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R.N.I. REGD. NO. 70959/99; (PB) 1048/99; Zirakpur Wednesday 31st January, 2024 Vol 21, Edition 5 Page 6 Rs 2/-

## Construction work continues uninhibited in unapproved 'Motia Grand' colony



Commissioner News Service

**DERABASSI :** In the ongoing mushrooming of illegal constructions bereft of approved architectural designs, CLU (Change of Land Use) another housing project of 'Motia Grand' on Barwala road is coming



up. On a visit by CNS to the site of chalked out colony, the marketing official of the housing colony explained the attributes of the housing project, but couldn't produce the copy of the approved architectural map as well CLU.

The other day engaged labour was busy in performing their routine work load and called out their sale official. The housing company official demonstrated the project file, planned amenities for the possible clientele. It is practically unthinkable



able to lay a single brick sans approved sanctioned plan in the adjoining tricity, how here in the sub division illegal constructions are allowed ? Is it not happening sans collusion and close understanding on give and take basis., in this context sev-



eral home seekers are seen raising their eyebrows. RERA (Real Estate Regulation Act 2017) was passed in Parliament to regulate the proper system of real estate and housing colonies, constructions to ensure the



glitch free functioning. The aim was to formulate norms for real estate horizons where home seekers wouldn't have to stumble again and again but get relief as per RERA stipulations. Literally, the functioning of RERA has fallen flat, laws are seen



taking back seat, customers are being bamboozled in day light. It has now become historic, no coloniser has ever handed over their colonies to Municipal authorities for permanent care, and civic amenities, remains the pathetic tale,

as promised deal is never implemented with the buyers. Despite many attempts, there was no reply from the mobile phone of President of local Municipal Council .

## Rajeev Verma appointed as new adviser to UT administrator

Commissioner News Service

**Chandigarh:** The ministry of Home affairs on Monday issued orders to the effect, transferring Rajeev Verma, a 1992 batch AGMUT cadres IAS officer, to Chandigarh. Verma was posted as Puducherry Chief Secretary in April 2022. His previous posting was with the Delhi government. He has also worked with the central government in different positions and ministries. His other postings included stints in Goa and Mizoram. His first posting was as SDM at Aizwal in 1994. Verma (58) hails from Uttar Pradesh, and has done graduation in computer science from University of Roorkee



and MTech from IIT. Earlier he was the Chairman and managing director, Joint secretary of transport in Delhi from 2012 to 2013. Mr Verma is expected to join the UT administration on Friday. This will be his first posting with the Chandigarh administration. The UT adviser's post is awaiting a regular posting for now nearly three months. The Home ministry meanwhile has also ordered the

transfer of Ms Purva Garg UT education Secretary, 2015 batch IAS officer of AGMUT cadre, to Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The post of adviser fell vacant on October 31 following the retirement of adviser Dharam Pal. Since then, UT home secretary Nitin Kumar Yadav has been holding the additional charge. This is the first time in UT's history that there has been a gap of nearly three months between two regular postings for the coveted position. The delay had prompted UT administrator Banwarilal Purohit and MP Kirron Kher to take up the matter with the Union home minister and MIA.

## 'Kalpana Soren w/o Hemant Soren's next Jharkhand CM after ED raid' announces BJP Nishikant Dubey

Commissioner News Service

**BJP MP Nishikant Dubey** on Monday claimed that Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren's wife Kalpana Soren may replace him as the former has called all allied MLAs to reach Ranchi "with their luggage". "A big advice to those who are doing wrong on the instructions of Chief Minister Hemant Soren ji, the CM is proving himself to be a fugitive, running away from facing the investigating agency, the man is facing insults in the country and abroad all day long." "How will that man protect the officers or the people of the state?" the BJP MP asked, In a post on X (formerly



Twitter), Dubey wrote. Hemant Soren ji has called his own, MM, Congress and allied MLAs to reach Ranchi with their luggage and baggage. According to the information, there is a proposal to make Kalpana Soren ji (Hemant Soren's wife) the Chief Minister. The CM has said that fearing an ED interrogation, they will reach Ranchi by road and announce their arrival," he added.

