

Haryana Review

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The Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Mr Om Birla, and Swami Gyananand ji, at the International Gita Mahotsav 2021 in Kurukshetra. Photo by Vinay Malik



GITA TO BE TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS, SAYS CM

By AJAY BHARDWAJ

Though every year Gita Mahotsava is celebrated in Kurukshetra and is forgotten thereafter but this time Haryana Chief Minister Mr Manohar Lal took a landmark decision of introducing Bhagavad Gita in schools for a preliminary study in classes.

The chief minister announced that from the next academic session, students will be taught to recite the shlokas of Shrimad Bhagavad Gita in schools across the state.

After this, books related to Gita will be taught in Class V and VII to disseminate the message among school children. The Chief Minister felt that it would go a long way to help children imbibe the values and principles enshrined in Gita during their formative period.

"The message of Bhagavad Gita must become a part of the personality of children in their early age which would help them become true Karmayogis in their life", he said.

On December 14, the day Lord Krishna had delivered his discourse to Arjuna, at least 55,000 children from across the country and the world participated in online Gita recitation on the occasion of Gita Mahotsav. As many as 1,100 devotees recited the Gita at Brahmasarovar in Kurukshetra. The participants included devotees from Australia, Mauritius, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Additional Principal Secretary to Chief Minister and Director General, Information, Public Relations and Languages Department, Dr Amit Agrawal informed that this year itself, during the International Gita Mahotsava, 50 verses of Gita were recited by 50 students each from 50 schools in the state. More than one lakh students recited Gita by joining an online medium.

The chief minister later said that Shrimad Bhagavad Gita has also been an inspiration for the freedom fighters who were martyred for the freedom of the country. Martyr Bhagat Singh and freedom fighter Madan Lal Dhingra also followed the holy book, Gita.

Genome sequencing begins in Rohtak

Haryana is battle-ready to take on Omicron

By PARVEEN K MODI

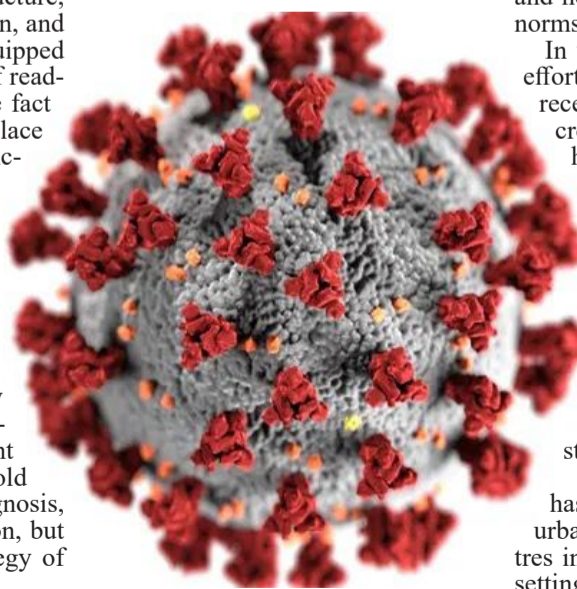
Haryana is battle-ready to take on Omicron, the youngest of Covid-19 variants, should it choose to strike any part of the state. Beefed up medical infrastructure, including provision for oxygen, and ready-to-move and well equipped manpower apart, the extent of readiness can be gauged from the fact that the state has also put in place the facility of genome sequencing.

A machine, made available free of cost by the Rockefeller Foundation for doing genome sequencing, has been made operational in Rohtak. Genome sequence is necessary for conducting investigations into any new variant to ascertain how deadly, transmissible and virulent it is. The findings not only hold the key to determine the prognosis, treatment and follow-up action, but also dictate the combat strategy of the administration.

The work of genome sequencing has already started. Earlier, all samples had to be sent to Delhi for genome sequencing which would result in delay in getting the results. As a part of the preparations for a possible Omicron surge, 90 PSA oxygen plants have been installed and

are being brought into operation.

Having worsted the two Corona waves with grit and determination, officers and employees of the Health Department are fully geared up and the department has been activated to beat back the new variant.



Up to December 12, 2021, Haryana had double-vaccinated 55 per cent of its population while 92 per cent had got a single dose; positivity rate of 0.08 per cent and recovery rate of 98.66 per cent.

All deputy commissioners, po-

lice commissioners, inspectors-general of police and superintendents of police in the state have been told to ensure that Covid-19 protocols are followed to prevent the spread of the virus. Anyone found violating the rules, including wearing of masks and not observing social distancing norms, will be challaned.

In what is seen to be giving the efforts a buck-up, Haryana has received a budget of Rs 301.38 crore for the enhancement of health services in 2021-22 under the 15th Finance Commission.

Out of this, an amount of Rs.27.87 crore has been received for primary health centres, Rs. 24.16 crore for sub-centres, and Rs. 6.98 crore for urban primary health centres to beef up and augment clinical infrastructure.

