HP's Nauni varsity sets up cannabis research centre

Shimla: Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, has inaugurated a dedicated Centre on Cannabis Research to promote scientific studies, quality assessment and medicinal applications of the plant.

Funded by the state govt, the centre will focus on developing scientific understanding of cannabis, its conservation and sustainable utilisation for medicinal purposes. The initiative comes amid growing interest in exploring the plant's potential for healthcare and research.

Officiating vice-chancellor professor Harminder Singh Baweja inaugurated the centre on Wednesday. The university also inaugurated a common incubation centre for processing mushrooms, fruits, vegetables, spices and herbs. TNN

4-time Cong MLA Nand Lal cremated

Shimla: Four-time Rampur MLA Nand Lal was cremated with state honours at his native village, Deothi in Shimla district, on Wednesday. Thousands of people gathered to pay their last respects to the Congress functionary who died at the age of 72 on Tuesday.

CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu attended the funeral and laid a wreath on Lal's mortal remains. He met the bereaved family and expressed condolences. Sukhu said Lal had dedicated himself to the welfare and development of the people of Rampur. TNN

HC bars commercial activity within 100m of Renuka Lake

Sanjeev.Verma@timesofindia.com

Shimla: The Himachal Pradesh high court has imposed stringent environmental safeguards for the upcoming Renuka Ji fair, directing the Sirmaur administration to prohibit commercial activities within the 100-metre buffer zone around Renuka Ji Lake and Parshuram Tal to protect the ecologically fragile area.

A division bench of Chief Justice Gurmeet Singh Sandhawalia and Justice Bipin Chander Negi, while hearing a PIL, issued a set of 12 directions for the fair, scheduled to be held from Nov 19 to 24.

The court said commercial activities should be confined to the designated Mela Ground and no stalls or tents should be allowed around Parshuram Tal or along the lake's ecologically sensitive stretches. The directions were issued after the court examined an affidavit filed by the Sirmaur deputy commissioner and photographs placed on record by the district administration and the amicus curiae.

The bench observed that despite cleanliness measures, large quantities of plastic waste had accumulated around the Renuka Ji Lake and Parshuram Tal during previous fairs. Stray cattle were found feeding on the rubbish, while a dead animal was also spotted. The animal had allegedly died after consuming plastic waste.

CURBING PLASTIC POLLUTION

To curb plastic pollution, the court directed the administration to check plastic items at entry points through a joint flying squad and ensure that vendors take back the waste generated by their businesses. It also ordered that at least 5% of the tendering proceeds be used to provide honoraria to volunteers assisting in cleaning operations.

The court noted that commercial activities around the water bodies had contributed to pollution and obstructed the view of Parshuram Tal along the parikrama route. It directed the administration to ensure that stalls are removed within three days of the fair's conclusion and that shopkeepers remain responsible for cleaning the sites they occupied.

Expressing concern over inadequate sanitation facilities, the bench directed the authorities to arrange at least 100 temporary toilets and deploy sufficient sanitation workers and supervisors to manage the expected footfall of around 10,000 people. Waste collection, sewage disposal and removal of animal carcasses, if any, within 48 hours must be strictly monitored, it ordered. It also prohibited loudspeakers and amplified sound within the wildlife sanctuary limits. The forest department and police were directed to prevent violations, while cultural stages must be located outside the sanctuary. The pollution control board was asked to conduct daily noise-level monitoring.

Taking note of three identified encroachments, involving ashrams and shops on govt land, the bench directed officials to complete the pending legal proceedings at the earliest. It observed that an earlier order for the removal of the encroachments had been passed in 2011, but the authorities had failed to act. The forest department was also directed to maintain proper enclosures for rescued leopards at Renuka Ji. The amicus curiae will conduct inspections before and after the fair.

The court directed an annual audit of the accounts of the Renuka Ji Development Board to ensure transparency, and listed the matter for further hearing on Dec 15.

