on award 27 coaches award:					Rs 64 lakh
<b>Total :</b>					<b>Rs 702 lakh</b>

Haryana again is the first state to implement a talent hunt programme-Sports and Physical Aptitude Test (SPAT) to choose promising players through a scientific approach. Under this programme, those in the age group of 8 to 14 years get a scholarship of Rs 1,500 per month, and those in the age group of 15 to 19 years are given a scholarship of Rs 2,000 per month.

A record amount of Rs 9.51 crore has been given in scholarships to about 5,000 promising players under this programme, making Haryana the first state in the country to do so. Haryana is the first state to implement SPAT for all students in the age group of 8 to 19 years. Under SPAT-2011, 7.5 lakh players were registered online and 25 lakh players participated in SPAT-2011.

### HUB-AND-SPOKE MODEL

In fact, Haryana's sports policy has become a trendsetter, making other states follow suit, and wake up to the need for looking after their players better. The policy aims at building sports infrastructure, popularising sports, encouraging excellence and creating income and employment opportunities for career sportspersons. The state has a hub-and-spoke model for infrastructure development with block-level Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Khel Parisar constituting the hub, and concentric village-level mini-stadiums, as spokes.

The revised policy aims at consolidating the progress made so far, espousing new initiatives and making adjustments that shall enable the

government to promote sports with a renewed resolve and fresh vigour; and providing excellent opportunities to emerging and promising sportspersons.

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ALL

What's more, it seeks to provide equal opportunities to all citizens to participate in sports; encourage mass participation; promote excellence; develop, maintain and optimally utilise high-quality sports infrastructure; and encourage, train and support sportspersons to participate in national and international events in large numbers. Besides, it lays special emphasis on strengthening of infrastructure and facilitates in educational institutions and creates a culture of sports by imbibing higher moral and ethical values, spirit of comradeship and the desire to excel. Better still, it channelises vibrant youth energy into sports activities and physical fitness.

Through its highly proclaimed sports promotion campaign 'Play for India', Haryana has been successful in attracting youngsters to the playgrounds in large numbers. Through nurseries, wings, academies, camps and competitions, the state government is working hard to develop talented players into champions. Creation of income and employment opportunities for career sportspersons constitutes another cornerstone of the policy. The state government is doing its bit and expects the corporate sector to collaborate and aid the effort. ■

CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda felicitates Geeta Phogat at a function, in Sonapat



# Bright future awaits players

The revised Employment Guarantee Policy of Haryana Government ensures a secure future for outstanding sportspersons of the state

Swati Sethi

Name any sport, be it wrestling, boxing, athletics or hockey, the sportspersons from Haryana have made their presence felt everywhere. They have contributed to the country's overall performance in all international events. Committed to the development of sports in the state, the Haryana Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, has revised its sports policy to reward such sportspersons as have brought laurels to the state.

After giving huge cash awards to medal winners of Commonwealth and Asian Games, the Chief Minister has announced the state's Employment Guarantee Policy to ensure a secure future for the outstanding sportspersons of the state. Addressing a

press conference, Mr Hooda said, "The policy includes offer of employment in government departments, boards and corporations, reservation of seats for admission to professional or technical institutes and universities and setting up of Haryana Sports Development Fund."

## NOW JOBS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS

Under this policy, the sportspersons would be offered employment opportunities in government departments, boards and corporations on the basis of their achievements. Till now, the government was offering jobs to outstanding sportspersons only in the police department.

Under the new policy, the medal winners of Olympic Games and gold medal winners of Asian Games would be offered the post of Class-II gazetted

officers in government departments, boards and corporations. The silver and bronze medal winners of Asian Games, gold and silver medal winners of Commonwealth Games and gold medal winners of World Championships organised by Sports Federations would be offered Class-III posts. The players will be given jobs in government departments or boards and corporations, of their choice.

In addition, suitable employment opportunities in government departments, boards and corporations would also be offered to the participants of Olympic Games, winners of bronze medals in Commonwealth Games, winners of silver and bronze medals in World Championships and medal winners of Asian Championships.

The minimum age for class-II post shall be 21 years and that for class-III

post shall be 18 years. A sportsperson, preferably graduate in any discipline, would be considered for class-II posts and a sportsperson with 10+2 certificate from any board would be considered for class-III posts.

Under the new policy, it has also been decided to reserve 3 per cent seats for sportspersons in professional or technical institutes and universities so as to encourage them to join such institutes. This decision would be implemented from the year 2011-12 in Haryana's all government and non-government professional and technical institutes and universities.

A Haryana Sports Development Fund with corpus fund of Rs 5 crore would be set up for which assistance would also be sought from non-government institutes and industrial houses for the welfare of sportspersons.

### NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Hooda said that 168 ground managers and an equal number of ground men would be appointed with immediate effect for Rajiv Gandhi Rural Sports Stadia constructed by the state government. He said that the government had decided that various boards and corporations would run sports nurseries and academies to promote sports. Under this policy, the promising and talented players would be imparted training and they would also get other facilities.

Haryana is the first state in the country to give maximum cash awards to medal winners of Commonwealth Games and Asian Games. In Commonwealth Games, the gold medal winners were given Rs 15 lakh each, silver medal winners Rs 10 lakh each and bronze medal winners Rs 5 lakh each.

Similarly, in case of Asian Games, the winners of gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded Rs 25 lakh, Rs 15 lakh and Rs 10 lakh each, respectively. Also, funds were given for development of native villages of medal winners of Asian and Commonwealth Games. The villages of gold, silver and bronze medal winners were given Rs 51 lakh, Rs 31 lakh and Rs 21 lakh, respectively.

As many as 37 sportspersons have been offered jobs in the Police Department. Five sportspersons of the state, including boxers Vikas Krishan Yadav and Paramjit Singh Samota, athlete Krishna Punia, wrestler Ravinder Sangwan and Sanam Krishan

### WINNER

Any Olympic medal
Gold medal in Asian Games
Silver medal in Asian Games
Bronze medal in Asian Games
Gold medal in Commonwealth Games
Silver medal in Commonwealth Games
Gold medal in World Championships organised by Sports Federation

### POST GIVEN

Class II gazetted officer
Class II gazetted officer
Class III gazetted officer
Class III gazetted officer
Class III gazetted officer
Class III gazetted officer
Class III gazetted officer

Singh of Lawn Tennis, have been offered the posts of DSP in Haryana Police for winning gold medals in last Asian and Commonwealth Games.

Similarly, 18 other players, including 10 kabaddi players, five wrestlers, one shooter, one boxer and one hockey player, have also been offered the post of Inspector for their outstanding performance in the Games, while 14 other players have been offered the post of Sub-Inspector for winning silver or bronze medal in Asian and

Commonwealth Games.

Mr Hooda said that this decision had been taken to ensure a secure future for outstanding sportspersons of Haryana. Earlier, 12 sportspersons were appointed DSPs, one Inspector, 30 Sub-Inspectors and 318 constables under the sports quota, he added.

He said that the parameters for conferring prestigious Bhim Puraskar had also been revised. It has been decided that in future, the annual Bhim Puraskar will be given to three sportspersons in individual games, two sportspersons in team games and one to a para-olympic player.

"Again, we are the first and only state to give an honorarium of Rs 5,000 to winners of Arjuna Award, Dhyan Chand Award and Dronacharya Award. The state has 62 Arjuna awardees, three Dhyan Chand awardees and 10 Dronacharya awardees," Mr Hooda said.

### FIRST TO IMPLEMENT SPAT

Haryana is also the first state to implement a talent hunt programme-SPAT (Sports and Physical Aptitude Test) to choose promising players through a scientific approach. Anyone who qualifies SPAT over six times out of 12 (8-19 years) will be considered for class-II and class-III posts. Those who qualify SPAT six times will get first claim over vacancies in police constabulary or equivalent rank where physical fitness is important. This will encourage many boys and girls from the state to take to sports and stay away from drug and disruptive social behavior, a condition laid in SPAT.

Under this programme, those in the age group of 8 to 14 years get a scholarship of Rs 1,500 per month and those in the age group of 15 to 19 years get a scholarship of Rs 2,000 per month. An amount of Rs 9.51 crore has been given as scholarship to about 5,000 promising players under this programme. ■



"In order to encourage sports and honour sport stars, we have revised our sports policy which assures government jobs to the outstanding sportspersons. Under the revised employment guarantee policy, sportspersons according to their achievements would be given employment opportunities in government departments, boards and nigrams. Earlier, outstanding sports stars were offered jobs only in Haryana Police. This has lifted the morale of players."

**-Sukhbir Kataria**

*Minister of State, Sports and Youth Affairs, Haryana*

# Hard work rewarded

The following players have been given the post of deputy superintendent of police on the basis of the medals won by them in international events

Name	Medal	Sport	Designation
<b>Mamta Kharab</b>	Bronze medal in Asian Games 2006 and silver medal in Commonwealth	Hockey	DSP
<b>Geetika Jakhad</b>	Silver medal in Asian Games-2006	Wrestling	DSP
<b>Sardara Singh</b>	Silver medal in Commonwealth Games	Hockey	DSP
<b>Vijender Singh</b>	Bronze medal in Olympics 2008 and silver medal in Commonwealth Games	Boxing	DSP
<b>Akhil Kumar</b>	Gold medal in Afro Asian Games 2005	Boxing	DSP
<b>Jitender Kumar</b>	Bronze medal in Commonwealth Games 2002 and Gold in Afro Asian Games 2005	Boxing	DSP
<b>Yogeshwar Dutt</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games 2010	Wrestling	DSP
<b>Sandeep</b>	Silver medal in Commonwealth Games 2010	Hockey	DSP
<b>Ramesh Gulia</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games 2002	Wrestling	DSP
<b>Surender Kaur</b>	Bronze medal in Asian Games 2006 and silver medal in Commonwealth Games 2006	Hockey	DSP
<b>Mamta Sodha</b>	For scaling the Mt. Everest	Mountaineering	DSP
<b>Joginder Sharma</b>	Member of the winning Indian Cricket Team of T-20 world cup	Cricket	DSP

Players who have been given jobs in the Police Department for winning medals in the Asian Games 2010 and Commonwealth Games 2010

Name	Medal	Sport	Designation
<b>Vikas Krishan Yadav</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Boxing	DSP
<b>Sanam Krishan Singh</b>	Gold medal in Lawn Tennis Men's double and Bronze medal in men's singles in Asian Games	Lawn Tennis	DSP
<b>Krishna Punia</b>	Bronze medal in Asian Games and Gold medal in Commonwealth Games	Discus Throw	DSP
<b>Ravinder Singh Sangwan</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games and Bronze medal in Asian Games	Boxing (60kg)	DSP
<b>Paramjeet Samota</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games and Bronze medal in Asian Games	Boxing (91kg)	DSP
<b>Kaptan Singh</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Samarjeet</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Anoop</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Jasmer Gulia</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Jagdeep Singh</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Jasmer Singh</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Ramesh Kumar</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Manjeet</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Kavita Dangi</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Manisha</b>	Gold medal in Asian Games	Kabaddi	Inspector
<b>Rajender Kumar</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling	Inspector
<b>Sanjay Kumar</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling	Inspector
<b>Anil Kumar</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling	Inspector
<b>Anita</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling	Inspector

*Mamta Sodha (right), first civilian woman from Haryana to scale Mt Everest, has been made DSP*



<b>Geeta</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling	Inspector
<b>Anisa Sayyad</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games	Shooting	Inspector
<b>Manoj</b>	Gold medal in Commonwealth Games	Boxing	Inspector
<b>Bharat Chikara</b>	Bronze medal in Asian Games and Silver medal in Commonwealth Games	Hockey	Inspector
<b>Abhinav Lohan</b>	Silver medal in Asian Games	Golf	Sub-Inspector
<b>Anil Kumar</b>	Two silver medals in Asian Games	Sailor	Sub-Inspector
<b>Balraj Yadav</b>	Silver medal in Asian Games	Sailor	Sub-Inspector
<b>Kavita Goyat</b>	Bronze medal in Asian Games	Boxing	Sub-Inspector
<b>Mausam Khatri</b>	Bronze medal in Asian Games	Wrestling (96kg)	Sub-Inspector
<b>Manoj</b>	Silver medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling	Sub-Inspector
<b>Joginder Kumar</b>	Silver medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling (120kg)	Sub-Inspector
<b>Babita</b>	Silver medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling (55kg)	Sub-Inspector
<b>Suman Kundu</b>	Bronze medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling (63 kg)	Sub-Inspector
<b>Anil Kumar</b>	Bronze medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling (55kg)	Sub-Inspector
<b>Dharmendra Dalal</b>	Bronze medal in Commonwealth Games	Wrestling (120 kg Greco-Roman)	Sub-Inspector
<b>Deepak Sharma</b>	Silver medal in Commonwealth Games	Shooting	Sub-Inspector
<b>Dilbagh Singh</b>	Bronze medal in Commonwealth Games	Boxing (69 kg)	Sub-Inspector
<b>Prashant Karmarkar</b>	Commonwealth Games	Swimming (Para-Olympic)	Sub-Inspector

# Sports as a career: Govt shows the way

Hefty cash awards and guarantee of government jobs are motivating sportspersons to opt for sports as a full-time profession

Saurabh Duggal

It's almost a decade when Haryana introduced cash awards for the medal winners at national and international level sports events. Since the Sydney Olympics (2000), the cash awards offered by Haryana have been the highest in the country, including the central government's cash awards. Hefty cash awards have played a crucial role in motivating numerous youngsters to take up sports as a career and do the country proud. Many other states have followed the Haryana way.

Besides the cash awards, the recruitment of sportspersons in the state police force has also inclined the youngsters to take up sports seriously. Now, with the Hooda government revisiting the sports policy and widening the ambit of jobs for outstanding sportspersons by throwing open portals of all departments, boards and corporations, more and more players are striving hard to excel and shine in sports.

The 19-year-old pugilist from Bhiwani, Vikas Krishan Yadav, was aiming for the post of DSP since the day boxer Vijender Singh was made DSP for winning the Olympic bronze medal. And within three years of conceiving the dream of donning the khaki, Vikas has been able to fulfill it. He was recently given the job of DSP for winning gold in the Asian Games held in China in November last year.

"I don't know whether my son would have become a DSP or not if he had given priority to his studies. But I can say for sure that at any cost he wouldn't have become a DSP at the age of 19 and it's only boxing because of which he has been offered the job at this age. He has really made me proud and I am eagerly waiting for the day when he will don the police uniform

and I will salute him," said Vikas Krishan's father, Krishan Kumar Yadav.

Vikas won the boxing gold after Dinko Singh's 1998 Bangkok exploit and at 18, he became the youngest-ever to win an Asian Games boxing gold.

Vikas is not the only example of a sportsperson being offered the job of DSP directly. Boxer Paramjeet Samota (also from Bhiwani), who won gold in the Commonwealth Games and bronze in the Asian Games, was also offered the same job in the police force.

"It is yet to sink in that in the next couple of months I will be wearing the DSP's uniform. For me, it's a dream come true," said Samota.