Apart from this, Rs 138 crore has been received for setting up urban health and wellness centres in the state, Rs 28.34 crore for setting up block level public health units and Rs. 29.42 crore for the construction of sub-centres, primary health centres and community health centres.

Besides, Haryana has got Rs 46.61 crore for converting the rural primary health centres and sub-centres into health and wellness centres.

Glimpses of Gita Jayanti Mahotsav

Photographs by Vinay Malik



GITA MAHOTSAV GOES OVERSEAS TO PORTRAY INDIA AS VISHVA GURU

By AJAY BHARDWAJ

The 6th edition of International Gita Mahotsava assumed new dimensions with 30 new pilgrim places being added over the 48 Kos land of Kurukshetra which was the scene of the epic Mahabharat war.

Speaking on the occasion Chief Minister Mr Manohar Lal said that till now there were 134 pilgrimage places in the 48 Kos land of Kurukshetra, but this time 30 more places have been added raising the total number of pilgrim spots to 164.

The Chief Minister said that the State Government has decided to get the development done in places related to Mahabharata.

The Chief Minister said that International Gita Mahotsava is being celebrated in foreign countries as well. Earlier the festival was celebrated in Mauritius and UK, however, it was not celebrated elsewhere due to the COVID pandemic. However, this year people are connecting enthusiastically with the festival through the virtual medium.

The Chief Minister said that before 2014, Gita Jayanti was being celebrated like a normal festival, but in 2014, with the inspiration of Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi, it was decided to give a grander shape to the Gita Jayanti festival. Today Geeta Jayanti festival is being celebrated not only in the country but also abroad.

PANEL TO RAISE SCALE

The chief minister said in order to enhance the scale of International Gita Mahotsav, a Gita Jayanti committee would be constituted from next year. Institutions and other organizations related to society would be included in this committee.

He said that the pilgrimages of 48 Kos of Kurukshetra were being developed for religious tourism. Buses will be deployed with the help of the Tourism Department to



connect them. People from the other states and abroad will come here to learn the history of the Kurukshetra.

The Chief Minister said that a Mahabharata- theme museum was being constructed at Geetasthali Jyotisar on 2 acres of land at a cost of Rs. 205 crore. In this building, Shrimad Bhagavad Gita, Saraswati river and Vedic civilization will be depicted through a multimedia system.

He said Kurukshetra had been included in the Krishna Circuit for the development of the Swadesh Darshan Scheme of the Union Ministry of Tourism. An amount of about Rs 98 crore has been released by the government for the development of the pilgrimages of Kurukshetra.

The Chief Minister said that on the lines of Ramlila, Krishna Utsav

would also be organized during the International Gita Mahotsava from next year. In this festival, which lasts from 5 to 6 days, different incidents related to the life of Lord Shri Krishna will be depicted through a tableau. There will be a light and sound show as well.

BIRLA CONGRATULATES CM

Lok Sabha Speaker Mr Om Birla, speaking on the occasion, in today's digital age the youth are intellectually capable and are leading the world, if they get spiritual knowledge then life will go in the right direction. We should adopt the message of the Gita in our life. He congratulated the chief minister for taking the International Gita Mahotsava to the country and abroad.

GITA AN INSPIRATION

Haryana Governor Mr Bandaru Dattatraya, participating in the Mahotsava, said that India will become a Vishwa Guru with the inspiration of the holy book Bhagavad Gita, which delivers the message of peace to the entire humanity. He said that this holy book is not a religious scripture pertaining to a certain religion or section of society. He said that even today, the teachings of Gita have its own significance and Haryana is blessed to have the holy land of Kurukshetra where Lord Krishna delivered the sermons of Gita 5158 years ago.

"We should not be afraid of difficult situations but should face them boldly. Whenever a situation of confusion arises, then we should take the guidance and inspiration

from the Gita," said Shri Dattatraya. "The Gita is the solution to all problems, confusions and chaos humanity is faced with today," he said.

The Governor said that commendable work is being done by the state government to take the teachings of the holy Gita to the people. If India has to become a 'Vishwa Guru' again, then every person will have to move forward helping each other and every person will have to get the knowledge of Gita.

He said that this Gita Jayanti Mahotsava provides a way to promote cultural, spiritual and moral values. He said that officers, scientists and dignitaries working in various fields will get inspiration by organising such Vishwa Guru Bharat Exhibition.

Reaching out to the marginalized sections with hope and help!

By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

Thanks to the wholesome governance in Haryana, people of marginalized sections of society are getting a big push, accelerating the pace of their holistic development! Through a number of welfare schemes and programmes, the state government under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Mr Manohar Lal is paving the way for socio-economic and educational upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes people.

The scheme of 'Mukhya Mantri Vivah Shagun Yojana' is being

implemented to honour girls and ensure that the girls from the poor families and daughters of widows, destitute women, women sports persons and orphan girls are married gracefully. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs 71,000 is provided to below the poverty line (BPL) persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Denotified Tribes and Tapriwas Jatis.