## Aman Arora's conviction gets stay order

Commissioner News Service

**Patiala :** Aman Arora Punjab Cabinet minister had filed an appeal on January 9 against his conviction orders in the family dispute case wherein he, along with eight others, were handed out two-year imprisonment on Dec 21 by the court of sub-divisional judicial magistrate Gurbhinder Singh Johal in Sunam.

A Sangrur court on Thursday granted an interim stay on the conviction of Punjab cabinet minister Aman Arora till Jan 31. The sessions court had on Wednesday heard arguments of both the parties till 7pm and stayed the conviction of the minister the next day in a 2008 assault case. The Sangrur sessions court has granted an interim stay till January 31 on the conviction orders. With this stay the purpose of the petition, which was filed in the highcourt to prevent Aman Arora from hoisting the national flag on the Republic



Day, has come to an end," Yogesh Gupta, the minister's counsel, said. On January 11, a Mansa resident, Anil Kumar Tayal, had filed a public interest litigation in the Punjab and Haryana high court, seeking directions to get the name of Arora removed from the list of dignitaries scheduled to hoist the national flag on the Republic Day. A few weeks ago, Punjab governor Banwarilal Purohit had also asked chief minister Bhagwant Mann why Arora had not been divested of his membership of the state assembly despite the Supreme Court's directions in this regard.

## Appointment of CAG not independent, fair and transparent, says PIL

Commissioner News Service

**New Delhi :** "The existing system of the executive appointing the CAG lacks transparency", said a petition filed by advocate Vikas Singh, z

The Supreme court bench has issued notices to the union ministries of Law and Justice and Finance on the PIL filed by Anupam Kulshreshtha and others. The plea sought a direction to "declare that the procedure adopted for the appointment of the Comptroller and the Auditor General of India is against the mandate of the Constitution of India and the same is not independent, fair and transparent".



Under the current system, the Cabinet Secretariat, headed by the Union cabinet secretary, sends a list of shortlisted names to the prime minister for his consideration for appointing the top government auditor, the plea said.

## BJP defeats INDIA block in Mayoral poll 'Act of treason' - AAP National convener

Commissioner News Service

**New Delhi / Chandigarh :** The AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal has attributed the victory of Manoj Sonkar BJP candidate in Mayoral poll a fraud, cheating in broad day light. BJP has stooped so low in the civic body poll, that in the coming lok sabha con-



test it could go to any vicious practice which would be extremely distracting, alarmed Mr Kejriwal. The AAP, Congress coal-

ition had 20 votes in their kitty yet they had lost due to the cross voting. Kuldeep Kumar of coalition had polled 12 votes where as 8 were declared invalid, said a BJP councillor. JP Nadda, BJP chief has applauded the Punjab unit of BJP outfit for victory in Chandigarh.

## 2nd suicide in Kota in this very month

**Kota :** Niharika Singh, from Kota's Borkheda area, was preparing for Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) and was found hanging at her residence, police said. The incident, which marks the second suicide in January, underscores the escalating issue of exam stress among coaching students. Niharika Singh, an 18-year-old from Kota's Borkheda area, was preparing for Joint Entrance



Examination (JEE) and was found hanging at her residence. Despite the family's prompt response and immediate hospitalisation, she was declared dead

upon arrival. The police have initiated an investigation, including a post-mortem examination, to ascertain the circumstances leading to her tragic decision. The police also recovered a suicide note along with Niharika's body. "Mummy, Papa, I can't do JEE. So I suicide. I am loser. I am worst daughter [sic]. Sorry Mummy, Papa. This is the last option I have," read the letter.

## PU PhD entrance test on Aug 25

**Chandigarh :** The PhD entrance test 2024 for admissions to Panjab University's faculties of arts, law, languages, science, education, engineering, design & fine arts, pharmacy, and business management & commerce will be conducted on August 25. The Dean of the university instruction (DUI) office has requested the chairper-



sons of departments concerned and approved

research centres to intimate the number of seats for PhD programme for the academic session 2024-2025. They are also directed to send a separate communication to the approved research centres and coordinate with them regarding the number of seats. The required information must reach the assistant registrar (CET) by March 3.