The Haryana government has recently offered the jobs of five DSPs, 18 inspectors and 14 sub-inspectors to the state sportspersons for winning medals in Commonwealth and Asian Games. The already recruited sportspersons in the Haryana Police, who also brought glory in the Asian Games and Commonwealth Games games, have appreciated this. However, they feel that the government should



**Vikas Krishan Yadav has recently been given the job of DSP for winning gold in the Asian Games held in China last year**



**"It is yet to sink in that in the next couple of months I will be wearing the DSP's uniform. For me, it's a dream come true."**

-Paramjeet Samota, Boxer

also have given promotions to them in lieu of their good showing in the games.

Earlier (from 2008 to 2010), the Haryana Police had recruited numerous sportspersons, including 12 at the post of direct DSP, four at the post of direct inspector and 31 at the post of sub-inspector.

"Now every state sportsperson wants to be a DSP in the Haryana Police. For that, he or she is putting hours and hours of hard work in the playing field, so that one day he can win glory for the country and a job in the police force for himself," said Arjuna awardee wrestler Rajinder Singh. The Olympian wrestler is SSP at Madhuban Police Training Academy.

"During 2000 Olympics the

announcement of cash award of Rs 1 crore for the gold medal winner motivated a number of sportspersons to join sports with a mission of excelling in it. And now the post of DSP for winning gold in the Asian Games or any medal in Olympics, would surely see many from the state striving hard to bring glory to the country," added Rajinder Singh.

In the last five years, there has been a sudden rise in the number of trainees thronging the coaching centres in the state. "Now every trainee coming to the centre wants to win a medal for the country. And if you ask him his next target, it is to become an officer in the police force. This is how the incentives from the state government have motivated the sportspersons," said Haryana Sports Department's boxing coach, Vishnu Bhagwan, who is posted in Bhiwnai. Samota started the sport under his guidance. ■



**"Now every state sportsperson wants to be a DSP in the Haryana Police. For that, he or she is putting hours and hours of hard work in the playing field, so that one day he can win glory for the country and a job in the police force for himself."**

-Rajinder Singh, Wrestler



# Handicap is no barrier

Para-swimmer Karmakar has been offered job of sub-inspector in Haryana Police

Showing a gesture of equality, Haryana Chief Minister Bhopinder Singh Hooda has offered a job of sub-inspector in the state police force to para-swimmer Prasanta Karmakar for winning a bronze medal in the 2010 Commonwealth Games. He was placed third in the 50m freestyle event.

Karmakar (30) became the first-ever para-athlete (physical handicapped sportsperson) in the state and probably the first one in the country to be inducted in the forces despite his physical handicap.

"Firstly, the Haryana Government motivated us by giving us cash award for the Commonwealth Games and Para Asian Games at par with the general athletes and now again they have done a favour to us by considering para-athletes fit for the police job," said Karmakar. "Haryana has opened a new door for us, and hopefully in the future, more and more para-athletes will do the country proud and get government jobs," he added.

Earlier, the Haryana government had decided not to include the para-

athletes for the Haryana Police jobs, but as para-sports for Elite Athletes with a Disability is very much part of the Commonwealth Games and the medals won in the para-sports' category are included in the main medal tally of the games, so the government changed its decision and considered Karmakar for the job.

Karmakar, who originally hails from West Bengal, shifted his base to Haryana seven years ago. After winning the medal in the CWG, he openly announced that he was proud to be a Haryanvi, more than a Bengali. "Haryana has given me everything- from name, fame and money to job security. I owe all my accomplishments to the state," said Karmakar.

Within a span of seven years, Karmakar has won a number of medals for the state at the national level, and has regularly donned the Tricolour in the international arena.

Karmakar lost his right arm when he was only seven, picked up the sport at the age of 16, and went on to win about 40 international medals. And not that his kitty has stopped bulging.



# Catching **them** young

Haryana is the first state in the country to implement a talent hunt programme Sports and Physical Aptitude Test (SPAT) for all students in the age group of eight to 19 years to choose promising players

Swati Sethi

With a view to grooming young budding players, the Haryana Government is running a unique talent hunt programme, Play 4 India Sports and Physical Aptitude Test (SPAT). This programme which was started by the government in 2010 is not only attracting sports talent in the state but has become a matter of discussion and study among other states also.

SPAT is a series of seven physical tests designed to measure agility, flexibility, endurance and strength of a player. The main objective of this test is to help aspiring athletes in the age group of 8-19 years to have a measurable indicator of their fitness level and sporting aptitude. Differential analysis of one's SPAT

score also gives a fair idea of one's suitability for a particular game.

Fitness is the core of this campaign and the additional advantage is that if an individual qualifies with more

**It is a very good platform for all the aspiring sportspersons of the state. Anyone who qualifies SPAT over six times out of 12 (8-19 years) will be considered for class-II and class-III posts.**

-Bhupinder Singh Hooda  
Chief Minister

than 75 per cent in SPAT, he or she gets a grant from the Haryana Government.

## GRANT OF SCHOLARSHIP

Under this programme, those in the age group of 8 to 14 years get a scholarship of Rs 1,500 per month and those in the age group of 15 to 19 years are given a scholarship of Rs 2,000 per month. The validity of SPAT score for grant of scholarship is limited to one financial year.

Haryana is the first state to implement such a talent hunt programme (SPAT) to choose promising players through a scientific approach. This scheme is giving opportunity to thousands of young children of the state to opt sports as a career.

"It is a very good platform for all



### Three fundamentals of Play for India-SPAT programme:

- **Catch them young:** Identify talented players at an early age and help them in developing into top-rung players in games of their liking.
- **‘Conditional Cash Transfer’ model:** Money passed on conditionally to the target person to enable him to organise things on his own.
- **Stake for good behaviour:** Award of scholarship is contingent on practice for 22 days and abstinence from drug and delinquency.

the aspiring sportspersons of the state. Anyone who qualifies SPAT over six times out of 12 (8-19 years) will be considered for class-II and class-III posts. Those who qualify SPAT six times will get first claim over vacancies in police constabulary or equivalent rank where physical fitness is important,” said Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda. This would encourage many boys and girls from the state to take to sports and stay away from drug and disruptive social behavior, a condition laid down for SPAT, he added.

An amount of Rs 9.51 crore has been given as scholarship to about 5,000 promising players under this programme. This makes Haryana the first state in the country to give such an incentive. Under SPAT-2011, 7.50 lakh players were registered online and 25 lakh players participated in SPAT-2011.

Besides scholarship, the SPAT qualifiers are given kits, equipment, coaching and access to playgrounds throughout the state. Participants are free to choose their games on their own and get opportunities to compete in grassroots competitions.

#### SPAT 2010

Started in 2010, SPAT drew a huge

response. Over 80,000 students applied for the test which was conducted in two rounds. More than 46,000 students turned up for the test, out of which 5,162 participants scoring over 75 per cent qualified for the second round. As many as 1,606 students scoring 75 per cent in the second round were selected for the scholarship.

Out of the total selected students, 88 per cent of the qualifiers were boys and 12 per cent were girls. While 71 per cent participants were in the age group of 8-14 years, 29 per cent were in the age group of 15-19 years. Bhiwani, Rohtak, Sonipat and Hisar counted for 988 out of 1,606 qualifiers.

#### ANALYSIS OF SPAT, 2010

Three per cent participants scored

over 75 per cent in SPAT 2010. 55 per cent scored less than 45 per cent. 12 per cent of qualifiers were girls. 29 per cent of qualifiers were from 15-19 years age group. Two-thirds of qualifiers were from four districts--Bhiwani, Rohtak, Hisar and Sonipat, marking a skewed distribution of playing population.

#### SPAT 2011

SPAT 2011 also got a huge response. A total of 7,60,000 students applied online in 10 days. 31 per cent of online applicants were girls. Panchkula, Bhiwani, Hisar and Sonipat districts showed the maximum participation. Applicants showed more interest in athletics, kho-kho, cricket, badminton and football. ■

#### Seven tests conducted under SPAT:

Discipline	Significance
30 metre flying	Tests speed
Standing broad jump	Tests strength of the lower portion of body
Vertical jump	Tests the explosive power such as strength and speed
Forward bend & reach	Tests flexibility
6X10 shuttle	Tests agility
Medicine ball put	Tests shoulder strength
800 metre race	Tests endurance

Source: Haryana Sports Department and Youth Affairs

# Fund to fuel ambitions

The Haryana Sports Development Fund will provide financial aid to outstanding sportspersons, both active as well as retired

Ruchi Sharma

The Haryana Government is determined to do its best for its shining sports stars who have brought international glory for the state. Process has been set in motion for setting up the Haryana Sports Development Fund with a corpus of Rs 5 crore for the welfare of all outstanding, active or retired, and needy sportspersons. This Fund will provide financial assistance, aid, grants, medical help and training facilities to them. It will also revive fading traditional sports.

The Haryana Sports Development Fund is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. It is applicable to all regular Haryana sportspersons and outstanding players registered with the coaching centres of the Sports and Youth Affairs Department of Haryana.

## BROAD OBJECTIVES

The fund will introduce measures to provide benefits to the outstanding sportspersons, domiciled in Haryana, on matters not covered by the government policy in force. They would be given financial assistance, aid, grants, medical help, training facilities etc.

It will provide financial assistance and devise institutional mechanism for the rehabilitation of sportspersons who are covered under the provisions of Haryana Sports Development Fund. The eligible sportspersons would include retired and relocated sportspersons. All needy sportspersons who are deemed fit by the governing body will be provided financial help.

The sources of the fund will include subscription fees from sportspersons, voluntary contribution from the public and private sector, recurring and non-recurring grants made by the state government or Government of India, individual contribution and any other contribution which is not barred by any law.

Efforts are on to get exemption from Income Tax Department for the donations or subscriptions made to the Fund.

## GOVERNING BODY

The governing body of the fund, consisting of a chairman, vice-chairman and other office bearers/members, will take policy decisions and monitor control of the Haryana Sports Development Fund.

The governing body comprises the Chief Minister of Haryana as chairman and Minister of Sports & Youth Affairs as Vice-Chairman; Financial Commissioner and Principal Secretary (FCPS) of Department of Sports & Youth Affairs as Member Secretary; and among other members are (FCPS) of Finance Department, FCPS of Industries Department, President of Haryana Olympic Association, Director of Department of Sports & Youth Affairs and two outstanding sportspersons nominated by the Chairman. The term of office of the members of the governing body will be coterminous with their office in the government.

The Haryana Sports Development Fund will have its bank account in any scheduled bank. The whole money collected under rule 14 of the

Fund will be deposited in the bank account. The financial power to utilise its funds would be vested in the chairman of the Fund. However, he may delegate the powers to any member of the governing body for smooth functioning of the Fund.

An estimate of the annual income and expenditure of the Fund for the ensuing year will be prepared and passed by the governing body and submitted every year to the governing body. The fund would be audited by a qualified chartered accountant. The state government may frame rules to carry out the purpose of the Haryana Sports Development Fund effectively and



efficiently.

Under the Haryana Sports Development Fund, the person who is covered in rule 2(e) & (f) of the Fund may seek financial assistance on written request in the prescribed format. The request of the person will be processed by the office. The Fund, however, can take suo motu cognizance in exceptional cases.

#### ENTITLEMENT

An eligible applicant should be a bona fide resident of Haryana, an outstanding sportsperson as defined by the Department of Sports & Youth Affairs, Haryana, medal winner at the state level or a participant at the

national and international level event in need of special training/ participating in an event abroad and a qualifier of the Sports & Physical Aptitude Test (SPAT).

The Fund has to be utilised for the stated purpose by the beneficiary. He or she has to submit utilisation certificate with the months of the receipt of fund to the Haryana Sports Development Fund.

With this initiative of the Hooda Government, many problems of Haryana's active and former sportspersons who made the state proud with their sterling performances will be addressed. ■

**The fund will introduce measures to provide benefits to the outstanding sportspersons, domiciled in Haryana. They would be given financial assistance, aid, grants, medical help and training facilities**



*All smiles: From left-Geeta Phogat, Krishna Punia and Anita*



# PYKKA: Out to tap grassroots talent

Sports is being promoted at the grassroots level to create a conducive sporting environment in the rural areas

Ruchi Sharma

Deepening and widening the seedbed of sporting talent in villages, the Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abiyan (PYKKA) is yielding successful results in Haryana. A Central Government initiative, PYKKA takes care of the sports talent at the grassroots level. Haryana is actively implementing

this programme since 2008-09. The state has 6,190 villages and 119 blocks. At the rate of 619 villages and 12 blocks a year, 1,857 villages and 36 blocks have been covered so far.

The main aim of the programme is to make available the basic sporting facilities to ruralites of Haryana, and give talented young athletes in the countryside opportunities to build a career in sports on the strength of

their performance. The basic network of sports infrastructure has been created throughout the state so as to provide universal access to sports in rural areas.

The sports equipment is procured through Director, Supply & Disposal, Haryana. All formalities are observed to ensure that quality instruments are procured at lowest rate. The concerned DPEs



**Haryana is actively implementing PYKKA since 2008. The state has 6,190 villages and 119 blocks. At the rate of 619 villages and 12 blocks a year, 1,857 villages and 36 blocks have been covered so far**

(demonstrator in physical education) or PTIs (physical training instructors) have been appointed Krida Shris and are paid honorariums.

Under the centrally sponsored scheme, the state government shares 25 per cent of the project cost. With 10 per cent of the villages per year, the programme is aiming to cover the entire state in a period of 10 years. Fund-flow is in the form of capital, acquisition, operational and competition grants.

In order to reach out to all corners of the state, villages and blocks from all over Haryana are selected. The villages are selected on the basis of size of population and level of participation in sports.

### PROVIDING EQUIPMENT

Most of the villages in the state covered under the programme have playgrounds in schools and village level PYKKA centres. As these playgrounds are in good condition and have boundary walls, so capital grants have been utilised to install non-consumable sports equipment, like basketball pole; wrestling, judo and kabaddi mats; football and volleyball poles etc, in them.

PYKKA is involved in activities like development of playground in villages and blocks at a cost of Rs 1 and Rs 5 lakh, respectively; organisation of sports activities through Krida Shris, volunteers who are paid honorarium of Rs 500 in villages and Rs 1,000 at block level; holding of competitions at block, district and national level for under 16 years boys and girls and Women Sports Festival at block, district, state and national level.

In PYKKA, boys and girls less than 16 years of age, participate in games like athletics, judo, wrestling, boxing, volleyball, handball, basketball, football, hockey and kabaddi. In Women Sports Festival, women participate in games like athletics, kho-kho, swimming, badminton, handball, basketball, gymnastics, tennis, hockey, table tennis, volleyball and kabaddi.

Competitions are organised at block, district and state level where young boys and girls take part in large numbers. The participation level in these competitions has been growing at a phenomenal rate. For

example, compared to 76,000 in 2009-10, PYKKA and Women Sports Festival attracted over 1,31,000 participants in 2010-11.