An amount of Rs 51000 is provided to widows for mass marriages and to couples if both are Divyangjan. Rs 31000, is given to the BPL persons of all sections of society other than Scheduled

Castes and if one of the spouses is Divyangjan. An amount of Rs 105.87 crore was spent on 32078 marriages during the year 2020-21. A provision of Rs 130 crore has been made for the year 2021-22 and Rs 49.20 crore has been spent up to September 30, 2021 on 14704 marriages.

To encourage meritorious SC students, a scholarship ranging from Rs 8000 to Rs 12,000 per annum is provided under Dr Ambedkar Medhavi Chhatra Sansodhit Yojana for 11th Class students, those in first year of Graduation and Post Graduation Courses. Scholarship

is provided to students of all other categories whose annual family income is less than Rs 4 lakh. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs 35.13 crore was spent on 43082 students during the year 2020-21. A provision of Rs 40 crore was made for the year 2021-22 and Rs 5.71 crore has been spent on 7234 students up to September 30, 2021.

Free coaching is provided to Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes aspirants for various competitive and entrance examinations such as civil services exams, banking, railway, SSC, HTET, CGL and NEET-JEE, etc.,

under 'Financial Assistance for Higher Competitive Entrance Examination to Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes Candidates' through reputed institutions with income up to Rs 2.50 lakh per annum.

An amount of Rs 5.12 crore was spent on 800 aspirants during the year 2020-21. A provision of Rs 20 crore has been made for the year 2021-22. All major schemes are being implemented through online mode for rapid disbursement of funds to the beneficiaries and are integrated with PPP or Parivar Pehchan Patra.

HARYANA SET TO BE 'HAR'

6,156 villages now have access to tap water under Jal Jeevan Mission

By **PARVEEN K MODI**

Moving ahead of the clock and setting new benchmarks sign off the work-style of Manohar Lal Government, something which has been duly acknowledged and lauded by no less a person than the Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi.

Given the be-ahead-of-others penchant of the state government, Haryana is well on way to becoming 'Har Ghar Nal Se Jal' state more than two years ahead of the deadline of 2024 set by the Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi, and earlier than 2022, the date set for the state by the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal. He had advanced the deadline by a neat two years.

And if the pace of work on the Mission is any indication, the tiny state is set to achieve a 100 pc goal well before the sun sets on the year 2021. Notably, 6,156 villages now enjoy access to potable tap water.

Drawing inspiration from the vision of the Prime Minister, the Chief Minister pressed all the levers to make potable tap water available to every household. And to make the requisite quantity of water available for the purpose, his government has implemented several schemes to conserve every drop.

The results are there for all to see. Presently, tap water is being supplied to every household in 18 districts of Haryana by the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), and, in the remaining four districts the government is confident of achieving the target before 2021 draws to a close.

"At present, as many as 6,156 villages are getting tap water. The objective of Jal Jeevan Mission is to prevent wastage of drinking water and to provide adequate water to the citizens at home," the Chief Minister said.

SIGNATURE ACHIEVEMENT

In what is being billed as a signature achievement of the state government, Haryana has become the third state in the country after Goa and Telengala where every family in the rural areas has access to clean tap water as part of the Mission. All schools, anganwadi centres (AWCs) and health centres in Haryana now have the provision of tap water supply.

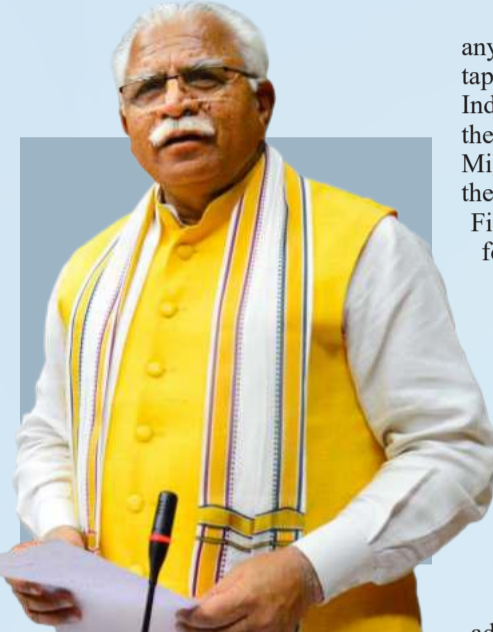
"We cannot keep people waiting for a basic service like clean tap water. It is a great moment for the PHED as they have ensured that 'no one is left out' in the state. The Mission is truly changing people's lives," remarked the Chief Minister.

The Prime Minister had launched



Due to global warming and climate change, environmental protection and water conservation have become the need of the hour. It is our duty to conserve both for the future generations. And in this effort, everyone must contribute one way or the other'

Manohar Lal
Chief Minister



'Jal Jeevan Mission' on August 15, 2019 to "enable all households to have access to and use safe and adequate drinking water within premises to the extent possible".