Day later, Bijli Mahadev forest fire brought under control



Fire broke out in the Bijli Mahadev forest area on Tuesday

Kullu: Forest personnel from the Kullu and Parvati forest circles brought a fire in the Bijli Mahadev forests of Kullu district under control on Wednesday through a joint operation.

The fire broke out on Tuesday in the forest area behind Jia and Talogi villages. The blaze continued through Wednesday, with flames and smoke visible across the hillside.

According to forest department officials, someone deliberately lit the fire. Forest fires in the area are often triggered by people setting small fires that quickly get out of control. HP witnessed one of the worst summer fire seasons last year, recording 663 fire incidents . TNN

THE HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD
Regd. Office:-New Himrus Building, Circular Road,Shimla-171001(H.P)
Tel No.0177-2621426/2624751e-mail:sidc-hp@nic.in Visit us at: www.hpsidc.org

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (NIT)

The Executive Engineer, HPSIDC Ltd. Shimla on behalf of Managing Director, HPSIDC Ltd Shimla, hereby invites online item rate bids through electronic tendering system for the following works from eligible and approved contractors registered in the appropriate class with HPPWD, CPWD, HPSJV, HIMUDA and other Government agencies or organizations, subject to the schedules, terms, and conditions mentioned below.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender (i/c G.S.T.)	Time Limit	Eligible Class of Contractor
1	Construction of Three Story Building at Wholesale Unit Sarkaghat, Distt. Mandi (HP).	Rs. 73,50,412/-	Rs.1,47,000/-	Rs.2400/-	Twelve Months	B&C
2	Repair work at HIMFED store Bhambla, Distt. Mandi (HP). (SH:- P/L retaining wall work)	Rs. 6,08,311/-	Rs.12,200/-	Rs.500/-	Two Months	C & D
3	Installation of Wet Scrubber and Pomace Discharge Screw Conveyor at HPMC Parala Distt. Shimla (HP).	Rs. 31,20,100/-	Rs.62,400/-	Rs.2400/-	One Month	A

Schedule, terms and conditions:-

Date and time for document download & submission of bids from the e-procurement portal.		Date & time of opening online Technical Bids.
From	To	17.11.2026
06.11.2026	16.11.2026	11:00AM
11:00AM	5:00 PM	

1. The bidders are advised to note other details, of tenders from the department website, www.hptenders.gov.in
2. No request or claim for price escalation or variation in rates on account of fluctuations in the cost of labor, materials (steel, cement, chemicals, etc.) extension of time limit, equipment, fuel, power, transport, or any statutory levies shall be entertained under any circumstances.
3. The Executive Engineer/competent authority reserve the right to accept or reject any or all the bids or withdrawn from tendering without assigning any reason thereto.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Advt.No.1244/04/11/26 HPSIDC Ltd. Shimla for and on behalf of the Managing Director.

Department of Agriculture
HP Crop Diversification Promotion Project (Phase II), JICA-ODA
State H.Q. Agriculture Complex, Hamirpur Distt Hamirpur, H.P.-177001
Telefax: 91-1972-223059 e-mail: pmucdp-hp@nic.in

Online proposals are hereby invited for **Supply& Installation and CMC of the CCTV Surveillance System at the SPMU office premises, HPCDP Phase-II** from eligible agencies/firms. Terms & conditions/other documents can be downloaded from the website http://hptenders.gov.in. For further queries / details, please contact 01972-223059.End date of Proposal submission 25-11-2026 1000 Hrs.

Sd/-
Project Director
HPCDP (Phase-II), JICA-ODA
Advt.No.1242/04/11/26 Hamirpur, District Hamirpur, H.P.

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD.
SCO 2445-2446, 1st FLOOR, SECTOR 22-C, CHANDIGARH-160022
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **LIC Housing Finance Ltd. (LIC HFL)**, under Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued **Demand Notice** to following Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors calling upon them to repay the outstanding due amount mentioned in the said notices. However, the Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors having failed to repay the said due amount, the undersigned has taken **SYMBOLIC POSSESSION (S)** in exercise of powers conferred U/s 13(4) and U/s 14 of the said Act read with the Rule 8.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property have been mortgaged to the **LIC HFL**, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **LIC HFL** will be sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS"** and **"WHATEVER THERE IS"** & **"WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS** on Date of auction, as per the brief particulars given here under.