The state has been participating enthusiastically in National Rural Tournaments (PYKKA and Women Sports Festival). In 2010-11, the state was declared runner-up at national level. Going by the size of the state, it is a spectacular achievement.

The programme has raised the level of recreational physical activity and improved fitness standards of players in rural Haryana. It has improved the overall health of people and reduced burden on health infrastructure. Wider talent pool and heightened competition has also raised the country's sporting standard and helped in rectifying an anomaly – a developed country at the bottom when it comes to international sporting events. A four-tier implementation structure has been created at state, district, block and village level. The state level implementation authority is headed by the Minister of State for Sports & Youth Affairs and has the Sports Department's officials as members.

At district level, the committee is headed by deputy commissioner, block development officers at block level and principal of the beneficiary school/sarpanch of the beneficiary village at village level. People's representatives like sarpanches, MLAs, and MPs are being given representation in the appropriate implementation authority.

### IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY

Coaches have been appointed Block Sports Officers with the responsibility of supervising the implementation of PYKKA and department's schemes in the block area.

Wider participation in sports is vital to nation building as it gives people a common identity by rising above the barriers of caste, class, religion, language, region and ethnicity. Through sports promotion endeavors under PYKKA, the Government has been able to reach out to all vulnerable constituents of the society – youth, women and weaker sections-- in rural areas and achieve goals of inclusive and equitable governance. ■

# Ways and means back-up

The state government is doing its best to provide excellent sports infrastructure to enable sportspersons to hone their skills



Ruchi Sharma

**D**etermined to make Haryana a sports power, the state government, led by Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, has built a network of state-level infrastructure, spanning villages and towns, to tap young talent and groom them into future players. The 450-strong network includes stadia in villages, blocks and districts.

As many as 257 sports stadia of four acre each, dot the villages. There are 188 block-level stadiums measuring 6.5 acres each with playing facilities in ten games. A total of 21

stadiums are located at the district level, covering an area of 30 acres each.

For hockey players, there are four hockey astro-turfs located at Sirsa, Rai, Shahabad and Gurgaon and three synthetic athletic tracks for athletes at Rohtak, Panchkula and Hisar.

## **RAJIV GANDHI KHEL PARISARS**

As many as 188 Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Khel Parisars (110 are ready and players are using them for practice and competitive events) are being constructed in an area of 6.5 acres each which have facilities of 10 popular games. For the construction

on each stadium, an amount ranging from Rs 40-70 lakh is being spent. These are funded by Haryana Rural Development Fund and constructed by Haryana State Agricultural Marketing Board. Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Khel Parisars have a boundary wall, stage, athletic track, football playground, volleyball and basketball courts and a multipurpose hall.

All playgrounds and training centres are well equipped as the Sports Department purchases all consumable as well as non-consumable equipment through Director, Supplies & Disposal, Haryana. Capital grants under

Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) are also being utilised to procure equipment required for the PYKKA Centres.

The state encourages mass participation in sports through mass contact programmes round the year. Sports Day is celebrated with much fanfare. Marathons are organised on days like 2nd October, Children's Day and *Basant Panchami* in order to attract people towards sports. All international achievements are celebrated with gaiety; successful players are honoured in state-level functions.

'Play for India', the state's flagship sports promotion programme, has motivated millions of boys and girls to take up sports. Arjuna, Dronacharya and Dhyanchand Awardees are given honorarium of Rs 5,000 a month. Bhim Awards are given to six players every year for their achievements in sports in the preceding three years.

Day-boarding centres, residential nurseries, wings and academies are being run by the Sports Department's coaches to train players aspiring for a career in sports. Ten Regional Sports Development Centres are being set up to host coaching camps for talented players and 'Training of Trainers' programme for coaches.

Sports and Physical Aptitude Test (SPAT) qualifiers and medal winners at day-boarding centres are getting scholarships, coaching, sports equipment and competitive opportunities.

There are 11 residential nurseries where 233 players are being groomed. Admission to these nurseries is open

S.No.Venue	Sports	Strength	
		Boys	Girls
1. Government College Hostel, Hisar	Athletics	15	-
2. Government College Hostel, Hisar	Judo	25	-
3. Village Umra, Hisar	Wrestling	25	-
4. Gurukul Matindu, Sonipat	Cricket	25	-
5. C R Z S S School, Sonipat	Hockey	15	-
6. Govt College, Gurukul, Jhajjar	Wrestling	10	-
7. Bhiwani Stadium	Athletics	25	-
8. Tau Devi Lal Stadium, Panchkula	Athletics	18	-
9. R P Sr Sec School, Khairkhan, Sirsa	Judo	0	25
10. R P Sr Sec School, Khairkhan, Sirsa	Hockey	0	25
11. Cricket Nursery, Faridabad	Cricket	25	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>183</b>	<b>50</b>

to SPAT qualifiers and medal winners at state level and participants at national level in the age group of 8-14 years. They continue to be in nurseries till they turn 19. They get diet money @ Rs 150 per day, sports kits, equipment, coaching and opportunities to play in grassroots tournaments.

#### DAILY REFRESHMENT

Under Wing Scheme, medal winners at state level and participants at national level competitions are given coaching by department's coaches and refreshment at a cost of Rs 60 per day for six months. In 2010-11, as many as 1,689 state level medal winners and participants at national level got cash benefits of Rs 60 per day for six months as refreshment money at 114 Wing Centres.

The programme has been adapted in 2011-12 to make it more effective. In order to make it substantive, the

scheme has been extended for entire year and rate has been revised to Rs 1,500 per month for junior players and Rs 2,000 for senior ones.

In order to stem transition losses, it has been decided to transfer the money directly into beneficiaries' account provided they attend the practice for 22 days in a month and abstain from drug and delinquency. Those training at day-boarding academies will be given Rs 2,000 per month. Those in residential academies also get the diet money.

The state government is spending huge money in the construction, maintenance and modernisation of sports infrastructure and on many schemes initiated for the promotion of sports talent. The relentless efforts of the government have proved to be fruitful as its sport stars have shown their potential in big international sports events and brought glory to the country. ■

#### Expenditure incurred on sports infrastructure by the Sports Department since 2004-05 Rs (In lakhs)

S.N. Particulars	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
1 Grant-in-aid Council for construction of sports infrastructure	148.54	106				108.5	
2 Maintenance of playfields (non-plan)		1.84	2.5			1.89	5
3 Sports complex scheme	18.95	106.9					
4 Modernisation of infrastructure scheme	69.99	94.99					
5 Grant-in-aid to stadium committee							
6 Infrastructure scheme			371.25	650	995	647.6	441.3
7 2204-Sports & Youth Services -(Plan)-789- Special Component for Schedule Caste-99 Infrastructure Scheme for Scheduled Caste				150	83.79		160
<b>Total</b>	<b>237.48</b>	<b>309.7</b>	<b>372.75</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>1079</b>	<b>757.9</b>	<b>606.3</b>

# Cheer up, football players!

Haryana is setting up first football academy at Gurgaon to produce world-class players and boost the sport at national and global level

Manpreet Kaur Sidhu

Haryana has become the bastion of boxing, wrestling and athletics; and now, it will produce world-class footballers. After showing its supremacy in the Commonwealth Games, Haryana is ready to promote the game of football by establishing its first Football Academy at Gurgaon. This academy is set to roll out. For this purpose, MDH Masala Company has provided financial assistance. So the young boys of Haryana, who aspire to become renowned footballers like Pele, Ronaldo, Cristiano and our own Baichung Bhutia, will now be able to fulfill their dreams.

The President of Haryana Football Association and Member of Parliament, Mr Deepender Singh Hooda, said that 31 players up to 20 years of age, had been selected for training at this academy. These players would be provided all the facilities of diet, education, medical assistance, sports uniform etc. free of cost. The MDH Company has agreed to provide a total

amount of Rs 82 lakh as financial assistance to the academy for three years--Rs 25 lakh for the first year, Rs 27 lakh for the second year and Rs 30 lakh for the third year. Mr Deepender Hooda said that efforts would be made to seek the cooperation of other companies also for the promotion of football in the state.

## EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RANKING

There is no doubt that India's performance in football is not up to the level it should be. The latest FIFA World Rankings released by the world football governing body show that India dropped two places to be at 147th rank amongst the 208 ranked nations and territories.

The Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, said that the second football academy will be set up at Rohtak. Four divisions - Gurgaon, Rohtak, Ambala and Hisar- will be developed as football nurseries. Mr Hooda said that football ranking of India had come down during the past

few years. "It will be our endeavour to give adequate training to promising football players, so that they may earn a good name for the state and the country in national and international tournaments", he added.

Gurgaon's academy will nurture state's football talent and will provide a challenging, sporting environment to develop the player's physical and mental capabilities. The purpose of the academy is to inculcate sporting values like discipline, team work, health, and respect in the players and to enable them to meet all challenges with confidence.

Mr Deepender Hooda said that Haryana was the first state in the country, where under-21 and under-16 national football tournaments were organised in the rural areas. Santosh Trophy and other tournaments were also organised successfully in the state.

It is hoped that with the setting up of football academies in the state, good footballers will be produced and India's international ranking, which is constantly coming down, would improve. ■



# PRIs get muscles

Annual grant of Rs 50 lakh, decision-making powers, and lot more for panchayats

Haryana Review Bureau

Lending decision-making and financial muscle to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and ensuring maximum involvement of people in developmental projects, the Haryana Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, has said that each panchayat samiti will be given an annual grant of Rs 50 lakh.

Now, all funds or grants-in-aid under all schemes shall be transferred directly to the bank accounts of gram panchayats. They would be able to grant administrative approval for all works to be undertaken under various schemes, except those under HRDF, without any limit.

## DRDA CHAIRPERSON

Also, now instead of deputy commissioner, president of zila parishad would be chairperson of the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA). Members of the Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti would have the right to inspect the developmental works within their wards, and the engineering wing of the Panchayati Raj Department would work under the panchayats.

The Chief Minister said that all funds or grants-in-aid under all schemes like HRDF, pavement of streets, surcharge on VAT, "Mukhya Mantri Anusuchit Jati Nirmal Basti Yojana", Special Development Works, State Finance Commission Funds and Central Finance Commission Funds would be transferred directly to the bank accounts of gram panchayats through the real time gross settlement system. Earlier, the funds used to be given through deputy commissioners or additional deputy commissioners.

"The Gram Panchayat would have the discretion to either execute the work itself, directly or through a local contractor, or entrust it to the Panchayati Raj Engineering Wing for works estimated up to Rs 10 lakh. In case of works estimated above Rs 10 lakh, the Gram Panchayat would get



*A gram panchayat in session*

these executed through the Panchayati Raj engineering wing, which might get the work executed either departmentally, or through a contractual agency by inviting tenders", Mr Hooda said.

The state government is keen on making gram panchayats vibrant units of democracy so that these could become focal centres of power and delivery. "We have taken this step to realize the dream of the Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi and vision of former Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. PRIs had a special place in Rajiv Gandhi's vision of modern India and this decision would go a long way in strengthening the devolution of financial and administrative powers to Gram Panchayats", Mr Hooda added.

## COLLECTIVE DECISION-MAKING

The decisions of panchayats would be taken collectively and whichever work is to be taken up, would be decided by the Gram Panchayat by passing a resolution. It would not be the sole right of the sarpanch and the panches and the Gram Panchayat would be

involved.

Bank accounts would be opened in the name of Gram Panchayats with three authorized operators namely, sarpanch, gram sachiv and block development and panchayat officer (BDPO) or social education and panchayat officer (SEPO). In normal circumstances, sarpanch and gram sachiv would operate the account jointly, but in case of some complaint of misutilisation or misappropriation of funds, the DC would be able to issue directions that the accounts be operated jointly by Gram Sachiv and BDPO or SEPO.

Mr Hooda said that third party inspection of the works would be got conducted through engineering students of government universities, government engineering colleges and polytechnics under the supervision of competent staff of these institutions. The students would also be paid stipend or fee for the same.

Workshops would be organized by the respective deputy commissioner at district level to sensitize and orient the elected and official functionaries about their duties. ■

# Anxieties allayed

NPCIL reaches out to people to address their concerns over N-plants

Haryana Review Bureau

With a view to dispelling fears of people opposed to the nuclear power plants, the Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL) has come out with a set of responses to the issues raised by Sanjha Manch, a body of social activists and farmers whose land has been or is being acquired for setting up nuclear power plants in Haryana. The Manch had recently raised several issues related to the safety aspects of the nuclear plants through a questionnaire submitted to the NPCIL's office in Hisar, and had also distributed pamphlets among the people to generate awareness.

While most of the issues raised by the Manch pertained to the nuclear accident in Japan and the status of nuclear projects in US and France, many others related to the security aspects of Indian installations. This is how the NPCIL responded to the

**With a view to dispelling fears of people opposed to the nuclear power plants, the Nuclear Power Corporation of India has come out with a set of responses to the issues raised by Sanjha Manch**

queries and issues raised by the Sanjha Manch.

**ISSUE: Even though adequate resources and time were available, the four reactors of Japan could not be controlled.**

**RESPONSE:** In Fukushima, the reactors were shut down promptly as per design and the fission reaction was terminated. However, the decay heat in the fuel (which is about 2 per cent full power shortly within 90 seconds of shutdown), needs to be removed over a long time by supplying cooling water to ensure integrity of the fuel.

At the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, the electrical power supply from grid was lost consequent to tsunami. The diesel generators which provide back-up power in such cases started as expected, and fed the emergency power for decay heat removal from the core, but got disabled after about one hour due to tsunami. Due to the extreme devastation caused first by the earthquake, then by tsunami, the backup resources required to control the situation could not be sent to the plant.

In Haryana, such extreme calamities (quake followed by tsunami) are unlikely to occur given the large distance from the nearest sea-coast. The lessons learnt from the Japan incidents will be factored into all our future projects, including the Gorakhpur project. The NPCIL's emergency planning will take into account such rare scenarios.

It may be noted here that Indian reactors are provided with several passive safety features which will not require external resources to control emergencies. In all our existing plants, all equipment for back-up power supply and for providing continuous cooling, have been located much above the postulated flood levels. So will be the provision in new plants.

There was no nuclear explosion at any of the nuclear power plants in Japan. The explosions reported in unit-1, 2 and 3 had been due to chemical explosion which took place from the generation of hydrogen, and hydrogen being inflammable caught fire. The fire/explosion reported in unit-4 was also due to the hydrogen



generated from the fuel pool in the reactor building.

The radiation releases from the plant have been largely localised and people living within a radius of 20 km and those in 20-30 km radius were advised to stay indoors, and evacuated as per emergency procedures. Not a single death has occurred due to the reactor incident whereas thousands were killed or wounded by the earthquake and tsunami.

**ISSUE: After 1994, America has not set up a single nuclear reactor. On the contrary, it has cancelled 98 reactors.**

**RESPONSE:** Nuclear energy provides 19.6 per cent of US electricity and is its No. 1 source of emission-free electricity. The USA has 104 nuclear reactors providing almost 20 per cent of its electricity. There have been 17 licence applications for building 26 new nuclear reactors since mid-2007, following several regulatory initiatives, paving the way for new orders.