It envisages taking clean drinking tap water to every rural household, school, aanganwadi, ashram and other such places by 2024. The Prime Minister followed it up with 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain' campaign for conserving water in March 2021. After all, water has to be conserved to be made available to all.

The Prime Minister laid stress on

spending every penny of MGNREGA funds on rain water conservation. He feels the need to create awareness about water conservation and ensure increased public participation in this effort. He wants women to play an active role in water conservation efforts and take charge of the Jal Jeevan Mission as they better understand the value of water.

The newly designed Mission mobile application was launched by the Prime Minister on October 2, 2021. The app would enable

anyone to fund provision of tap water in rural parts of India. He had also released the progress report of the Mission and a manual for the utilisation of the 15th Finance Commission grant for rural local bodies.

Mr Modi released a framework for water quality monitoring and surveillance as well as a 'margdarshika' (guide) for Gram Panchayats and paani samitis (village water and sanitation committees under the Mission).

While virtually addressing about 3,30,000 members of paani samitis as part of the 152nd birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi, he had highlighted the importance of the Mission. It ensures functionality of existing water supply systems and water connections; water quality monitoring and testing as well as sustainable agriculture.

The Mission also ensures conjunctive use of conserved water; drinking water source augmentation, smooth working of the drinking water supply system, grey water treatment and its reuse.



R G HAR NAL SE JAL' STATE

Big role for panchayats and women in saving every drop of water

By **PARVEEN K MODI**

Life without water is unimaginable. Sir CV Raman had said that water, the elixir of life, is the most wonderful and powerful thing on the earth. It is not for nothing that in ancient times, civilization developed on river basins. Water is precious but with the population growing by the day, its sources are beginning to dry up. If the problem of water shortage is not tackled today, it will be difficult to solve it tomorrow.

In keeping with the desire of the Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi, steps have also been taken to ensure direct participation of people in water conservation efforts with women playing a greater role. For, the Prime Minister feels that women better realize the value and importance of water.

The Jal Jeevan Mission, launched by the Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi, envisages panchayats playing a pioneering role in improving water harvesting and sewage systems in the villages. Aligning its campaign with the thinking of the Prime Minister, the Haryana Government has delegated more powers and responsibility to the Panchayats to make water conservation a successful mass campaign. Also, stress has been laid on ensuring women's participation in the water conservation campaign.

50 PC ROLE FOR WOMEN

Women play an important role in each field. In agriculture, they are involved in irrigation and cultivation and also make their presence felt in animal husbandry, children's education and in doing other household chores. They work tirelessly alongside men everywhere.

Keeping this in mind, the Haryana Government has ensured that women are equal participants in the water conservation campaign. The guidelines of Jal Jeevan Mission — operated under the Water and Sanitation Assistant Organisation (VASO) of Public Health Engineering Department, Haryana (PHED)—stipulate that 50 per cent of the members in the Village Water and Sewage Committee (VWSC) should be women. This ensures that half of the population can contribute their full share in water conservation and better distribution.

The VWSC guidelines ensure a role for every section in this public participation initiative. The blueprint of the scheme has been prepared in such a way that everyone from the village sarpanch

to the watchman is a part of this committee.

In addition, three of the panches are ex-officio members of the VWSC, out of which one ought to be a woman. One member is from the Scheduled Castes and one, an ordinary member, is nominated by the sarpanch. In addition, four members are elected who other than the panch and the sarpanch can be from all social classes of the village or community and must have demonstrated committed leadership and worked for the development of the village and the community.

This may include the village youth, members of self-help groups, retired teachers, ex-servicemen, anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, village watchmen, Mahila Mandal heads and more. One member is a junior engineer of the PHED. The gram sachiv (secretary, Gram Panchayat) is appointed its convener. A junior engineer from PHED will be technical member. VWSC:

While saving water is important, distribution and proper disposal of wastewater also make a lot of difference. So, the VWSC would look after the planning, monitoring, operation and maintenance of drinking water and sewerage, contract construction, acquisition, rehabilitation, rejuvenation, intra-village infrastructure, public awareness competitions, systems and provide other services. This committee acts as an important link between the government and the rural community.

VWSC also decides on actionable and cost-effective technology options and plans for providing water supply and sewerage services in villages. It also undertakes administrative approval of detailed plan reports and obtains technical assistance from PHED for resolving water supply or sewerage-related problems in villages.

Another important responsibility of this committee is to act as a link and establish liaison among the Gram Panchayat, PHED, other departments and institutions involved in water supply and sewerage.

It also obtains funds from the PHED and spends these on approved water supply and sewerage schemes while working closely with district-level institutions. It is also responsible for the procurement of works, goods or services to fulfill its role and responsibilities of solving the water supply sewerage problems in the rural communities.