## Maldivian opposition parties for an impeachment motion gather signatures

Commissioner News Service

**Male :** The main opposition party of the Maldives, the Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP), which holds a majority in Parliament, has gathered enough signatures to submit a motion to impeach Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu, reported 'The Sun' Maldivian local media, on Monday. A lawmaker from the MDP, that the MDP in partnership with the Democrats have gathered signatures for an impeachment motion. A total of 34 members, including representatives from both the MDP and Democrats,



have given their support to the motion for the impeachment of the President that was disrupted yesterday over chaos in the Maldivian parliament, according to Adhahdhu an online news portal in the Maldives. The 'Sun' further reported

that the MDP had decided it will deny approval to Ali Ihusan, the home minister, and Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon, the defense minister, if government lawmakers continue to disrupt the Parliament.

## 3 days rose fest in PU to begin on Feb 9

**Chandigarh :** The 13th PU Rose Festival will begin from Feb 9. On the first day, flower competition will be played followed by Rangoli and painting contests the very next day.

On Feb 11, "Rose Prince & Princess" and best fancy dress



will be chosen. Entries for the competitions will be

accepted till 5pm on Feb 8 at the rose festival secretariat.

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13. Hotel Atlante, Properties 9578110000

SCO24, Kalgidhar Market, Opp. K.Area, Baltana,ZRK

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15. Hotel Shine Inn, 7341134340

SCO4,(Near Sohi Banquet Hall) Simla Highway, ZRK

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4.Om Property, 7696445500

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4. Indian Shadow Handloom, 7082071500

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5. Raymond, Dulha Collection, 9888388919

Men's Tailoring Shop, Shop 5, Ist Floor, VIP road,

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6. Vijay Cobb Brand Fabric, 9625168599

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3. Jindal Door & Ply, 7027071715

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4. Shiv Ply Woods, 9417728473

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5. Shiv Plywoods, 9417554773

Near NK Sharma Office, Amb-Chd road, Zirakpur

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Amb-Chd road, Zirakpur

PERSONALITY ORNAMENTS, FOOTWEAR, BAGS ETC

1. Sandalz, 9872172134, Neha Singh (For Shoes, Bags),

SCO 4, Lower 'G Floor, Amb-Highway Zirakpur

2. Me n Moms , Cuddles n Snuggles,

Mobile 9876016099

Raksha Business Centre, Amb-Chd road, Zirakpur

TYRES/WHEELS/BLANCERS

1. Auto Care, 8196098829,

Shop 35, Chaura Bazar, Amb-Chd road, Zirakpur

ROARING MACHINE/BULLET CAFE

1. Bullets Sale & Services, 7347029497, 7347029498

Amb-Chd road, Singhpura, Zirakpur

2. The Bullet Café, 9872000106

SCO 3, Amb-Chd road, Zirakpur

TAILORING/DESIGNING EXPERTS

1. Royal Wear Tailors, 8837859503, 9268600001

Designer Studio, Main Silver City (Opp Sethan Da

Dhaba), Ambala road, Zirakpur.