Name of Borrower/s:- Mr. Ranbir Singh & Mrs. Manjit Kaur
Loan No. 3003150000532

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

FULL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:- Plot No. 5, Khasra No. 8563/685/22, Village Gill-1, Abadi Green Enclave, Near New Shimlapuri, Ludhiana, Punjab (Plot Area 202 Sq. Yards)

Date of Demand Notice: 26.06.2025	**ACCOUNT DETAILS**
Amt Demanded: Rs. 26,82,277.46 with further interest, cost and expenses.	
Date of Possession (S): Symbolic Possession: 04.09.2025	**Beneficiary Name:** LIC Housing Finance Ltd.
	Bank: Axis Bank, Centralised Collection Hub
Reserve Price: Rs. 25,50,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Fifty Thousand only)	**Account No.:** LHCD3003150000532
EMD: Rs. 2,55,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Fifty Five Thousand only)	**IFSC Code:** UTIB0CCH274
Total Amount payable as on 05.11.2026:- Rs. 31,38,063/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Thirty Eight Thousand and Sixty Three only)	
Date & Time of Inspection of Photocopies of property documents:-	**Date & Time duration:-** 09.12.2026 till 1:00 PM
	Address of property where documents can be inspected - SCO 18, FF, Feroze Gandhi Market, Ludhiana - 141001
Inspection of the Property: (Time to be fixed as per the Office convenience):	**Date and Time Duration for Inspection -** 09.12.2026, 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM
Contact Person:	**Contact Details:-** Mr. Aditya Bedi, M: 8510075080
Website of E-Auction: Bankauctions.in	**Name of E-Auction Service Provider** - M/s 4 Closure
Contact details of E-Auction from the service provider	Address of E-Auction service Provider, name of dealing person, email & Contact Details M. Kiranmai, Asst MANAGER- PR M/s 4 Closure, M: 8142000066 / 8142000062, E-mail: info@bankauctions.in; Bankauctions.in
Last Date of Submission of Online Tender / Bid	Date & Time 09.12.2026 till 3:00 P.M.
E-Auction Date	Date and Time Duration of Auction - 10.12.2026, 12:00 Noon - 3:00 P.M.

*All other terms & conditions of the auction are mentioned as Annexure in the Official Website - https://online.lichousing.com/eauction/

Sd/-
Dated: 05.11.2026 **Place:** Chandigarh **AUTHORISED OFFICER**

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH
E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Electrical Division			
1.	Construction of approach road from Tribune Colony to sewage Treatment plant in Village Raipur khurd, Chandigarh under infrastructure facilities in area merged under MCC head. Amount : Rs. 6,62,282/- Earnest Money : Rs. 13,246/- Time Limit : 04 Months	04.11.2026 To 10.11.2026	10.11.2026 at 03.00 p.m.
2.	Providing and fixing of new lights in place of old, missing/non Led garden/street light in Sector- 22, 23 Chandigarh. (Ward No. 17) under WDF head. Amount : Rs. 13,49,811/- Earnest Money : Rs. 26,996/- Time Limit : 90 Days	04.11.2026 To 10.11.2026	10.11.2026 at 03.00 p.m.
3.	Augmentation of Lights in Showroom front and backside Parking on Madhya Marg Sec-8 , Chandigarh. Amount : Rs. 32,70,624/- Earnest Money : Rs. 65,412/- Time Limit : 60 Days	04.11.2026 To 11.11.2026	11.11.2026 at 03.00 p.m.
4.	Augmentation of Lights in Showroom front and backside Parking on Madhya Marg Sec-9 , Chandigarh. Amount : Rs. 24,17,676/- Earnest Money : Rs. 48,354/- Time Limit : 60 Days	04.11.2026 To 11.11.2026	11.11.2026 at 03.00 p.m.
5.	Providing temporary lighting on hire charge basis at various sites for Chatt Puja 2026 in Chandigarh under Art & Culture head Amount : Rs. 12,36,950/- Earnest Money : Rs. 24,739/- Time Limit : 02 Days	04.11.2026 To 11.11.2026	11.11.2026 at 03.00 p.m.
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Horticulture Division No. 2			
6.	Civil Maintenance Works in Japanese Garden Sector 31,Chandigarh under Revenue Head. Amount : Rs. 14,21,643/- Time Limit : 02 Months Earnest Money: Rs.28,433/- Tender Fee : Rs. 1000/-	04.11.2026 at 5.30 P.M. To 11.11.2026 at 3.00 P.M.	11.11.2026 at 3.00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 3			
7.	Repair and Renovation of Sampark & Anganwadi Building at Village Sarangpur, Chandigarh. Capital Head : NRB Est. Cost : Rs. 12.26 Lacs Earnest Money : Rs. 24,523/- Time Limit : 04 Months	04.11.2026 To 11.11.2026 upto 12.00 noon	11.11.2026 at 13.00 PM