Extension of reactor lifetime from 40 to 60 years is enhancing the economic competitiveness of plants, while both ownership and operation of these is becoming concentrated. Both government and industry envisage significant new nuclear capacity by 2020.

More than 5,800 MW of power uprates have been approved in America since 1977. That is the equivalent of adding another five to six nuclear reactors. Today's plants have significantly better safety provisions and equipment than the earlier ones.

The USA has not expanded its nuclear energy facilities purely because of economic reasons and the demand-supply considerations. The increased demand has been met with the operation of existing nuclear plants at higher capacity factors, and extension of the existing plant life.

A significant achievement of the US nuclear power industry over the last 20 years has been the increase in operating efficiency with improved maintenance. This has resulted in increased capacity factor (output proportion of their nominal full-power capacity), which has gone up from 56.3 per cent in 1980 and 66 per cent in 1990, to 91.1 per cent in 2008.

## Jobs for kins of farmers

Govt issues 129 letters in lieu of land acquired



*The Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, giving appointment letter to an eligible member of a farmer's family*

Taking one more lead at the national level, the Haryana Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, has handed appointment letters to 129 eligible members of farmers' families whose lands were acquired for Rajiv Gandhi Thermal Power Plant, Khedar in district Hisar. The jobs have been given to the eligible persons on the basis of their educational qualifications for employment in Power Utilities.

Under the policy, all those affected families, whose two acres or more of land was acquired for power project, have been provided employment. Depending upon their educational qualifications, appointment letters for the post of Upper Division Clerk have been given to 11 candidates, of Lower Division Clerk to 14 candidates, Technician and Foreman-II to two candidates each, Plant Attendant to one, of Peon to 71 candidates and 18 candidates have been given appointment letters of T-Mates. Besides, 10 candidates, who were below 18 years of age, have been given firm assurance that they would be appointed after attaining the age of 18 years.

While giving slogan of 'Uchit Muavaza

Aur Rozgaar, Kissan Hitaishi Haryana Sarkar', Mr Hooda announced that one member of each family, whose land would be acquired for power projects in the state, would be given employment in the government sector. It is perhaps for the first time that a state government has recruited one member of such affected families to the government service.

Describing the issuance of appointment letters as a historical step, the Chief Minister expressed confidence that the policy would also be followed at the national level. Mr Hooda said that he was a son of a farmer, so he understood farmers' concerns. "I know that the land holdings are getting smaller day by day and not all persons can be provided government jobs. The government has framed a roadmap so that every person can get a job", he added.

"Power is the wheel of development. The earlier Governments had acquired the Khedar land in 1998, but it was Congress Government which started the Khedar power project in 2007 and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh laid its foundation stone," he said.

**ISSUE: In France, where 70 per cent electricity is produced by nuclear technology, there is a public outcry against extension of the reactors' life and nuclear waste disposal.**

**RESPONSE:** There are 58 nuclear power reactors in 19 plants currently operating in France, providing nearly four-fifth of its energy needs. France is the world's second-largest producer of nuclear power. Some years ago, Europe was severely affected by an unprecedented oil and gas crisis, but France was not that adversely affected because of its reliance on nuclear power as the dominant energy resource.

There are no reports of resistance to the use of nuclear power in France. There were protests in some European countries whose nuclear waste is processed in France. Usually, such protests are triggered by lack of awareness regarding scientific facts and authentic information. Overall, France as a nation relies heavily on nuclear energy.

India is pursuing a three-stage closed fuel cycle nuclear programme in which spent fuel of the first stage (pressurised heavy water reactor—PHWR) and light water reactors (LWRs) based on international cooperation, are used to fuel the second stage. Therefore, for us, spent fuel is a resource, not waste.

**ISSUE: Powers vouch for the safety of nuclear technology using computer technology but still, hackers hijacked the computers of Iran's nuclear installations.**

**RESPONSE:** Reactor computer systems are not connected to the internet, so the risk of hacking and incapacitating the safety systems does not exist. Over and above, certain passive safety systems of our reactors do not rely on computer signals to get activated.

We cannot comment on how a particular computer system was hacked into. We can only assure you that our computer systems are very safe and secure. The systems are tested and validated on a regular basis and several protective barriers are provided to prevent any unauthorised access.

**Sanjha Manch is a body of social activists and farmers, including those whose land has been or is being acquired, for setting up a nuclear power plant**

**ISSUE: Australia, the world's leading uranium producer, has not installed a single nuclear reactor yet.**

**RESPONSE:** Australia's population is a fraction of India's, and its demand for electricity is lower than ours. It is blessed with abundant coal reserves—high-quality, low-ash coal. It does not need to explore alternative resources like nuclear energy. In contrast, India is not rich in energy resources and we need to explore and tap all available alternatives, including coal, diesel, gas, nuclear and renewable resources, to meet our growing electricity needs.

**ISSUE: Finland has rejected the safety technology of Areva Company of France, but the Indian Government is persisting with this technology.**

**RESPONSE:** The technology developed by Areva is Generation 3+ technology. These reactors have advanced safety features. The technology has not been rejected by Finland. The construction of Areva reactors is going on. Certain suggestions were made by experts in Finland, and Areva has incorporated them. These suggestions/modifications have been incorporated in our reactors, too. Indian expert agencies are continually reviewing the technology, and, if there are any safety gaps, additional modifications shall certainly be made.

**ISSUE: The nuclear energy is claimed to be safe but the corporate world in America is raising a hue and cry against the stipulated accident liability**

**amount.**

**RESPONSE:** The hue and cry is not because of lack of confidence in the safety of nuclear plants. The Nuclear Liability Act of India has laid down stringent terms on civil liability for nuclear damage, and we should be happy about it rather than dissect the reasons for "their" discontentment. The Act proposes operator liability who, in turn, can legally sue the supplier.

Since the suppliers of some plants will be foreign companies, they are disturbed; particularly the suppliers of small items and components who feel that their liability amount could exceed the cost of the supplied item several times over if they were to be sued by the operator (NPCIL in case of India). They expect a clarification on the maximum liability that could be imposed upon them.

**ISSUE: In 2003, employees at Kalpakkam died due to valve failure.**

**RESPONSE:** There is no incident on record to reveal death due to valve failure at Kalpakkam in 2003 or at any other point of time.

**ISSUE: Each reactor is provided with a cooling plant, still Madras and Rajasthan plants are being operated for the last 20 years without high pressure cooling system.**

**RESPONSE:** The design of a nuclear plant evolves with time and experience. Several modifications have been made in our plants at various points of their operating timeline. The inputs for these modifications come from current operating experience, incidents, anomalies, accidents, availability of new technology, etc.

As we gain more experience and evolve new technologies, we make our plants better, safer and economical. High pressure emergency core cooling system is an additional safety feature. Retrofitting of emergency core cooling system was done at some plants for providing additional safety.

That does not imply that the earlier systems did not provide the requisite safety cover. The added systems have merely enhanced safety of the plants. ■

# INDEPENDENCE DAY SPECIAL

## The debt of gratitude

Haryana Govt reaches out to freedom fighters with aid and help

Haryana Review Bureau

If we are today able to breathe in fresh air of Independent India, the credit goes to the great leaders and freedom fighters, who made the supreme sacrifice for our better future. While leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Bhagat Singh and Chander Shekhar Azad struggled to get independence in their own manner at the national level, there were thousands of people, who fought against the British regime in every corner of the country.

Haryana has its own share of freedom fighters, who helped India gain independence through their continuous fight against the British regime. It is impossible to repay the debt we owe to the freedom fighters, we can at least express our gratitude to them by doing some small things for them, most of who are in the dusk years of their lives.

### BUDGET OUTLAY UP

The Haryana Government, led by the Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, has taken several steps towards increasing the financial help given to the freedom fighters. The state government has increased the budget from Rs 34.8 crore to Rs 53.1 crore for the welfare of serving soldiers, ex-servicemen and their dependents. The pension of freedom fighters and their widows has been increased from Rs 1,525 to Rs 11,000 per month.

Financial help to freedom fighters and members of the INA for the marriage of their daughters/sisters has been increased from Rs 10,000 to Rs 51,000. Now, their granddaughters too, have been included in the scheme. On the death of a freedom fighter, the process of giving the Guard of Honour has been initiated.

In order to perform the last rites of freedom fighters, their relatives are



*Memorial to freedom fighters in Rohtak*

given Rs 5,000 now, instead of Rs 1,500 earlier. After the death of a freedom fighter or his widow, pension is given to the unemployed unmarried daughters and handicapped unemployed and unmarried sons. The norm of handicap has been kept at 75 per cent. In case there is more than one aspirant, the pension will be equally divided.

Three per cent horizontal reservation has been made for the dependents of freedom fighters and ex-servicemen for admission in various educational and vocational courses.

### RESERVATION IN HOUSING

Two per cent reservation has been made for freedom fighters and their dependents in up to six-marla plots offered by municipalities and Urban Improvement Trusts under various housing schemes.

Instructions have been issued to

provide health services and medicines at the doorstep of freedom fighters. Grandsons and granddaughters of freedom fighters will be given monthly scholarship on the pattern of SC and BC students.

Scholarships and fee concession are given to the grandsons and granddaughters of freedom fighters studying in educational institutions.

The names of freedom fighters or martyrs are written on the boards of schools located in their respective villages. Earlier, only freedom fighters and their widows were issued identity cards. Now, this facility is given to their sons and daughters also.

The Haryana Urban Local Government Department and the Department of Panchayats have been given instructions to ensure cleanliness and upkeep of the statues of martyrs and freedom fighters. ■

# Mute spectators to freedom struggle

*Rohnat Well near Hansi, Hisar district*



Rajwanti Mann

**F**orts, buildings, monuments and sites describe history along with written and verbal records. These mute spectators became the centres of activities in Haryana during the freedom struggle and witnessed the supreme sacrifices made by the freedom fighters and common people for independence.

Ambala Cantonment was established in 1843 after the abandonment of Karnal cantonment in 1841. The station of Ambala went through a painful situation. Commander-in-Chief had ordered the assemblage of all military detachments of north western provinces at Ambala to learn the use of enfield rifles. In February 1857, officers started receiving complaints from their men regarding alleged adulteration of grease used for the cartridges. The Indian sepoys feared exclusion from caste on returning from their regiments if they used these cartridges. These affairs assumed a serious note with the

incidents of fires at various places in the cantonment. European barracks were burnt down, a police station was fired and buildings at Musketry Depot were targeted.

On the early morning of May 10, 1857, the 5th and 60th regiments of Native Infantry took up the arms. Several sepoys of the 5th Native Infantry stationed at Ambala who had joined the rebels in inciting the people were hanged. "Tardy punishment in thus being dealt out to 5th Native Infantry and there is perhaps no more mutinous regiment than this in the Bengal Army", reported Capt HR James to Secretary to Govt of India on 5th June 1857. Ambala cantonment has the pride of being a torchbearer of the First War of India's Independence. The decision of the Haryana Government to build a memorial at Ambala is a befitting tribute to the countless martyrs who laid their lives for the country.

Kanaud Fort, named after the Kanaudia group of Brahmins, was

founded by Malik Mahmud Khan, a servant of Babar. It remained a pargana of Narnaul under Mughal Emperors and in the beginning of the 18th century, it was conquered by a Thakur of Jaipur. In 1792, Scindia's General, De Boigne sent a force under Perren and consequently it became a feudatory of Scindia. In 1803, the territory was taken over by British and gifted to Nawab of Jhajjar. The Nawab rose against the British in 1857 by defying their authority. After the revolt, the territories of Nawab were confiscated.

Brigadier Showers detached a squadron of 6th Dragon Guards and Hodson's Force to Kanaud under Colonel Custance to obtain possession of the fort, treasure, guns and arms before it could be occupied by the rebels. Fourteen guns and Rs 7 lakh were obtained from the fort. The territory was granted to Maharaja of Patiala with all rights in lieu of Rs 19.4 lakh. Fort of Kanaud was known as Mohindragarh and contained the headquarters offices of Mohindragarh Nizamat and tehsil till the formation of Mahendragarh as one of the districts of Haryana. Older people still call it Kanaud.

**Nagori Gate:** Hisar witnessed a fierce fight which took place between the rebel forces of more than 2000 villagers, many sepoys of Haryana Light Infantry and 400 *sawaars* of irregular cavalry led by Shahzada Muhammad Azeem and British forces led by Lt Mildmay on 19th August 1857. The fight left 300 persons dead on the field and an equal number of wounded persons. Numerous corpses were marked on the way up to 3 miles and a large number of bodies were left in the open ground at the back of the Kutchery. Mr Wedderburn, the collector of Hisar, was shot in this very Kutchery.

**Ballabgarh fort:** The buildings, forts and monuments around Delhi got the severest punishment; they were demolished by the British so that these could not be used again to fight against

the mighty empire. The king of Ballabgarh, Raja Nahar Singh, rose against the British and stood with Bahadur Shah Zafar. He sent a detachment of cavalry, deputed an agent, managed the road between Delhi and Ballabgarh and assisted him with sepoys and supplies. After the defeat, the British hanged the king and confiscated his territory. The fort of Ballabgarh, barring the palace, was damaged and destroyed so that it could neither serve the purpose of protection and security nor as a meeting ground for the Indian rebels. The Haryana Government in 2003 restored the palace and it has been converted into a tourist resort with facilities of guest rooms, a restaurant and a bar. The Jama Masjid of Ballabgarh built by Raja Nahar for his Muslim brethren in front of the fort has been lost in the busy market, but it is still used as a mosque.

**Jhajjar Fort:** Fort of Nawab Abdhur Rehman Khan, ruler of Jhajjar, was also destroyed completely during 1858. The Nawab was hanged in front of Red Fort and his body was consigned to the ignominy of nameless pit for revolting against the British. All his territories were confiscated and afterwards conferred to Rajas of Patiala, Nabha and Jind for their loyal services. Although no part of Jhajjar fort exists today, yet the tombs of nawabs are still there, though in bad shape. The same treatment was given to forts of Farrukhnagar, Dadri and Rania.

**Rohnat Well:** Rohnat is almost 8 km from Hansi. On 29th May 1857, the forces of Nawab of Jhajjar and Dadri reached Hansi. These were joined by native soldiers and local people. They attacked British forces and killed 11 British. The British forces attacked Tosham and Rohnat with huge cavalry and guns. The rebels put up a severe fight and forced the British to flee.

But the natives were attacked again and despite giving a tough fight, the native rebels were defeated and 133 persons were hanged. The proprietary rights of several villages were forfeited and heavy fines were levied. Rohnat village, Jamalpur Hajimpur, Mangali and other villages were put on fire and destroyed completely. It is said that the women took along their children and jumped into the well to save themselves.