2. New Style Tailor & White House, 9988820933

\*\*Mukatsar Wale\*\* Gents suiting shirting,

Safari Suits, Amb-Chd road, Zirakpur

3. New Shri Ganpati White House,

9478700044, 9216700044

Fashion Studio, SCO 7, Main Silver City,

Amb-Chd road, Zirakpur

MOTOR/AUTO REPAIRS/CAR

1. Kapoor Auto Spares, 9855988218

Service Repair, Spare parts, Chd-Amb road, Zirakpur

INSURANCE, LOTTERY LUCK

1. Insurance 8872135535

Accidental Vehicles, Personal, Medical Claim

2. Rattan Lotteries, 9855733571

SCO 1, Panchkula Chowk, Zirakpur

3. Sharma Lottery, 9988150985

Amb-Chd road, (Near Panchkula Chowk) Zirakpur

PROMINENT GENERAL STORES

1. Aman Pappu General Store, 9779723419

\*\*Visit for : Laces, Bangles, Jewellers, Purse Garland,

Under garments etc.\*\* Shop 329, Amb-Chd road, ZRK

2. Ekam General Store, 9941934567

\*\*Wide range of Cosmetics, Jewellers, Embroideries,

Purse etc.\*\* Shop no. 112, Old MC Office road, ZRK

3. Saini General Store, 9814798003, 9814003377

\*\*Varities of Under Garments and School Uniforms etc\*\*

Chd-Amb road, Main Bazar, Zirkapur

WATCH PURCHASE & REPAIR

1. Usha Watch Co., Rakash Verma 9888940945, 9914097950

Auth Dealer : Sonata, Titan, HMT, Other watches, Wall clock

Alarm Time Pieces and Calculator, Sun Glass & Opticals also available

Main Chowk Zirakpur, Chandigarh road

Brick Kiln Quality

1. Khanduja Brothers (KKK), 9814400801

Patiala road, Chhatbir.

2. Om Bricks, 9877672881

Patiala road, Azizpur.

3. Gulati Bricks, 9671600219

Sundra road, Mubarakpur



EDITORIAL -

Democracy, dignity imperiled  
in custody, tortured

The much-awaited comprehensive legislation addressing various aspects of the crime of torture will be in furtherance of the guaranteed right to life with dignity under Article 21. Such a law will also enable India to ratify the United Nations Convention against Torture (UNCAT), which has not been possible in the absence of a compliant domestic law. India's ratification of the UNCAT will spare the country the embarrassment of facing repeated calls for accountability at the United Nations Human Rights review meetings, for non-ratification of the convention. Ironically, in a first resolution to be proposed by a third-world country, it was India that had initiated the United Nations Resolution 32/64 of December 8, 1977, calling upon governments to unilaterally comply with the declaration against torture. Over the years, India has been a signatory to several international treaties that prohibit torture in any form and seek its elimination. Articles 51(c) and 253 of the Indian Constitution mandate respect for international law and compliance therewith. The necessity of a standalone comprehensive legislation, covering several aspects connected with custodial torture, has been recognised by a select committee of Parliament that had, in a demonstration of bipartisan support, recommended such a law in the form of Prevention of Torture Bill, 2010. Regrettably, 14 years hence, the nation still awaits this critical piece of legislation against torture. The Law Commission of India, in its 273rd report (2017), and the National Human Rights Commission, in an affidavit filed before the Supreme Court, have also endorsed the advisability of such a legislation. The need for a comprehensive anti-custodial law, on the lines of UNCAT, as against a piecemeal tinkering with the wholly inadequate provisions in the existing criminal laws to address several issues arising out of the acts of custodial torture, is self-evident.

These include a comprehensive definition of torture as a specified crime; prosecution of delinquent public servants, including police authorities; mode and manner of lodging of complaints against custodial torture; protection of public officials against vexatious complaints; ensuring fair and impartial investigation; the question of burden of proof; interim compensation and rehabilitation of victims and witnesses of custodial torture; parameters for deciding the quantum of compensation to be awarded to victims; speedy trial and disposal of complaints; grievance redressal mechanism for complaints that may arise from such trials and disposal thereof; protection of victims, witnesses and complainants; education and sensitisation of police authorities and public servants to encourage the use of scientific methods for effective and timely investigation and interrogation. Endorsing the need for legislation as an instrument of policy, the Consultative Council of European Judges stated in its Opinion No. 18 (2015): "A lack of legislation... may be contrary to the principle of legal certainty." The enactment of requisite legislation, apart from reinforcing the nation's commitment to constitutionalism and democracy, will disable fugitives from the law, currently abroad, to evade justice in India on the basis of apprehension of torture in custody. Torture is a crime that scars the soul, mutilates the body, breaks the human will and dehumanises the victim. It leaves behind for its victims, as author Maria Popova has said, "A suffocating penitentiary in which one's inner scream becomes deafening, deadening..." and the deepest sense of alienation in one's innermost recesses "cold as ice and heavy as a stone..." There is no scope, therefore, for executive apathy, legislative lassitude and judicial inconsistency/ambivalence in the matter of a joint resolve against torture, anywhere and in any form.