Note :- 1) Tender Notice alongwith detailed terms and conditions is available/uploaded on website at www.chandigarh.gov.in or etenders.chd.nic.in

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Elect. Division, M.C., New Deluxe Building, Room No.402, Sector-17, Chandigarh,
Horticulture Division No. 2, M.C. Chandigarh and
Roads Division No.3, Room No.311, M.C. Chandigarh. Ph. 0172-5021482 xenroad3.mcc@chd.nic.in

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD.
SCO 2445-2446, 1st FLOOR, SECTOR 22-C, CHANDIGARH-160022
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **LIC Housing Finance Ltd. (LIC HFL)**, under Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued **Demand Notice** to following Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors calling upon them to repay the outstanding due amount mentioned in the said notices. However, the Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors having failed to repay the said due amount, the undersigned has taken **SYMBOLIC POSSESSION (S)** in exercise of powers conferred U/s 13(4) and U/s 14 of the said Act read with the Rule 8.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property have been mortgaged to the **LIC HFL**, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **LIC HFL** will be sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS"** and **"WHATEVER THERE IS"** & **"WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS** on Date of auction, as per the brief particulars given here under.

Name of Borrower/s:- Sh. Rakesh Kumar / Smt. Karamjeet Kaur
Loan No. 312000001024

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

FULL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:- House at Street No. 22/2, Khasra No. 5794/4728 Min (1-2), Khata No. 218/2115, Near Aroma Palace, Labh Singh Chowk, Vakya Rakba Pratap Nagar, Patti Jhutti, Bhatinda, Punjab - 151001 (Area 75 Sq. Yards).

Date of Demand Notice: 02.03.2022	**ACCOUNT DETAILS**
Amt Demanded: Rs. 26,84,483/- with further interest, cost and expenses.	
Date of Possession (S): Symbolic Possession: 11.05.2022	**Beneficiary Name:** LIC Housing Finance Ltd.
	Bank: Axis Bank, Centralised Collection Hub
Reserve Price: Rs. 18,00,000/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs only)	**Account No.:** LHCD312000001024
EMD: Rs. 1,80,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Eighty Thousand only)	**IFSC Code:** UTIB0CCH274
Total Amount payable as on 05.11.2026:- Rs. 50,52,286/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Fifty Two Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Six only)	
Date & Time of Inspection of Photocopies of property documents:-	**Date & Time duration:-** 27.11.2026 till 1:00 PM
	Address of property where documents can be inspected - SCF NO. 4, FF, 100 Ft Road, Near Bhagu Road, Bhatinda - 151001
Inspection of the Property: (Time to be fixed as per the Office convenience):	**Date and Time Duration for Inspection -** 27.11.2026, 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM
Contact Person:	**Contact Details:-** Mr. Sandeep Kumar, M: 8802880550
Website of E-Auction: Bankauctions.in	**Name of E-Auction Service Provider** - M/s 4 Closure
Contact details of E-Auction from the service provider	Address of E-Auction service Provider, name of dealing person, email & Contact Details M. Kiranmai, Asst MANAGER- PR M/s 4 Closure, M: 8142000066 / 8142000062, E-mail: info@bankauctions.in; Bankauctions.in
Last Date of Submission of Online Tender / Bid	Date & Time 29.11.2026 till 3:00 P.M.
E-Auction Date	Date and Time Duration of Auction - 30.11.2026, 12:00 Noon - 3:00 P.M.