**Grand Trunk Road:** On the night of 5th July 1857, a large body of mutineers, artillery, cavalry and



Kutchery, Hisar

infantry visited Alipur. A force with 12 guns and 1,200 men under Major Coke attacked at daylight and defeated the rebels and about a hundred bodies were left on the ground. There were severe fights between the British and the rebels at Lursowly, Lawaspur, Bhagpat and Alipur along the Grand Trunk Road. A large number of rebels lost their lives in these fights. The Jind troops were on toes to assist British forces to safeguard the Grand Trunk Road from Karnal to Delhi and Patiala troops were deputed to protect it up to Karnal.

**Lal Sarak, Hansi:** The ancient town of Hansi was almost completely depopulated in the famine of 1783. In 1798, George Thomas, an Irish adventurer, occupied the territory. He remodelled and strengthened Hansi's ruined fort and repaired defensive wall of the city. The fort of Hansi was surrendered to the British in 1801 and they established a military cantonment at Hansi. James Skinner with his troops of Indian Cavalry stayed in the cantonment from 1809-1814.

In 1857, the Indian soldiers revolted. The troops were joined by civil population. They broke the district jail, released prisoners, plundered and destroyed European bungalows and seized treasury. In order to curb the revolt, a general massacre was carried out. The rebels were caught from villages and brought to Hansi and they were crushed under road roller on the road that passes through middle of Hansi. The road became red with the blood of the martyrs. Still the road is known as Lal Sarak, Hansi.

**Nishat Talkies:** In 1942, the movement to liberate the country was

gaining momentum. On August 16, 1942, during the matinee show at Nishat Talkies, Ambala Cantonment, a number of posters printed in Hindi exhorting government servants to be disloyal to the British were distributed among the audience.

The contents of the poster '*Azadi ka Morcha*' read as, "Labour leads to emancipation. Your labour is making you slave. English say that they have purchased you on a loaf of bread. This is lie. The money which is given to you is the money of the poor Indian's hard labour. If you are doing government work you may carry it, but do wrong instead of right through which the roots of government be weakened. If the government orders you to march to the east, you should not obey this order, but march to the west. Burn up the secret and valuable records of the government and create unrest in the work."

The proprietor of Nishat Talkies was held responsible for this act. In order to trace out the source, the house and shop named Khaddar Bhandar, Ambala Cantt, of Kali Charan was searched and handwritten as well as carbon copies of the poster were recovered. Kali Charan was arrested. The same posters were distributed amongst British soldiers on August 23, 1942 in Cecil Hotel Ambala Cantt. Shanti Swarup who was an active member of this task evaded his arrest.

All these above mute spectators remind us of the sacrifices made by our martyrs for achieving independence of the country. Really hard earned! ■

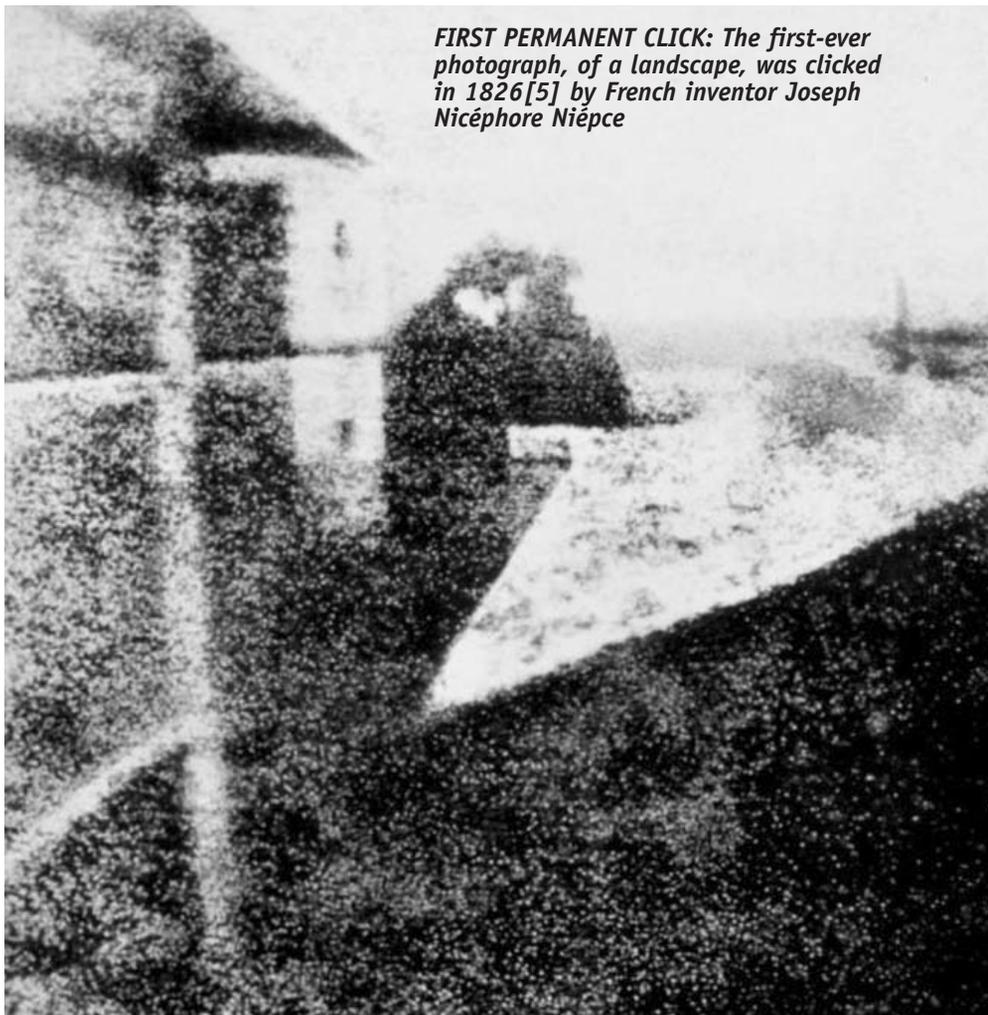
*The writer is Deputy Director, Department of Archives, Haryana*

Subhash Sapru

Digital technology has brought about revolutionary changes in photography, but over the years, the basic concept of this form of expression and art has remained unchanged. This revolution has come so fast and with such manifestation that as compared to the days of conventional film cameras, more people today hold cameras to aim and shoot images. With the World Photography Day coming up on August 19, it is time to go into the issue and list some do's and don'ts for young photo-enthusiasts.

Globally, there are prescribed categories of images, and each is governed by rules whether to make alterations or not, or only do cropping, straightening and sharpening to make the visual look natural. The unaware lot and those who do not enter images in exhibitions conducted by prominent photographic organisations, often tend to ignore these rules, knowingly or unknowingly.

The social networking sites that offer photo uploading facility provide adequate space to upload images and share them with others. Once these are uploaded, many enthusiasts wait for comments like "Wow", "Superb", "What a shot". More often than not,



**FIRST PERMANENT CLICK:** *The first-ever photograph, of a landscape, was clicked in 1826[5] by French inventor Joseph Nicéphore Niépce*

# PHOTOGRAPHY: *Some do's and don'ts*

The World Photography Day is being celebrated on August 19

most of the comments on such images make false appreciation or criticism. The contribution made by digital technology and social networking sites in motivating people to make images notwithstanding, a class of photo-enthusiasts has come up which has no knowledge about the basic principles of photography.

A photo-enthusiast must get to know the basics of composition and categories of photographs. Random and meaningless clicking won't do.

There have been instances of images of travel category being unduly altered by some of the so-called "professionals": they would uproot a tree and replant it at the place of their choice to enhance a travel image. Little do they realise that this would not only mislead the viewers about a travel destination, but also betray their ignorance about the basic principles of travel photography.

Once I was invited by an educational institute to deliver a talk

on "How to appreciate a photograph". This simple question defies a short and pithy answer. Basically, there are two categories of images, one in which the reality cannot be altered; and the other is of "altered reality". Unless we do not know of which category the image is and what are its basic principles, we cannot do justice to the image in making a true appraisal. But personal choices do matter.

Alterations are not allowed in



images of three categories; Photojournalism, Travel and Nature. This rule is followed all over the world. The images of photojournalism should have informative content and emotional impact, including human interest, documentary, sports and spot news. In the interest of credibility, photojournalism images must not misrepresent the truth.

No situation should be contrived for the purpose of photography, and no alteration of subject matter should be allowed, including any techniques that add, combine, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image. No unnatural sharpening or special effect filters should be applied. Only cropping, resizing, lightening or darkening and restoration of original colours are permitted.

However, colour images can be converted to monochrome. Human Interest is defined as an image depicting a person or persons in an

## FIP plans to honour Homai Vyarwala

The Federation of Indian Photography (FIP) plans to honour Homai Vyarwala, India's first woman photojournalist, as she turns 99 on August 15, 2011.

Sanjay Kumar, President of the Haryana chapter of the FIP, said, "Born in 1913 in a Parsi family in Mumbai, Vyarwala moved to Delhi in 1942, the year when Mahatma Gandhi gave the historic 'Quit India' call."

Over the next 35 years, she chronicled important events in the post-Independence India, like the first flag hoisting ceremony at the Red Fort on 15 August, 1947, and the funerals of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri. Her sensitive camera also captured Dalai Lama's Sikkim visit in 1956, he added.

Vyarwala gave up photography in 1970. The FIP also plans to put up an exhibition of some 275 pictures taken by her during her eventful career.

interactive, emotional or unusual situation, excluding sports action. Photo travel images have no geographical limitations. A photo travel image should express the feeling of a time and place and portray a land, its people, or a culture in its natural state. Ultra close-ups, which lose their identity and studio-type model shoots do not fall in this category. Techniques that add to, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted.

### MAKE CHANGES LOOK NATURAL

Techniques that enhance presentation of the image without changing the photo travel content are permitted. All adjustments must appear natural. Nature photography depicts living, untamed animals and uncultivated plants in a natural habitat, geology and wide diversity of natural phenomena ranging from insects to icebergs.

Photographs of domesticated animals, caged or under any form of restraint, and of cultivated plants, are ineligible. Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable for nature subjects. Any manipulation or modification in the original image should be limited to minor retouching of blemishes and must not alter the content of the original scene. No techniques that add to, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements

except by cropping, are permitted.

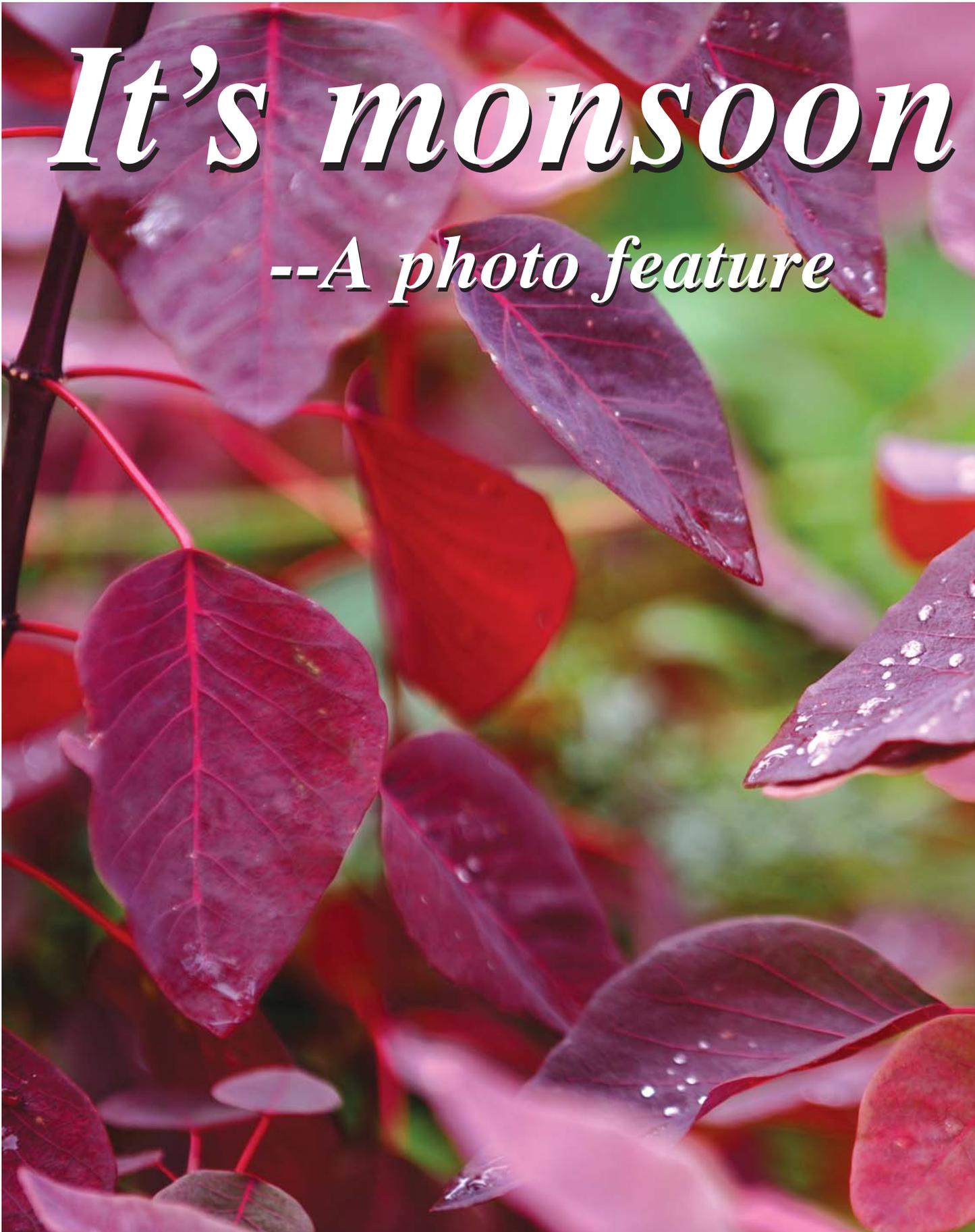
Nature photography is restricted to the use of photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well informed person will be able to identify the subject material. The presence of scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals is permissible. Photographs of artificially produced hybrid plants or animals, mounted specimens, or obviously set arrangements are ineligible. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing their nature, are permitted, but all adjustments must appear natural.

We also have categories like pictorial photography where reality is altered to enhance the overall impact of an image. One is free to experiment with his skill of 'photoshopography'. As compared to the dark room, photoshop has made it easy for photo-enthusiasts to make alterations in images and people spend hours sitting on computers and playing with various elements. There are others, who still believe that photoshop should be used to the minimum possible. ■

*The writer is an Associate of  
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India International Photographic  
Council*

# *It's monsoon*

*--A photo feature*



# *time*





*Droplets on leaf shine like pearls*



*Trees and plants blossom in rain*





*The unguarded and the guarded*



*Paddy transplant in full swing*



*Gush of water after heavy rain*





# Teej: It's time for *swings & dance*

Anjana Datta

**E**xhilarating and rejuvenating everyone, the monsoon showers (*Sawan*) bring the much needed relief to the people from the scorching summer heat. The whole atmosphere comes alive with loud cheers and exclamations –Rain, Rain! *Sawan* holds special meaning for the damsels in north India who take recourse to dancing and swinging in

the rain and celebrate the festival of Teej with the tinkle of glass bangles and exchange of pleasantries and gifts.