WITH WATER SCARCITY BEGINNING TO ASSUME ALARMING PROPORTIONS, ESPECIALLY IN THE RURAL AREAS OF HARYANA, WATER CONSERVATION DRIVE HAS ASSUMED GREATER IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY. READING THE WRITING ON THE WALL, THE MANOHAR LAL GOVERNMENT HAS LAUNCHED SEVERAL SCHEMES FOR WATER HARVESTING AND ITS MANAGEMENT IN CITIES AND VILLAGES.



What you and I can do to conserve water

- Save every drop of water
- Prefer tap to shower while taking a bath
- Get all leaking pipes plugged at home to avoid wastage
- Spread the message of water conservation in your family, among friends and relatives, and in the community at large
- Get water tested in labs to ensure that pure and clean water is made available to one and all
- Help ensure upkeep of water sources
- Encourage women and weaker sections to play a role in saving water

Big boost to development of women and children!



By RAJEEV RANJAN ROY

The holistic development of women and children is the kernel of a resilient and inclusive society. Committed to their empowerment, safety and growth, Haryana government under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr Manohar Lal has initiated a number of measures to enable women and children to contribute as equal partners in the process of development in an environment free from violence and any kind of discrimination. Haryana is perhaps among a few states of the country where the well being of women and children are at the heart of development so that they not only survive but also thrive to help transform the State.

In order to ensure gender equality as envisaged in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and ensure empowerment of women and child, the Government of Haryana is implementing many multifaceted initiatives with the assistance of the Central government like Pradhan Matri Matru Vandana Yojana (PM-KVY), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBP), Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Supplementary Nutrition Programme SNP, Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), Poshan Abhiyan, One Stop Centre for Women (SAKHI) and Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK).

A sum of Rs 163100.25 lakh has been provided in the budget for the year 2021-22 out of which Rs 66672.22 lakh have been spent up

to September 2021. Under the PM-KVY scheme, a sum of Rs 230.32 crore has been utilized till September, giving direct benefit to 514412 beneficiaries. Thanks to effective implementation of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Programme, which was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, sex ratio at birth has improved from 876 in year 2015 to 906 by September 2021.

Under the Mukhya Mantri Doodh Uphaar Yojana, 200 ml of fortified skimmed milk is distributed for six days in a week to approximately

9.78 lakh children (1-6 years) and approximately 3.11 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers with an approximate cost of Rs 6 per beneficiary. The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) takes care of children in need of care and protection, and the children in conflict with law are covered. Currently, there are 79 child care institutions. Four integrated complexes are being constructed.

The One Stop Centres (OSCs) have been established in all 22 districts to provide support and assistance to women affected by violence

both in private and public places under one roof and facilitate immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services including medical, legal, psychological and counselling. Over 15691 cases have been dealt up to the month of September this year. Under the Mahila Evam Kishori Samman Yojana, sanitary napkins are being provided to approximately 22 lakh BPL adolescent girls or women in the age group of 10-45 years with approximate cost of Rs 2.50 crore per month.

Under Poshan Abhiyan, which was launched by Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi on March 8, 2018 in Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan, efforts are afoot to lay emphasis on nutritional status of adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers and children from zero to six years of age. The Poshan Abhiyan is being implemented in all districts of the State. As many as 46405 community based events were conducted and 23241 Village Health Sanitation Nutrition Days (VHSND) were conducted during the month of September, 2021.

Similarly, in the Hamari Phulwari scheme under Anganwadi Adoption Programme, a big boost has been given to sustainable development of children. This scheme has proved an innovative medium for Panchayats, Municipal Councils, individual personalities, corporate sector and civil organizations to contribute to the development of the state by making Anganwadi Centres more attractive and child friendly so that parents feel proud in sending their children to Anganwadi Centres for non-formal pre-school education and other activities related to their physical and mental development.

It is worth mentioning that since the inception of the Hamari Phulwari scheme, 882 Anganwadi Centres have been adopted by the NGOs, Panchayats, Sarpanches, community, private sector players and individuals. They have donated various items of use for AWCs such as LCDs, LEDs, TVs, ACs, toys, mats, fans, utensils, weighing machines, school bags, books, pencils, water campers, storage containers, solar system, and water coolers with filter, water motor, inverter, school uniform, and furniture items. The construction and repair of toilets and whitewash in AWCs have also been done.

The idea of holistic development gets the real boost only when women and children occupy the centre stage of developmental process, which the Government of Haryana has been able to ensure through a phalanx of positive interventions and schemes. From Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao programme to Aap Ki Beti, Hamari Beti, the State has done a fabulous job in addressing the problem of declining sex ratio and changing the mindset of community towards girl child. Under the Aapki Beti, Hamari Beti scheme, Rs 21,000 is invested in LIC of India in the name of first born girl child of SC and BPL families and Rs 21000 is invested on the birth of second girl child of all families. The government has extended the benefit to third girl children as well. And the counting continues!