*All other terms & conditions of the auction are mentioned as Annexure in the Official Website - https://online.lichousing.com/eauction/

Sd/-
Dated: 05.11.2026 **Place:** Chandigarh **AUTHORISED OFFICER**

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD.
SCO 2445-2446, 1st FLOOR, SECTOR 22-C, CHANDIGARH-160022
E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **LIC Housing Finance Ltd. (LIC HFL)**, under Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued **Demand Notice** to following Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors calling upon them to repay the outstanding due amount mentioned in the said notices. However, the Borrowers / Mortgagors / Guarantors having failed to repay the said due amount, the undersigned has taken **SYMBOLIC POSSESSION (S)** in exercise of powers conferred U/s 13(4) and U/s 14 of the said Act read with the Rule 8.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property have been mortgaged to the **LIC HFL**, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **LIC HFL** will be sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS"** and **"WHATEVER THERE IS"** & **"WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS** on Date of auction, as per the brief particulars given here under.

Name of Borrower/s:- Shri Umesh Kumar Munjal & Shri Darshan Lal
Loan No. 311100001976

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

FULL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:- House No. 125, Muraba No. 15, Shiv Vatika, Ridhi Sidhi Estate, Sri Ganga Nagar Road, Abohar, Punjab - 152116 (Area 1440 Sq. Ft.)

Date of Demand Notice: 15.06.2026	**ACCOUNT DETAILS**
Amt Demanded: Rs. 71, 14,661.83 with further interest, cost and expenses.	
Date of Possession (S): Symbolic Possession: 18.09.2026	**Beneficiary Name:** LIC Housing Finance Ltd.
	Bank: Axis Bank, Centralised Collection Hub
Reserve Price: Rs. 35,20,000/- (Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs Twenty Thousand only)	**Account No.:** LHCD311100001976
EMD: Rs. 3,52,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Fifty Two Thousand only)	**IFSC Code:** UTIB0CCH274
Total Amount payable as on 05.11.2026:- Rs. 75,06,243/- (Rupees Seventy Five Lakhs Six Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Three only)	
Date & Time of Inspection of Photocopies of property documents:-	**Date & Time duration:-** 09.12.2026 till 1:00 PM
	Address of property where documents can be inspected - SCO 125, District Shopping Complex, Opposite Amritsar Improvement Trust, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar - 143001
Inspection of the Property: (Time to be fixed as per the Office convenience):	**Date and Time Duration for Inspection -** 09.12.2026, 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM
Contact Person:	**Contact Details:-** Ms. Kudrat Kaur Gill, M: 7973041768
Website of E-Auction: Bankauctions.in	**Name of E-Auction Service Provider** - M/s 4 Closure
Contact details of E-Auction from the service provider	Address of E-Auction service Provider, name of dealing person, email & Contact Details M. Kiranmai, Asst MANAGER- PR M/s 4 Closure, M: 8142000066 / 8142000062, E-mail: info@bankauctions.in; Bankauctions.in
Last Date of Submission of Online Tender / Bid	Date & Time 09.12.2026 till 3:00 P.M.
E-Auction Date	Date and Time Duration of Auction - 10.12.2026, 12:00 Noon - 3:00 P.M.

*All other terms & conditions of the auction are mentioned as Annexure in the Official Website - https://online.lichousing.com/eauction/

Sd/-
Dated: 05.11.2026 **Place:** Chandigarh **AUTHORISED OFFICER**

Sukhu unveils ₹60cr projects in Churah

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



Himachal CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu in Churah, Chamba district, on Wednesday

Shimla: Chief minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Wednesday announced CBSE affiliation for four senior secondary schools in Churah constituency of Chamba district — Himgiri, Thalli, Jajjakothi and Maroond. He also assured funds for road construction in various panchayats of the constituency.