Teej – the festival of rain that falls in the month of July-August, heralds the onset of monsoon. Popularly known as '*Sawan*' festival, Teej is deeply rooted in the Indian religious and cultural ethos. This festival is dedicated to the divine couple – Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati.

According to a legend, Goddess Parvati went through severe penance and took 107 births to appease Lord Shiva to have him as her husband. It was in her 108th birth that Lord Shiva realised her devotion and love for him and accepted her as his wife on this day. Teej is celebrated to commemorate the divine union of Goddess Parvati with Lord Shiva. It is said Goddess Parvati proclaimed this moment to be highly auspicious

for womenfolk and said that whoever invokes her on this day will be blessed with a happy married life.

### TYPES OF TEEJ FESTIVAL

There are three types of Teej festival being celebrated in India-(i) Haryali Teej- It falls on the Tritya of Shukla Paksha in the month of Shravana i.e. in July. On this day, women worship moon with milk, curd and flowers; (ii) Kajari Teej- It falls on Tritya of Krishan Paksha of the month of Shravan. Women sing, dance and perform pooja of the neem tree which is considered very auspicious. It is primarily celebrated in Bundi, a small district of Rajasthan; and (iii) Hartalika Teej- It falls on the third day of the first fortnight of the month of Bhadra i.e. in September.

Haryali Teej as the name suggests, spells greenery. It signifies good harvest and abundance. It's celebrated in a grand way in the ancient 'Banke Bihari' temple of Varindavan where thousands of devotees congregate to worship Lord Krishna and Radha every year.

Teej is traditionally celebrated every year with much gusto and fervour by womenfolk of northern India where it is a three-day affair. The main celebrations are held in Rajasthan, Haryana and Bihar where it is celebrated just like Karva Chauth. As Goddess Parvati reunited with Lord Shiva in the month of Shravan after a penance of several hundred years, womenfolk observe 'Nirjala Vrat' symbolic to the penance of Goddess Parvati for the wellbeing and longevity of their husband. Like *Karva Chauth*, they have lavish food before the onset of dawn and keep fast throughout the day for their husbands.

In an attempt to revive the Haryanvi culture, the Haryana Kala Parishad ropes in leading folk artists of the state to perform on the occasion. Special Teej celebrations are held at venues like Haryana Raj Bhawan at Chandigarh or Myna, a tourist resort in Rohtak, where folk artists hold the gathering spellbound with their performances. Devotional folk songs accompanied by mellifluous sounds of instruments and resounding drumbeats give a flying start to the festival. People witness the festival in an atmosphere

of bonhomie and camaraderie irrespective of their class, caste and creed.

For women, Teej festival is synonymous with rustling silk and chiffon saris with exotic brocades and matching jewellery. Teej is also a time to splurge. As the Teej mania grips the womenfolk, they excessively indulge in shopping to their heart's content. Notwithstanding the high prices and shrinking purchasing power, women celebrate the festival with much fanfare.

"Teej festival has a special significance for women," says Aarti from Panchkula. "It is a time when all women of the family come together to celebrate this festival. We have a family tradition by which the older women give gifts to the younger ones on the occasion. It's symbolic of good wishes and concern for them," she adds.

### BONANZA FOR SHOPKEEPERS

The season is also a bonanza for the shopkeepers who, too, don't want to lag behind in making the most of the festival. Come Teej and it is time to spruce up their shops. The market is flooded with all kinds of things women would find irresistible to buy. The popular purchase items, especially among the young and newly-wed girls, are green bangles, henna, make-up kits, fascinating ethnic dresses, sweets and a lot of gift items. Women dress up in rich and bright green, red or yellow attires and wear fine jewellery to look their best for the occasion. They decorate their hands and feet with fascinating intricate designs of henna.

Teej means a flurry of activity in the house. An aura of sacredness pervades all activities. The days are marked by performing special *poojas* of Goddess Parvati and Vat Vriksha, an auspicious tree. Women offer fruits and special dishes like 'ghewar' – a popular sweet dish of Haryana, Malpue and Kheer to the goddess and her blessings are sought for the good health and long life of their husbands. Idol worship is followed by singing of ritualistic and colourful devotional songs of Goddess Parvati, swinging and dancing in the rain in the shade of tall trees, amidst the gentle cooing and chirping of birds.

"Like *Karva Chauth*, Teej is also one of my favourite festivals. It

means a lot to me," remarks Neela of Panchkula. "It begins with cleaning the *pooja* room and decorating the idol of Goddess Parvati. Then we make all kinds of offerings to the goddess, followed by merry-making activities like singing, swinging and dancing in the rain. The weather is also excellent. And, there is a feeling of merriment in the air," she exclaims with excitement.

### TRADITIONAL PROCESSION

A special Teej procession is organised during the day in which the bedecked idol of Goddess Parvati is kept on a palanquin and carried out in the city throughout the day followed by performing artists showing their spectacular and magnificent skills. People flock to the streets and wait for hours to have a glimpse of Goddess Parvati.

After the procession, the idol of Goddess Parvati returns to its place. Women offer fruits, flowers and other holy items to the goddess amidst chanting of Vrat Katha in the evening and conclude their Vrat. They light the oil lamp and keep it alighted throughout the night.

Teej is celebrated with enthusiasm in rural areas as well as in urban areas of Haryana; but in cities it is celebrated with a modern touch. "Teej festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion by all women of the Inner Wheel Club," says Sunaina Sachdeva of Gurgaon. "We plan Teej festivities several days in advance. The three-day-festival is a heady mix of art and culture. We throw in fun-filled activities like a tambola or some other surprise gift items to cater to the emerging class of elites," she elaborates further.

The three-day festival concludes with the return of women to their husband's home when they come to pick them up with special gifts for commemorating the divine event when Goddess Parvati also left her parental home to reunite with Lord Shiva on this day. The festivity which marks the beginning of monsoon, acquires a range of meanings- seeped in tradition and religious sentiments on the day the devout women evoke divine power for year-long wellbeing, happiness and prosperity of their spouses. ■

*The writer is a freelance journalist*

# King of fruits ascends the throne

20th Mango Mela at Yadvindra Gardens in Pinjore a big draw

Swati Sethi

Come summer and it is time to savour mangoes. Succulent, fleshy, and sweet, this seasonal fruit adds flavour to the otherwise sultry, long and hot summers. Keeping the popular sentiment in mind, Haryana Tourism, the Department of Information, Public Relations and Cultural Affairs and the Horticulture Department jointly celebrate the festival of king of fruits -

-Mango Mela- every year. The main purpose of the mela is to encourage the farmers to adopt the latest technology in order to increase their production, productivity and quality of mangoes, so that they may get maximum return from their produce, even with their limited holdings, by tapping the domestic as well as international markets.

This year too, the 20th Mango Mela was organised with full fervour at

Yadvindra Gardens in Pinjore. As many as 2,592 entries of mouth-watering mangoes like Dusheri, Langra, Chausa, Bombay Green (Malda), Alfonso, Jafran, Ratol, Sepia-Shah Pasand, Ratnagiri, Kesar Surgi, Chit-Chor, Fazli, Roshan Tarbek, Majnu ka Dil, Heer-Q, Kakdan, Nevra, Haathi Jhool, Pahada, Malika, Amarpali, Angoor Dana, Surmedani, Totapari, organic mango, Sipia, Sazma Puri, Kakdan, Sorex and many pickle

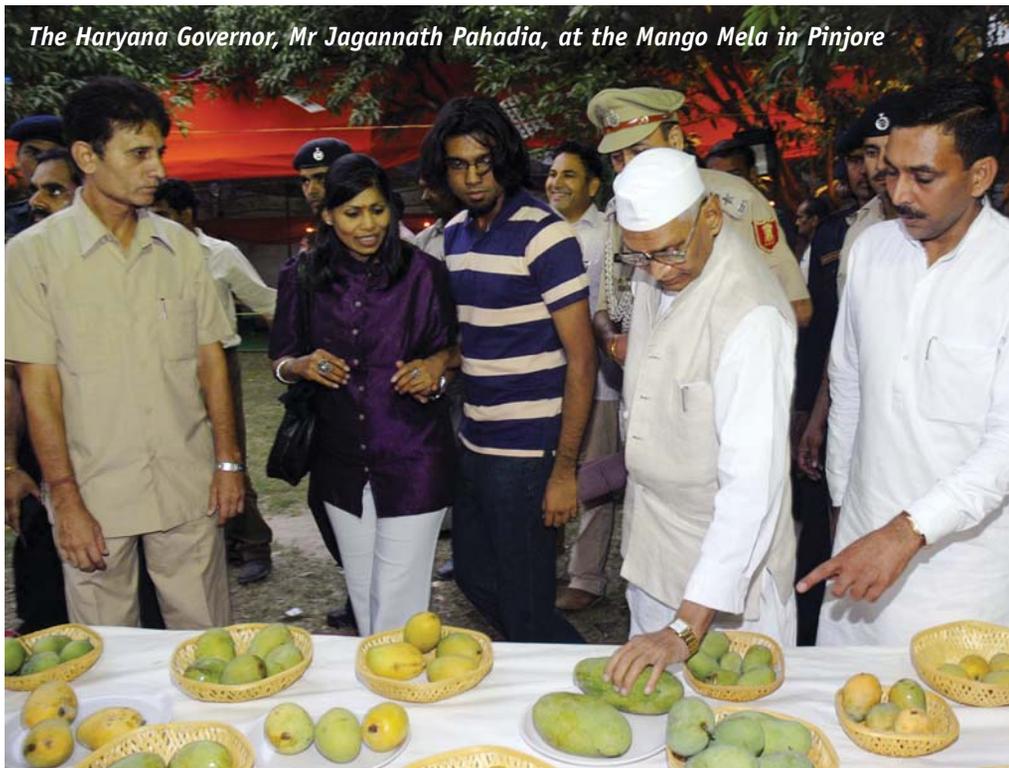


varieties from all across north India were displayed at the mela, for a grand total of 225 varieties. There were about 332 entries of mango products such as mango peda, meethi chutney, mango lachha, aam ka paana, aam papad, aam laddoo, mango candy, mango pulp, mango jam, aam ka murrabba, mango syrup, pickles and squashes.

### SHOWCASING MANGOES

Inaugurating the two-day mela, Mr Chhatar Singh, Principal Secretary to Haryana Chief Minister, said that apart from showcasing various varieties of mangoes and providing an opportunity to the visitors to see and taste those, this event helped farmers of the region to share their experiences and exchange their knowledge. The event also provided a common platform to artisans and self-help groups to display and sell their products.

In Haryana, mango occupies a



prominent place and it is grown in 25 per cent of the total area under fruit cultivation. The estimated area under mango cultivation is 9,009 hectares and production is 69,670 million tonnes. The maximum area under mango is in Yamunanagar district--5,274 hectares, followed by Ambala--1,282 hectares, Panchkula-- 921 hectares, Karnal-- 633 hectares, and Kurukshetra-- 425 hectares. The area and production during 1990-91 were 3,553 hectares and 19,900 tonnes, respectively, which have increased remarkably during 2008-09 to 9,009 hectares and 69,670 million tonnes, respectively.

### FARMERS THROG MELA

Farmers from Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh participated in the mela. Best entries were also given awards. Usman, a grower from Saharanpur, has been coming to Haryana's Mango Mela for the last four years. He has been producing over 170 varieties of the fruit, which include the premium varieties Jafran and Alfonso.

"Alfonso is basically a Maharashtrian variety produced in Ratnagiri. But I have successfully grown this variety in Uttar Pradesh by bringing saplings from Ratnagiri," said Usman.



Angoordana, another variety of mango with size of grapes is unique variety being grown by Usman. "This is used for pickles and whatever quantity I produce finds buyers outside the country. This time I sold my Angoordana mangoes in China for Rs 400 per kg," he added.

"I have 25 varieties of mangoes. I have been producing mangoes for the last 10 years. This year, the mango crop has fallen victim to the climate change. Nearly 80 per cent of the mango crop has been destroyed due to change in climate," said Rakesh, a farmer from Yamunanagar.

Vanraj Organic Foods, a producer of organic food products, has been producing organic mangoes in villages of Karnal and Yamunanagar. A subsidiary of Dharani group, Vanraj Organic Foods is producing several





other food products like wheat, rice, mustard seed/oil, barley, maize, gram, moong, urad, rajmah, soybean, fruits (mango, apple, kinnow), vegetables (seasonal), medicinal property plants (amla, aloe vera), oil flowers and spices with the help of over 65 farmers.

Bhupinder Yadav, Director, Horticulture Department, Panchkula, told *Haryana Review*, "The organic foods produced by Vanraj are free from pesticide, chemical fertilisers and are planted in natural way. He said that the average production of mangoes by the Vanraj Organic Foods is about 2,000 metric tonnes per annum. The Amarapali and Sepia-shah Pasand varieties produced by the group are liked very much by mango lovers. The Dusheri and Gulab Jamun varieties of mangoes produced by the group sell for Rs 500 per pack of 12 kg."

Haryana Governor, Mr Jagannath Pahadia, was the chief guest of the closing ceremony of the event. He urged the farmers to popularise the commercial importance of mango so that India could get a pride of place in production and export of mango. Pahadia appreciated the efforts being made to improve the standard of

**In order to enthrall the tourists and to make the mela more attractive, various competitions like rangoli, face painting, painting, fancy dress, mehndi, and mango eating competition were held during the two-day event**

tourism in Haryana. He lauded the efforts of Haryana Tourism for maintaining the ancient Mughal Gardens with sustained conservation work to make it a major tourist destination.

**PROMOTING TOURISM**

He said that the state had benefited immensely by these kinds of efforts to promote tourism. Events like Mango Mela had popularised Haryana not only in other parts of India but even abroad. He especially appreciated the concept of rural tourism and involvement of self-help groups in various activities for promotion of tourism in the state.

At the closing ceremony, there was an Odissi Dance performance by Dona Ganguli, wife of former Indian cricket team captain Saurav Ganguli, who enthralled the audience with her classical dance moves.

In order to enthrall the tourists and to make the mela more attractive, various competitions like rangoli, face painting, painting, fancy dress, mehndi, and mango eating competition were held during the two-day event. Various cultural dances and programmes like Haryanvi dance, Punjabi Bhangra, Kachhi Ghori of Rajasthan, Puppet Show-Jaipur, Dhol Nagara-Hodel, Banchari Been Sapera-Rajasthan, Long Man Bamboo Walker-Delhi and Bioscope-Delhi were performed by artists to entertain visitors.