SAG for girl's holistic development

Haryana government has universalized the Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) with effect from April 1, 2018, totally replacing the Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY). It enables adolescent girls (AGs) for self-development and empowerment, improves their nutrition and health status, and promotes awareness about health and hygiene.

It also supports out of school adolescent girls to successfully transition back to formal schooling or bridge learning or skill training. It upgrades their home-based skills and life skills, provides information and guidance about existing public services such as primary health centres, rural hospitals, Post Office, bank, police station, and other places of utility.

Similarly, the State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW) is a technical body for the implementation and monitoring of various women related schemes like One Stop Centre, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, Gender Sensitization, Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace, and so on.

- Integrated Child Development Services Scheme aimed at improving the health, nutritional, psychological and social developmental status of children of zero to six-year, is being implemented through 148 projects including 21 urban projects with the network of 25962 Anganwadi Centres including 512 mini-Anganwadi centres.
- Under Supplementary Nutrition Programme, supplementary nutrition is being provided to 11.40 lakh children between six months and six years of age and 3.11 lakh pregnant and nursing mothers at Rs 9.50 per mother, Rs 8 per child and Rs 12 per malnourished child per day along with other services.
- AWC is not merely an Anganwadi Centre but a focal point for village women where they can feel safe and can discuss freely. For 2021-22, there is a budget provision of Rs 8000 lakh for the construction of 180 Anganwadi Centres, Anganwadi Centres.
- The government has decided to provide solar energy in all 25962 Anganwadi Centres for the purpose of creating a healthy, clean and safe atmosphere for the beneficiaries. Under this project, three LED lights and two fans are provided in each Anganwadi Centre. As many as 5108 Anganwadi Centres have been installed with solar energy till September 2021.
- Under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), children in need of care and protection are being provided with institutional as well as non-institutional care under the scheme. It is an important instrument to implement the provisions of the new Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, which came into force with effect from January 15, 2016.

Haryana agri model outshines

By **AJAY BHARDWAJ**

The welfare of farmers has been always accorded top priority ever since Chief Minister Manohar Lal has assumed office. In fact, Haryana has been credited to have developed its own model to ensure all-round progress and growth of farming in the state as a result of which Haryana happens to be yards ahead of its neighbouring states registering a 6.3 per cent rate of agriculture growth.

The agricultural policies adopted by the State government have played a pivotal role in the progress of agriculture in the state.

Haryana stands third in the country as far as farmers condition is concerned. According to the national survey, 2019, per capita, family income of farmers in Haryana was Rs 22,841 which was almost double the national figure which stood at Rs 10,218.

MSP FOR 33 PRODUCE

Among the radical decisions taken under the dynamic leadership of the Chief Minister in the last seven years have been to ensure that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of 21 fruits and vegetables and 11 crops is granted to the farmers.

In the recent past, Haryana has taken big strides in improving the plight of farmers and helping them double their income. Giving

protection and respect to farmers have been two cardinal goals of the Haryana government. It is with these goals in mind that the Haryana chief minister has been spearheading various initiatives to bring a smile to the face of farmers.

During the rabi season, the state government procured 84.72 lakh metric tonnes of wheat and transferred Rs 16,000 crores directly to the accounts of farmers making sure that the payment was made to farmers within 72 hours of the purchase of their crop in failure of which nine per cent rate of interest was paid.

MERI FASAL, MERA BYORA

The e-portal, "Meri Fasal, Mera Byora" which provides information about seeds, fertilizer, loans and other things saw in 2020-21 more than nine lakh farmers registering their 62 lakh acres of land.

Haryana has launched the 'Mera Pani Meri Virasat' scheme for the replacement of paddy by maize/cotton/bajra/pulses on two lakh hectares of agricultural land in targeted blocks having water-table more than 40 meters deep.

In addition to this, paddy cultivation will be restricted in gram panchayat agriculture land with groundwater level above 35 meters.

Under the scheme, farmers will be provided Rs. 7,000 per acre to those farmers who go into diversification of more than 50%

of their Kharif season paddy area. Also, farmers would not be allowed to cultivate paddy in any new areas where paddy was not grown the preceding year. On the agricultural lands of gram panchayats in various blocks where the groundwater level is 35 meters, the Panchayat would not be permitted to grow paddy.

BHAVANTAR YOJANA

The 'Bhavantar Bharpayee Yojana', which has been started in Haryana to reserve the price of 21 types of fruits and vegetables, is being discussed among the farmers of the whole country. There is no scheme like Bhavantar Bharpayee Yojana in Punjab. Not only this the farmer-friendly approach of the Haryana Chief Minister was evident when he launched the 'Mukhyamantri Bagwani Bima Yojana' for the fruits and vegetable cultivators, the farmers of the neighbouring states were also curious and wished that such a scheme should be started in their State as well.