The enactment of an anti-torture legislation is a collective burden of the executive, legislative and judicial wings of the Indian state who are mandated by the first principles of constitutional governance to work in unison for the advancement of national goals. With our debilitating politics generally limited to a constant 'jostling in the crowd' over personal vanities and political animosities, the representatives of the people cannot escape their share of responsibility for ignoring the compelling priority of our times. Nor has the highest constitutional court been able to effectively fill a glaring gap in the law and ensure the effectuation of its elevating jurisprudence on human dignity in relation to acts of torture. The landmark court judgments in this regard that demand validation through a purposive effective implementation include Sunil Batra (2017), Francis Coralie Mullin (1981), DK Basu (1997), Prithpal Singh (2012), Shabnam (2015), KS Puttaswamy (2017), Nambi Narayanan (2018) and Romila Thapar (2018). Indisputably, a nation inspired by the ideals of a dignitarian Constitution cannot carry the burden of an unconscionable indifference to the inadequacy of legal structures to prevent brazen infractions of individual dignity by torture in custody of the state's agencies. India's pre-eminence in the global arena will rest on the strength of its democratic edifice sustained and nurtured by an abiding deference to human rights and accountability of state power. For all the above reasons and more, the logic of an effective anti-torture legislation is unexceptionable. The question is: will keepers of the constitutional faith vindicate the republic's conscience? The resilience of a nation on the move will be tested by whether those responsible for charting the nation's destiny and revitalising its democracy live up to their responsibilities.

117.17 hectare land of Mohali district to be acquired for rail corridor

**Commissioner News Service**  
**MOHALI** : The total length of the project is 474.772 km out of which 55.613 km would fall in Mohali district. The stations proposed near Chandigarh for the project may be at Dilapur, Bakarpur, Shafipur and Kurka villages. To apprise people about the environmental and social impact of the proposed Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar high-speed rail corridor, a public consultation meeting was held by National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) at the District Administrative Complex here. The meeting was chaired by District Revenue Officer Amandeep Chawla while details of the proposal were shared by NHSRCL representative Anil Kumar. Anil apprised farmers about the project that would affect 43 villages of the district with the acquisition of 117.17 hectares of land. Being an electric train project, the environment pollution as well as vibration impact has been pegged at zero. The entire project would be constructed on 10 to 15 metre high pillars having width of 13 metre, besides a four metre road below



that would be open for all and for maintenance purposes. He cautioned farmers that the project was a mere proposal. He said there was no guarantee for acquiring any land in particular before the approval of the Union Cabinet. As per primary survey, there is no religious place, educational institution, hospital, archaeological monument, national park/wildlife or forest on land that could be acquired for the project. District Revenue Officer Amandeep Chawla urged all present on the occasion to submit their suggestions or objections if any in writing so these could be forwarded to the agency concerned for consideration. He said after getting approval for the proposal the land acquisition process would be initiated under the RFCTLARR Act (2013).

30 lakh to benefit atta-on-doorstep scheme in Feb

**Commissioner News Service**  
**CHANDIGARH** : Out of a total 1.54 crore beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (after 10.77 lakh were brought back into the fold last week), the scheme will initially be rolled out partially and later expanded to cover all beneficiaries. The Punjab Government will be rolling out its ambitious scheme for home delivery of wheat or atta to 30 lakh beneficiaries (6.50 lakh ration card holders) in February. Highly placed sources in the government reveal that the scheme would be launched in mid-February at a rally to be organised by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP). The scheme will be launched by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal. Though initially it was proposed to launch the scheme at a rally on January 27, the persisting cold weather has pushed the event to the second week of February. The party top brass is in the process of finalising the venue for the launch of the scheme at a rally in either Jalandhar, Fatehgarh Sahib, Faridkot or Ferozepur parliamentary constituencies. The wheat for the last quarter of the year (January to March 2024) has not been distributed so far. Once the scheme is rolled out, wheat or atta will be distributed on a monthly basis, rather than