Besides, there was a food bazaar to serve different varieties of cuisine to the visitors. In order to ensure good quality of snacks and other food items, the food stalls were set up by the Institute of Hotel Management, Kurukshetra, Institute of Hotel Management, Panipat, Imperial Institute of Hotel Management, Manimajra, Rayat Bahra Institute of Hotel Management and Fort Ramgarh Institute of Hotel Management. ■

# THE MONTH THAT WAS

## CM tightens the noose

### Orders payment of interest for the delay in disbursement of old-age pension

Taking a serious view of the delay in disbursement of old-age allowance, the Haryana Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda has issued directions that interest for four months at the rate of savings account, along with the pending pension amount, be paid to the beneficiaries. The date of disbursement will be fixed soon.

Directions to this effect have been issued to Deputy Commissioners to ensure that the pending pension, along with interest, is disbursed to the beneficiaries at the earliest. In order to ensure that only eligible beneficiaries get the old-age allowance, registration centres will be set up at the block level.

Mr Hooda disclosed that so far about 13 lakh bank accounts had been opened and integrated while accounts of about 4.5 lakh beneficiaries of various social security pensions were still to be integrated.

Mr Hooda stressed the need for effective implementation of new public delivery mechanism, and issued directions that people should be made aware of it. Display boards on all the 15 services under the mechanism and other details should be prepared and displayed at the offices of Deputy Commissioners, sub-divisions and tehsils. "It is the right of the people to get timely services, and it would help bring transparency in the system", he added.

### Make governance effective: CM tells DCs, SPs

In order to ensure effective governance in the state, the Chief Minister has directed DCs and SPs to make surprise visits to the offices of tehsils, BDPO, municipal councils, corporations and police stations so that the people could be provided with better public services.

Presiding over a meeting of Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and



Superintendents of Police (SPs) the other day, Mr Hooda reviewed the law-and-order situation in the districts, and directed a special campaign against betting and criminals.

He issued directions that the allottees of 100 sq-yard plots under the Mahatma Gandhi Gramin Basti Yojana, should get possession by August 15.

He said that the Punjab Gambling Act would be amended and made more stringent in keeping with the present needs to curb the menace of gambling and betting.

The Chief Minister directed district officers to redress public grievances daily between 11 am and 12 noon in an effective manner, and respond to public representatives and concern for the public. He also asked officers to conduct surprise inspection of jails once or twice a month.

"The DCs and SPs are the face of the government and have many responsibilities. With the devolution of powers to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), their responsibility has further increased as they would have to give more attention for the implementation of various developmental programmes in the rural areas," the Chief Minister added.

## New column in ACR proforma

In order to make the administration transparent, responsive and responsible for timely and efficient delivery of the 15 listed services to the public at large, the Haryana Government has decided to add a column in the ACR proforma of such officers/officials as are designated to do the needful, to make them accountable.

Directions to this effect have been issued in a letter addressed by the Haryana Chief Secretary, Mrs Urvashi Gulati. She stated that the additional column in the ACR would be "whether the officer/official delivers services or disposes of the case in a given time-frame? (Reply in 'Yes' or 'No')." The compliance report regarding insertion of this column in the ACR proforma should be made within 30 days, the Chief Secretary has specified.

The letter has been sent to all heads of departments, divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners, sub-divisional officers (civil), Registrar, Punjab and Haryana High Court, registrars of universities, managing directors or chief administrators of boards or corporations in Haryana.

# Haryana bags top wheat producer award



**PM Dr Manmohan Singh giving away the Best Performance State Award for Wheat to CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda at the 83rd ICAR Foundation Day function**

The Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh, has presented the 'Krishi Karman Award' to Haryana for achieving the highest productivity and production of wheat during Rabi season 2010-11. The Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, received the award at the 83rd Foundation Day function of the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR).

It is for the first time that the state has won the prestigious Best Performing State Award for wheat in the individual crops and crop groups. The award carries Rs 1

crore in cash, a citation and a trophy.

The citation appreciated the dedicated efforts made by the state in extending technological inputs and services to farmers, pioneering soil health initiatives like mapping village-level soil fertility, water management, ensuring 100 per cent treatment of certified wheat seeds and effective control of yellow rust disease. The Award has been given for exemplary work of supporting farmers of the State and for achieving highest productivity and production of wheat during Rabi 2010-11.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister called upon agricultural scientists to usher in the Second Green Revolution. He commended the hard work of farmers and said that their income must increase. Prime Minister said that investment in agricultural research and development needs to be more than doubled by 2020 to achieve the target of 280 million tonnes of foodgrains production.

Later, talking to mediapersons, the Chief Minister said that the credit for this achievement goes to the state's hard working farmers. This achievement is a record in itself, he said. Mr Hooda expressed confidence that with the use of scientific methods and modern agro-practices, the state would continue to make progress in agriculture.

Appreciating the efforts being made by the Agriculture department for providing technical assistance and services to the farmers, Mr Hooda said that the production and productivity of wheat had increased in the state due to extension of technological inputs and services to the farmers, soil health initiatives, water management, cent per cent treatment of certified wheat seeds and effective control of yellow rust disease. With the use of scientific methods and modern agro practices, Haryana would continue to make progress in agriculture.

## Good news for ad hoc govt employees

Living up to the image of being pro-employees, the Haryana Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda, has announced the decision of the state government to regularize the services of group 'B', 'C' and 'D' employees working on ad hoc/ contract/ work-charged/daily wages and part-time basis.

The decision was taken by the Haryana Cabinet, which met under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister, on Wednesday. The decision would benefit a large number of employees, including 3,000 in group 'B' alone.

The services of group 'B', 'C' and 'D' employees will be regularized subject to the condition that an

employee should have been working for not less than ten years as on April 10, 2006, and is still in service but not under the cover of orders of any court or tribunal, against duly sanctioned vacant posts.

The period of continuous break in such service should not be more than one month, and the employee must possess the minimum prescribed qualifications for the post on the date of appointment.

The Cabinet also decided to amend its dynamic Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy-2010. It has been decided to fix the minimum floor rate (MFR) of Rs 25 lakh per acre for the area situated within the final development plan of Faridabad-Ballabgarh Controlled Areas-2011, and the areas situated within the area of development plans of Bahadurgarh, Rohtak, Rewari,

Dharuhera, Bawal and Panipat towns, excluding the areas forming part of the notified limits of Faridabad Municipal Corporation.

In another decision, the Cabinet approved the draft of the ordinance to amend Haryana Ceiling on Land Holding Act, 1972 to exclude the land put to or proposed to be put to non-agricultural use by adding clauses under the heading "Act not apply to certain lands" in section 5 of the said Act providing for exemption in respect of such lands.

Besides, the Cabinet approved the draft of the Haryana Legislative Assembly (Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members) Second Amendment Bill, 2011, to double the salary of members of the Legislative Assembly from Rs 10,000 to Rs 20,000 per month with effect from April 1, 2011.

## Haryana puts land acquisition on hold

Keeping in view the likely introduction of a bill on Land Acquisition in the coming session of Parliament, Haryana Chief Minister Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda ordered that recent matters of land acquisition in the state be kept on hold till the outcome of the Central legislation.

"In all matters of land acquisition in respect of which Section 4 notifications have been issued in last six months or so (on or after February 1, 2011), notification under section 6 would be issued after seeing the outcome of the Central legislation," an official spokesman said.

However, these instructions would not be applicable to cases of land acquisition for essential infrastructure projects such as roads, sewerage system, canals, water channels, drainage system and power projects, he added.

The spokesman said that Financial Commissioner and Principal Secretary, Revenue, Haryana had been asked to issue necessary instructions accordingly to all concerned.

He said that a number of notifications under section 4 of the Act had been issued by the state government in the recent past. Since the provisions of the new land acquisition bill would have implications on land acquisition matters, the Chief Minister found it desirable to wait for the outcome of the new legislation before proceeding further in these cases of land acquisition.

## Funds earmarked for NCR

Haryana has earmarked Rs 716.76 crore for the projects to be funded jointly by National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) and the State Government in the current financial year for the orderly development of area situated in close proximity to the Nation's Capital, New Delhi.

Haryana Chief Secretary, Mrs Urvashi Gulati, reviewed the progress of the completed and ongoing schemes funded by the National Capital Region

## Record decline in MMR

A sharp decline of 17.74 per cent in Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has been registered in Haryana as a result of various healthcare facilities being provided free of cost to the pregnant women by the state government to promote institutional deliveries.

"As per the data released by the Registrar General of India, the MMR in Haryana had come down from 186 in 2004-05 to 153 per one lakh live births in 2009-10 as compared to national average of 212. The MMR in Haryana is far better as compared to neighbouring states of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Punjab where it stood at 359, 318 and 172 respectively," said Rao Narender Singh, Health Minister, Haryana.

A target to reduce MMR to the level of 109 by 2015 had been set in the country. Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Kerala had already achieved this target and Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Gujarat were nearing the target, he added.

The Health Minister said that while taking cue from the schemes of maternal and infant care being implemented by the state government, the Central government had launched Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram. It was launched by Mrs Sonia Gandhi, UPA Chairperson from Mewat in Haryana on June 1, 2011. The maternal and



Rao Narender Singh

child care schemes being implemented in Haryana had yielded positive results and institutional deliveries in the state had improved considerably. A total of 74 per cent institutional deliveries were recorded in the state in 2010 as compared to 49 per cent in 2006 and 53.7 per cent in 2007 and 59 per cent in 2008 and 67.03 per cent in 2009.

Rao Narender Singh pointed out that after the implementation of Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram in Haryana, the pregnant women were being provided the facility of free delivery, free drugs, free diagnostics, free diet during stay in hospital, free blood, if needed, free transport from home to health institution, besides free treatment facilities to the sick new born up to 30 days.

Planning Board. As Haryana is encompassing Nation's Capital from three sides and a large portion of the state's area is under NCR, these projects would further accelerate the pace of development in this area.

Out of total of Rs 716.76 crore earmarked for the current financial year, Rs 225 crore had been earmarked for Public Health Engineering Department, Rs 400 crore for Public Works (Building and Roads) Department, Rs 20 crore for Technical Education and Rs 71.76 crore for Medical Education and Research. The projects would be funded in the ratio of 75 and 25 by NCRPB and Haryana Government respectively.

At present, 44 schemes pertaining to various departments were being funded by NCRPB.

## HUDA makes things easy for people

Hundreds of plot allottees of the Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA) now need not run to the city, where they own a plot, in order to pay their dues.

With the launch of an e-governance service in the HUDA complex in Panchkula, allottees of HUDA will now be able to pay their dues from any location to any of the estate offices in the state, through the portal of Punjab National Bank (PNB).

The Payment Gateway and Collection of Dues was inaugurated by Mr S S Dhillon, Financial Commissioner and Principal Secretary, Town and Country Planning. ■



# A bagful of new courses

Swati Sethi

With the academic session 2011-12 just about to begin, the students in Haryana are a busy lot choosing from a myriad of options available to them. The last six years have witnessed a lot of progress in the field of higher education in Haryana. The state has a large network of universities (state, central and deemed), engineering colleges and technical institutes. Haryana has its own medical university, agriculture university and veterinary university. Every year universities start various new courses. These courses help students in shaping up their future.

Here is a list of new courses available to the students.

Established in 1976, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak has 36 departments. Over 490 institutions/colleges of general education, engineering, technology, computer sciences and management sciences located in 10 districts of the state are affiliated to this university. The university has introduced seven new courses from the session 2011-2012. These are M.Sc. (Human Genomics), M.Sc. (Clinical Biochemistry), and M.Sc. (Microbial Biotechnology) in the faculty of Life Sciences; B.Tech (Civil Engineering) and B.Tech (Electrical Engineering)

courses in the faculty of Engineering and Technology; a five year M.A. (Hons.) Integrated Public Administration in the Department of Public Administration and M.Sc. (Genomics) in the Geology Department.

Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar, has a total of 18 departments that are offering 40 regular courses. From this new academic session 2011-12, the university has started a two-year M.Com degree course under the Haryana School of Business. The total number of seats available for the course is 40. Any commerce graduate or BA with Economics or BBA with at least 50 per cent marks (45 per cent in case of SC categories) from any recognised university can apply for admission.

Chaudhary Devi Lal University in Sirsa has started entrance test for PhD programmes, as per the UGC norms, from this session. Earlier, there was no entrance test for admission in PhD programmes. The admissions were made on merit basis.

The university is providing PhD programme in 15 courses. The total number of seats in different departments is: Biotechnology (18), Business Administration (13), Chemistry (9), Commerce (16), English (8), Education (13), Energy and Environmental Sciences (15), Mathematics (2), Physics (10), Public Administration (19) Physical Education (27), Law (22), Economics (6), Computer Science and Application (4) and Food Science and Technology (4).

The state government has also affiliated all government and private colleges of Sirsa and Fatehabad districts to Chaudhary Devi Lal University (CDLU), Sirsa from this academic year. A total of 42 degree and B.Ed. colleges have been affiliated to the university.

CDLU Vice-Chancellor, Mr K C Bhardwaj, said that with the affiliation of the colleges of these two districts with Chaudhary Devi Lal University, a longstanding demand of the people of this area had been fulfilled.

### EASING THE PRESSURE

The decision, would not only ease the administrative pressure on the Kurukshetra University, but also enable the students of this area to get their results on time and they would not have to go to Kurukshetra for academic and administrative works, the VC said.

The university would make efforts to introduce a number of employment oriented courses in all these colleges from this academic session. Placement cells would also be established in these colleges so as to provide students with maximum employment opportunities.

Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science and Technology in Murthal, formerly known as Chhotu Ram State College of Engineering (CRSCE), was started in 1987 and was the first government engineering college in Haryana. In 2006, the state government upgraded it to a university. The university runs 10 undergraduate and 18 postgraduate courses. The university has started three new courses-- M. tech., Bio M.Ed. and M.Sc. in Bio Informatics--from this session. The seats for all M. Tech. courses have also been doubled from 18 to 36 from this session. ■

## First IGNOU community college at Manesar



The Haryana government has inaugurated the Indira Gandhi National Open University's (IGNOU's) Haryana Community College, Institute for Competency Advancement of Teachers (ICAT) and a new teaching block at Government Polytechnic, Manesar. The college was inaugurated by the Chief Minister, Mr Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

Under this collaboration between IGNOU and Haryana Community College, 20 new courses will soon be introduced on security, automobiles' repair, fabrication, electrical, electronics, information and communication technology, printing, garments, fire safety management, water harvesting management, tourism and hotel management, foreign language (Spanish and French), paralegal, beautician, creative writing and communication skills, construction design, transport management and conductor training, and retailing management.

However, to launch with, initially five courses have been introduced, namely Diploma in BPO, Finance and Accounting, Fire Safety, Security Management, Front Office Management and Housekeeping. These are tailor-made courses that are already certified by IGNOU.

"Keeping tab on the number of polytechnics in Haryana, the state has seen immense growth in their number. The efficiency of both teachers and students are imperative for the state's growth. We must ensure this type of mutual benefit arising from education so that the students get employment," said the Chief Minister while inaugurating the community college. He also urged to start paramedical vocational programmes in the community college.

"We started this scheme of community colleges under public initiative to chalk out a programme for skill development in the country. It is an autonomous society created by the university to provide vocational education, skill upgradation and training which will help the country to answer the problem of skill deficit," said Prof V N Rajasekharan Pillai, VC, IGNOU, during the inauguration.