The CM made the announcements while addressing a public gathering at Bhanjraru in Churah, where he inaugurated and laid foundation stones of nine development projects worth Rs 60.6 crore.

He inaugurated Rs 2.8 crore PWD Division Office building Tissa at Bhanjraru and Rs 25.5 crore upgradation of Kiani Rajnagar Chakloo Koti road, and laid foundation stones of Rs 8.2 crore link road to village Kehla, Rs 5.6 crore link road to village Tikri, and Rs 6.9 crore link road from Dakala to Kunda. Highlighting that the state govt was taking concrete steps to strengthen the state's economy, Sukhu said the govt had signed an agreement to sell electricity to Rajasthan at Rs 15.5 per unit, generating an estimated Rs 400 crore in revenue over four months.

He said the govt was pursuing a 50% free power share for Himachal in the 180 MW Baira-Siul Hydroelectric Project from the Centre. Besides, the state had secured Rs 401 crore after winning the Wildflower Hall case.

HP pensioners urged to link Aadhaar with bank accounts

Shimla: Beneficiaries of the national social security pension scheme have been advised to seed their Aadhaar numbers with their bank and post office savings accounts to ensure timely disbursement of pension.

The state govt, in a press statement, said pension benefits were being transferred online to beneficiaries' Aadhaar-seeded accounts. Beneficiaries of the Mukhyamantri Sahara Yojana must upload their life certificates, BPL and income certificates, and medical certificates issued by a competent authority every six months, in April and Sept, on the portal himparivar.hp.gov.in/ekalyan.

"For further information, beneficiaries can contact their respective tehsil welfare offices or district welfare officers," the statement added. TNN

Cong neglecting pensioners, weakening healthcare: BJP

Shimla: BJP state president Dr Rajeev Bindal on Wednesday accused the Congress govt of violating pensioners' rights and weakening Himachal Pradesh's healthcare system.

He alleged that nearly 1.5 lakh retired employees and officers were awaiting medical reimbursements, dearness allowance (DA) instalments and other retirement dues.

Addressing a district-level convention of the BJP Former Employees Cell in Hamirpur, Bindal said senior citizens, including those aged 80 years, were being forced to travel 200-400 km to participate in protests to seek their legitimate benefits.

He also claimed that govt hospitals were facing shortages of essential medicines and disruptions in diagnostic services due to pending payments to laboratory operators. TNN

NEWS DIGEST

₹38cr odour-control systems for 24 STPs

Chandigarh: Haryana govt plans to install activated carbon-based odour-control systems at 24 sewage treatment plants (STPs) across the state at an estimated cost of Rs 38.6 crore to prevent foul smell and improve the quality of treated wastewater.
Public health engineering minister Ranbir Gangwa on Wednesday directed officials to expedite the proposed installations and ensure that treated wastewater is suitable for reuse, particularly for irrigation.

Hisar man held for raping minor

Hisar: Tohana Sadar police have arrested a man for allegedly kidnapping and raping a minor girl. A cop said the case was registered on Nov 2 following a complaint by the girl's family after she went missing. During the search, CCTV footage reportedly showed some youths taking the girl away in a vehicle. The family later traced the vehicle and rescued the minor, while the occupants allegedly fled from the spot. The complainant alleged that the girl was sexually assaulted.
Police said further investigation is underway to ascertain the sequence of events and establish the possible involvement of other accused in the case.

Dry weather for next 6 days in Haryana

Hisar: Haryana is likely to witness predominantly dry weather over the next six days, with no major change expected until Nov 10. Light to moderate northerly and northwesterly winds are expected to prevail, bringing a slight fall in night temperatures and a marginal rise in daytime temperatures. Light fog may also occur at isolated places during the early morning hours.