Haryana Government has connected 81 mandis of the State with the e-NAM portal for the farmers who want to sell their crops at the inter-state level after seeing the demand and good prices, while only 37 mandis of Punjab have been connected with the said portal. In the last few years, 76 water and soil testing laboratories have been set up in the State by spreading awareness

among the farmers while in Punjab only 61 such laboratories are said to have been started. In order to guide the farmers regarding crop sowing, the State Government is opening water and soil testing laboratories and making 'Soil Health Cards' for the farmers so that they can sow the crop according to the fertility of the land and are able to get good produce.

Haryana is probably the only state in the country where the farmers visiting the mandis and the arhtiyas working there are provided with insurance of Rs 10 lakh.

EXPANSION OF MANDIS

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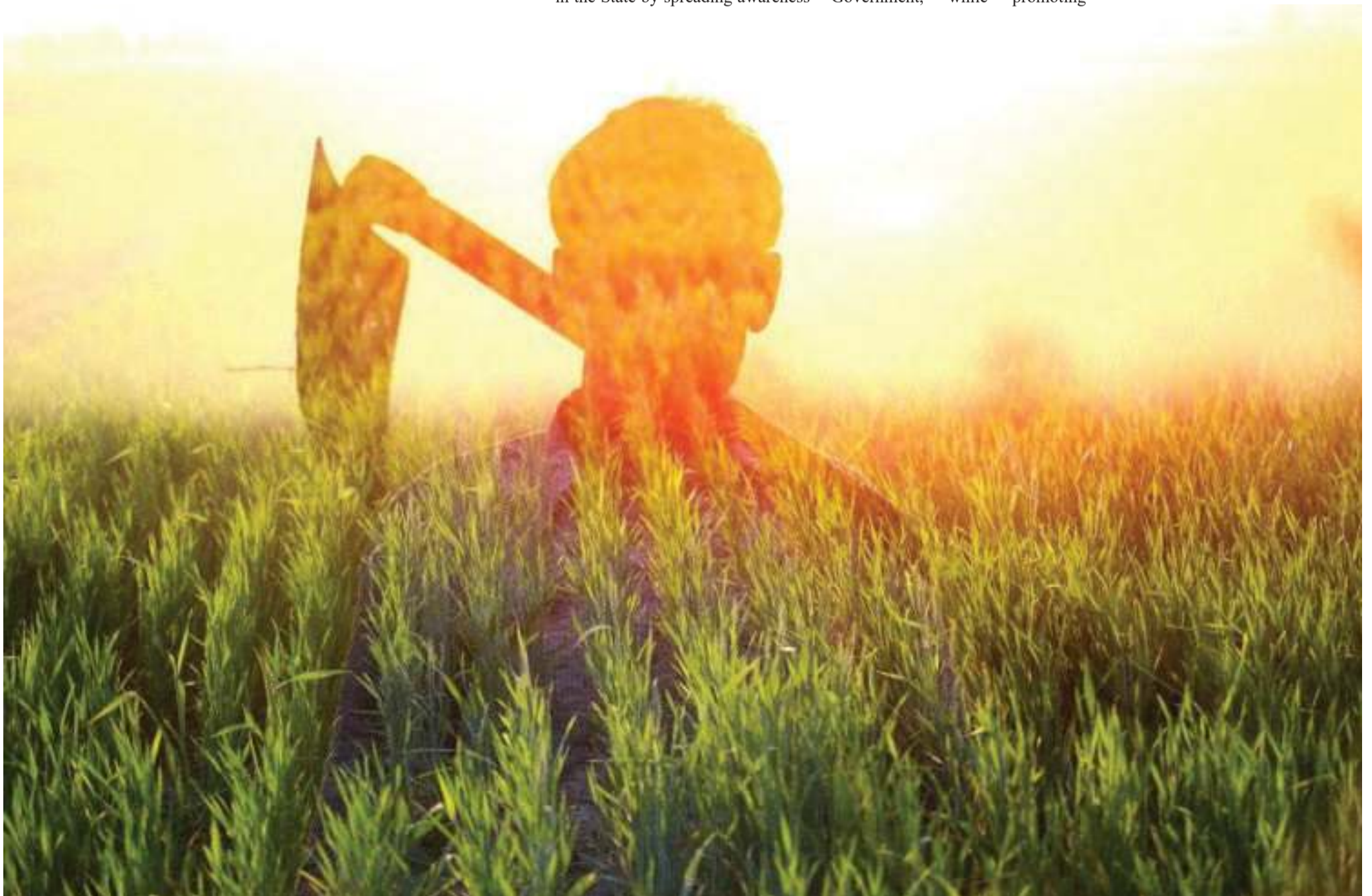
In order to increase the additional income of the farmers of Haryana along with agriculture, the State Government, while promoting

animal husbandry, started the 'Pashudhan Credit Card Scheme' on the lines of 'Kisan Credit Card' and till date about 58,000 cards have been issued in the State.

The State Government has also done remarkable work in the direction of conserving water for future generations, which has been highly appreciated at the national level. While encouraging the farmers of the State to ensure more yield while consuming less water, the Haryana government started Drip-Irrigation Scheme and for this, a record 85 per cent subsidy is being given.