# Govt stands between child and marriage

355 cases prevented in two-and-a-half years across Haryana

Ruchi Sharma

The television soap 'Balika Vadhu' depicting the problem of child marriage is not just a reel story but it is a dark reality of our society. It is unfortunate that this social evil is still prevalent in many parts of the country, Haryana being one of them. But the Haryana Government is taking concrete actions to curb this menace. In the past two and a half years, a total of 355 child marriages have been prevented by the timely interference of Protection-cum-Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (PPOs) deployed by the Women and Child Development

Department in all districts.

Despite the minimum legal age for marriage for boys and girls being 18 and 21, respectively, parents marry off their children at an early age. It is due to many beliefs and apprehensions like sexual assault to a girl, fear of her getting involved in an affair, losing an eligible bachelor etc.

## THE APPREHENSIONS

Also for a younger bridegroom, lesser amount of dowry is demanded so people marry off their little girls soon believing that a husband's house is the right place for her. Financial constraints in marrying many

daughters also compel some parents to marry off their younger daughters at young age along with the elder one to save on the cost of their marriage.

The top five districts of Haryana, with respect to number of child marriages prevented in the past two and a half years, are Sirsa (62 marriages prevented), Hisar (40), Karnal (32), Kaithal (30) and Sonapat (21). While in Faridabad no such case was registered in this period, other districts like Mewat, Panchkula and Palwal reported only one such case each. It is also important to mention that the number of child marriages prevented has increased from 2009 up

till May 2011. While 195 child marriages have been prevented alone in first five months of this year; in 2009 the number was 47 for the whole year that considerably rose to 113 in 2010.

Not only this, district Sirsa recorded the maximum number of child marriage cases reported and prevented in 2009. In 2009, the number of child marriage cases in Sirsa was 11 which rose to 25 in 2010 and 26 in 2011 (figure up to May 2011). Hisar recorded four cases in 2009 which rose to 12 in 2010 and 24 up till May 2011.

In 2009, Panipat recorded 8 such cases and only one case in 2010; but the number increased to 66 in 2011 (up till May). While in Bhiwani and Sonipat the number of cases registered in 2009 was nil, it rose to 8 and 6, respectively in 2010. The number stood at 7 and 15, respectively in 2011 (up till May). The increasing number of cases being reported indicates that people are becoming sensitive towards this issue and awareness level is rising.

### PPOs INTERVENE

Project Officer, Balwant Singh, Women and Child Development Department, said, "We have over 20 PPOs in all districts who timely intervene to stop any ongoing child marriage. Our officers organise awareness programmes four times in a month. District wise and region wise, regular meetings are held with District Commissioner, Assistant District Commissioner, Anganwari workers and sarpanches."

He added, "The recruitment of PPOs was done in Dec 2008 and they became active in 2009 after training. From our data one can analyse that the number of child marriages prohibited has increased every year. All PPOs have to undergo a lot of challenges while dealing with these sensitive cases where they are coordinate with the other staff for making apt arrangements and reaching the spot on time."

Under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006 (PCM) Act, the Department of Women & Child Development of Haryana has appointed a full time PPO on contract basis for each district. One consultant at headquarters coordinates the work of PPOs and ensures effective implementation of PCM Act in the state. PPOs effectively coordinate with the police. Special cells for women and

"We have over 20 PPOs in all districts who timely intervene to stop any ongoing child marriage. Our officers organise awareness programmes four times in a month. District wise and region wise, regular meetings are held with District Commissioner, Assistant District Commissioner, Anganwari workers and sarpanches."

**-Balwant Singh**

Project Officer, Women and Child Development Department

children have been established in the Office of Superintendent of Police in each district, where the PPOs sit along with their subordinate staff to ensure effective implementation of PCM Act.

### CREATING AWARENESS

Campaigns and programmes are held to make people aware about the punishment to guilties involved in child marriage and health risks to girls like early childbirth, miscarriage, difficult labour, early tubectomies, unnecessary hysterectomies at early age, anaemia, weakness, early ageing etc.

"People are becoming responsible and have started informing us about any occurrence of child marriage. When I get any information, I go with my staff to the concerned thana of the place and then we meet the sarpanch of the village. Many a times we are informed in the last minute, so we have to rush without wasting a second," Rana told *Haryana review*.

"In villages, a baraat at a girl's doorstep is an issue of honour, so we have to amicably stop the marriage by keeping in mind the reputation of the family. Thus, we sit at the village sarpanch's place and verify all documents bearing age proof of the girl. Her parents are then called at sarpanch's place and counselled. Finally an affidavit is taken from the parents or guardians that they would not marry their girl before she attains the age of 18," she added.

Dealing with this sensitive issue of child marriage is always full of challenges. Recalling one such challenge, Savita said, "At one place when we had gone to stop marriage

of a 16 year old girl, furious people threw bones of eaten mutton on us but that did not deter us from rescuing the girl."

One of the causes of child marriages is poverty when one marriageable girl of the family is getting married then her two younger sisters are also made to marry in order to save expenses of Baraat feast. "In the very first five months this year we rescued over 30 cases young boys and girls from a mass marriage function organised by an NGO in Panipat," said Rajni Gupta, PPO of Panipat.

### PROCEDURE FOR ACTION

Briefing about the prohibition process of any child marriage Babita Chaudhary, PPO of Hisar, said, "For any written complaint which is received 2-3 days prior to the date of marriage, we inform SHO of the district and start collecting age proof documents to stop the marriage. If at all any child marriage takes place, we register an FIR in the nearby police station with proper evidence. It is a non-bailable offence."

"The guilty, who performs, conducts, directs, and abets solemnisation of the child marriage is imprisoned up to two years and fined up to Rs 1 lakh or either of the punishment depending on the court decision. In these cases, ladies are not punished. Law says that any person who even attended the marriage is equally a guilty. With the coming of this Act there is certainly a change in the scene of child marriages in Haryana. Child marriages are mostly conducted in illiterate and poverty stricken families", she added

Not only the state government even the local non-government organisations are working a lot to eradicate this social evil from the society. Chetna Cluster, an NGO in Hisar, has brought together Anganwari workers, SMS (Sakshar Mahila Samooh) and SHG (Self Help Group) members, to stop child marriages by timely informing the concerned PPOs.

After the coming of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, and due to the efforts of efficient and undeterred officers, the scene of child marriages in Haryana is certainly changing for the better. ■

# Moving in search of greener pastures

Labour migration which is widely taking place needs to be managed properly so that it contributes positively to growth and development as well as to the wellbeing of the migrants

Sonali Narang

The World Development Report 1999-2000 estimates that more than 130 million people now live outside the countries of their birth (Sasikumar, 1995). Economic history of world shows that the human migration is the natural manifestation of socio-economic and technological growth and development. The normal course of migration is that it takes place from relatively low developed to high-developed regions and countries.

In a country like India where there are development imbalances between people, the poor people migrate to comparatively more developed regions. The poorest states like Bihar

and UP supply the largest numbers of migrants who tend to move to comparatively developed areas like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab and Delhi.

## ATTRACTIVE DESTINATIONS

All these places have become attractive destinations for the migrant population. Rapid urbanisation and industrialisation of these areas have generated more employment opportunities and better lifestyles.

Most of these people migrate because of a combination of push and pull factors. Lack of rural employment, fragmentation of landholdings and declining public investment in agriculture are some of

the push factors which are forcing people out of their native place. The urban areas and some rural areas with industrial development or high agricultural production offer better prospects for jobs and this works as pull factor for migration. The growing urbanisation is also responsible for people movement.

For the first time in history, more people in the world now live in cities as compared to villages. India's current population living in cities is between 30-40 per cent. By 2015, it is estimated, that this number will rise to 60 per cent. India currently has 41 cities with more than 1 million people each and is home to 25 of the world's fastest growing urban areas.



*Migrant labour at work*

Labour migration can be analysed as a phenomenon that is based on class and uneven development. When we talk about labour migration, it revolves around two factors. The first factor is the rational decision of an individual – when an individual makes a decision, based on free will, to migrate to centres where there is demand for labour. Migration is thus, associated with urbanisation and modernisation, as well as with development. However, rational individual choice is not the only factor which affects labour migration in India. Second factor is the capitalist development which has always needed cheap labour.

### WHAT MAKES THEM MIGRATE

Survival and subsistence have become two main reasons for rural migration. The first reason indicates that when the rural labourers face severe social and economic hardships there arises a situation when migration becomes necessary to stay alive. This includes communities like the landless and illiterate people who largely belong to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other depressed classes. The second reason for migration is rooted in subsistence and arises because of the need to supplement income in order to fill the gaps of seasonal employment. Such communities often migrate for shorter periods and do not ordinarily travel very far from their homes.

The fact that the same communities of migrant workers repeatedly come to Punjab reveals that work and living conditions are perhaps a great deal better than conditions in their home states. However, several factors make them vulnerable as they enter into new territories. It is observed that the majority of the migrant labourers start working at the age when they are supposed to be in school.

This is mainly because of poverty. They create pressure on the job market and start competing with the local population. Since migrant people are usually more willing to work on lower wages, they dent the prospects of locals in the area getting jobs. This creates a situation of social and ethnic unrest and has even led to violence in many states in India.

If we see the history of migration from Bihar, it can be traced back to the sixties, the time when green

revolution was occurring in the north-west part of the country which created the demand for labour in agriculture. In the 1970s when the state of Punjab faced a number of problems like floods and terrorism, the migrant labour from the rural areas of Punjab started spilling over to the neighbouring state of Haryana where the green revolution was making considerable progress.

Punjab and Haryana are economically better-off states than Bihar and UP. It is, thus, the obvious reason for the migration of poor rural migrants to Haryana which is the home to key industries such as automobiles and automotive components, readymade garments, real estate, IT/ITES, textiles, bicycle, sanitary ware, scientific instrument industries and agro-based industries. Apart from agriculture these migrants are also involved in various other professions like shop assistant, grain market labourer, construction worker, vegetable vendor, rickshaw puller, mason, cobbler etc. The major industrial centres in Haryana are Gurgaon, Panipat, Rewari, Ambala and Faridabad. These places have become favourite destinations of migrant labourers.

### WAGE RATES, AN ATTRACTION

Migrant labour is attracted by local wage rates, labour contract systems and by the relations with employees which are peaceful in Punjab and Haryana. However, the labour which has come to play a major role in these state's economy, has found it relatively difficult to access the benefits of citizenship. Though these labourers contribute to the local economy but they still live in unfavourable conditions where they do not get adequate facilities and security. There is a dire need of government policies here.

Since all the migrant labourers are working in the unorganised sector, the government must take some policy initiatives to improve their socio-economic conditions and also introduce some social security measures. There is also a need to evolve some institutional mechanism to protect the migrant labourer from the discrimination and ill-treatment they face at the working place and also in the society. Their living conditions also need to be improved. Initiatives

like PURA (Provision of Urban amenities in Rural Areas) must be promoted on a large scale to bridge the rural-urban divide in terms of infrastructure. Private sector too, must be involved in rural infrastructure development projects by providing them incentives like tax-holidays and rebates.

### STEMMING THE TIDE

Although labour migration has worked for both exporting and receiving states, yet government is trying to check this flow of labour by generating employment opportunities in villages. In the last few years, government has initiated different policies to check the flow of people so that it can be restricted and people can find work in their own place. Mahatma Gandhi's National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) is one such example.

There is also a decline in the migration of labour in Punjab as a result of which the available labourers are demanding higher wages. A few months back, some newspaper reported that the farmers had started booking labourers at Rs 850 per acre. With the number of labourers coming from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh coming down, the rates have shot up somewhere between Rs 1,200 and Rs 1,500 per acre.

In order to know the ground reality behind the changing migration trends, a survey was done in various districts of Haryana and different sections of Bihari migrants were interviewed. The general response of the migrants was that NREGA was providing 100 days employment in their village and they migrated to find employment for the rest of the year. During the harvesting season they migrate to states like Haryana, Punjab and for the rest of the year they work under NREGA.

This is also leading towards some very important questions, like how will those places manage their affairs without the labour? What will be the implications of this new phenomenon for both receiving and exporting regions? These and few other questions need immediate attention and serious study. ■

*The writer is a Research Scholar at the Centre for the Study of Geopolitics, Department of Political Science, Panjab University, Chandigarh*

# Better be careful

*Don't spray insect repellent while cooking*

*This is a shocking episode that actually happened the other day in Pune. It's a useful lesson in safety for all of us to remember. This is a real-life story.*

*A woman died due to burns sustained in the kitchen. The gas stove was on and cooking was under process. The lady observed some cockroaches near the sink, grabbed a can of insect repellent lying nearby and sprayed it, near the gas stove which was on.*

*There was an explosion and in no time, the poor*

*woman was covered in flames. She sustained 65 per cent burns. Her husband rushed in, tried to douse the flames but his clothes too caught fire. The husband is still in hospital, in the burns ward, but unaware that his wife has succumbed, declared 'dead on arrival'.*

*Do remember that insect repellents such as "Hit", "Mortein" etc. are inflammable, due to the 'propellant' they use in the aerosols. Thus their nano-particles in the surrounding air spread fire very rapidly. Apparently, the poor women did not know about it.*

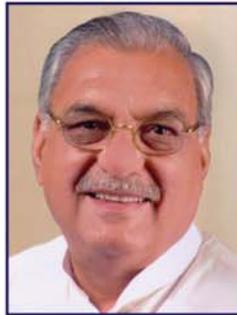
*Not only follow this but do tell others as well. ■*



# SAVE WATER, SAVE LIFE



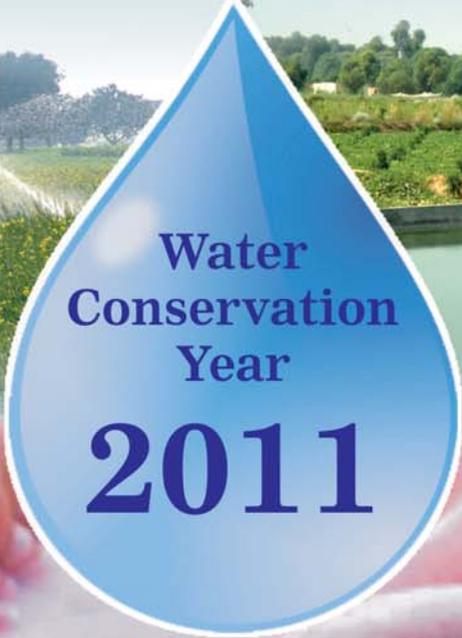
Mrs Sonia Gandhi  
UPA Chairperson



Dr Manmohan Singh  
Prime Minister

With focus on  
water conservation, we have  
declared the year 2011 as  
'Water Conservation Year'

-Bhupinder Singh Hooda  
Chief Minister, Haryana

A large blue water drop graphic with a white outline, containing the text 'Water Conservation Year 2011'. The background of the entire poster features a landscape with a river, trees, and a hand holding water.

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