FASAL BIMA YOJANA

In the last 7 years, the inclination of the farmers towards 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana' has increased. Due to the awareness campaigns conducted by the State Government at regular intervals, a large number of farmers started getting their crops insured. The farmers were benefitted from it as whenever there was any natural calamity, the financial condition of farmers became stable due to timely compensation for their losses. According to government data, about 17 lakh farmers got about Rs 4,000 crore as crop insurance. Besides this, an amount of Rs 7,000 crore was also given to more than 34 lakh farmers in lieu of compensation for other losses to the farmers.



SPREAD OF THE MUSTARD
SPREAD-SHEET

PHOTO BY VINAY MALIK



CAMPUS CORNER

Rs 67-lakh
grant for
4 JCB varsity
teachers

SHAGUN KAPOOR



The Haryana State Council for Science, Innovation and Technology has selected four faculty members for their Research and Development (R&D) Projects from the Department of Science and Technology of JC Bose University of Science and Technology, YMCA, Faridabad to receive a grant amount of Rs 67 lakh.

The selected faculty members of the university include

- Dr. Sanjeev Goyal (Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering)

Project - 'Design and Fabrication of Manually Operated Agriculture Waste Briquetting Machine: A Business Model for Self Help Groups'.

- Dr. Ravi Kumar (Associate Professor of Chemistry)

Project - 'Oxidative Catalysis and Synthesis of COVID-19 Drug Candidates/Precursors using iodine incorporated Metal-Organic Framework'.

- Dr. Anurag Gaur (Associate Professor of Physics)

Project - 'Development of Paani Ki Battery to produce green energy for sustainable growth of rural areas'.

- Dr. Rashi Gupta (Assistant Professor of Physics)

Project - 'Synthesis of diverse groups of growth morphologies of ZnO nano/micro-structures in search of gigantic piezoelectric response and for their practical application in mechanical energy harvesting'.

Rs 31.7-crore
Divyang Care
Home for
Ambala

HARYANA REVIEW BUREAU

A Divyang Care Home would be set up in Ambala on five acres of land at a cost of Rs 31.71 crore where adequate arrangements for clothes, food and proper care for 100 persons with disabilities would be ensured.

This was disclosed by the Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal, while speaking on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. On this occasion, he also launched website of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and portal to apply online for Divyang Award especially developed for persons with disabilities.

They can also register their complaints with the state commissioner on this portal. While tracking their complaints on the portal, they can get information about acts and schemes of the department.

The Chief Minister said that Divyang Sports Corner in one stadium will be set up in every district of Haryana. Along with this, a new building of Government Blind School in Panipat would be constructed and Braille printers will also be provided to the blind officers of Category-I and II, he added.

He took a virtual meeting of officers of the Social Justice and Empowerment Department and inquired about the different facilities and pensions being given to the differently-abled.

WINDOWS ON SPORTS

All will be set for Khelo India
Games by Dec 31, says CM

HARYANA REVIEW BUREAU

The Haryana Chief Minister, Mr Manohar Lal has announced that all the preparations would be completed by December 31 for the successful conduct of the fourth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games in Panchkula which is scheduled to be held from February 5 to 14 in 2022.

Mr Manohar Lal told Haryana Review that the opening ceremony will be held on February 5 at Tau Devi Lal Stadium in Panchkula. Later, these games would be organized in Ambala, Shahabad, Chandigarh and Delhi. Moreover, the final matches will start from February 8, which will be telecast live through Star Sports channel, he added.

The state is continuously progressing in sports and the government is increasing the budget of sports every year. With this, the budget of sports has been increased by Rs 394 crore in 2021-22 which was Rs 151 crore in the year 2014-15.

Therefore, out of the total amount of Rs 250 crore, Rs. 150 crore will be spent for the infrastructure development and Rs. 100 crore will be spent on other equipment and facilities for the Khelo Games, said the Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister further assured that 500 more sports nurseries will be developed and the sports nurseries which were closed due to COVID-19 have been revived to nur-



ture sports talent among sports persons under the State Government's 'Catch them Young' Policy.

Moreover, a Scientific Training and Rehabilitation Center is being set up in Panchkula to prepare the players mentally and physically for sports. Apart from this, such centers will also be set up in Karnal, Hisar, Rohtak and Gurugram, said Mr Manohar Lal.

The health department and all other departments are on alert and fully prepared to deal with any situation as the two cases of the new variant of the COVID-19 that has

just been detected have been found in the country.

On this, the Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs, Sh. Sandeep Singh further informed that 25 different types of sports will be organized in this sports event, in which about 10,000 players from across the country will participate. Apart from 20 such games which are already being organized, five regional games have also been added this time including Gatka of Punjab, Thang-Ta of Manipur, Kalaripayattu of Kerala, Malkhamb of Maharashtra and Yogan, he added.

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