quarterly. The government has set aside Rs 670 crore per annum for running the scheme. Official sources in the Department of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs have said that initially the government would roll out the scheme through the government-run fair price shops. Markfed, which is the nodal agency for running the scheme, has got 800 model fair price shops built to run the scheme. Four vendors have also been selected to run these shops and distribute atta/wheat. The scheme is all set for its launch as all things are in place, a senior officer in Department of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs stated. The beneficiaries will either get 5 kg of wheat or wheat flour delivered free of cost at their doorstep. The monthly wheat requirement is 72,500 tonnes. Calculations are being made on how much of flour is to be distributed initially after assessing the beneficiaries who would want flour and not grains. It is only after the distribution starts, will the government know about the number of beneficiaries wanting to opt for doorstep delivery.

4 aides of Bikram Majithia in drugs case summoned on Feb 2



**Commissioner News Service**  
**PATIALA** : Including a former PA and another former OSD to Majithia, the four have been asked to appear before SIT on February 2. Almost two years after a drugs case was registered against former minister Bikram Singh Majithia, SIT probing the case has now summoned four aides of Majithia. SIT has summoned them at Patiala in connection with the ongoing investigation. A senior IPS officer confirmed that Talbir Singh Gill, who had unsuccessfully contested from Amritsar south, Shivcharan Singh Major Shivi, a former Army officer, Kartar Singh who was attached with Majithia as a PA and Budh Singh, have been summoned. "They will be asked certain questions related to the drugs case and that's why they have been summoned to appear", said an official attached with

the SIT. The Patiala Range DIG Harcharan Singh Bhullar-led new SIT, which was formed on January 1, had earlier grilled Majithia about financial transactions and his links with those named in the drugs trade, on January 16. Bhullar heads the three-member SIT with Patiala SSP Varun Sharma and Dhuri SP Yogesh Sharma as its members. The need to reconstitute SIT arose following the retirement of Patiala ADGP MS Chhina on December 30. Majithia was booked in December 2021 on the basis of a 2018 report submitted by anti-drugs STF head Harpreet Singh Sidhu. Interestingly, the SIT has failed to file a chargesheet into the case. The SIT has even failed to recover any drugs or name any new accused in the case despite grilling many persons in the case.

Immigration firms raided in Chandigarh : Tax evasion

**Commissioner News Service**

**CHANDIGARH** : Under the command of Pardeep Rawal, ETO, the teams, directed by Jagdeep Sehgal, AETC, examined GST returns, business models, past filings and portal-based data, and conducted on-site visits to gather crucial information. Six teams of the GST Department recently conducted raids on multiple immigration firms in the city on the suspicion of tax evasion. The inspections yielded substantial evidence, including enrollment forms, rent agreements, pen drives, mobile phones, computers, loose documents, dairy notebooks and



registers. Notable firms covered in this operation were Canvisa Worldwide, CV Immigration and Akal Overseas Consultancy and Future Developers, Sector 34 revealed the UT Administration. This effort follows the previous week's inspection of Dhagey Creations, Sector 38, where it was

discovered that the taxpayer was operating under the composition scheme instead of regular GST registration. These measures by the department are aimed at sealing GST revenue loopholes and ensuring businesses comply with tax regulations, the authorities said.

14,417 employees of group C, D being regularised, unions irked

**Commissioner News Service**

**CHANDIGARH** : In May, the Punjab Cabinet had given the nod to the 'Policy for Welfare of Adhoc, Contractual, Daily Wages, Work Charged and Temporary Employees' which paved the way for regularising the services of 14,417 employees. The Punjab government has started the process to regularise around 14,417 Group C and Group D employees but employee organisations have expressed reservations regarding the terms of employment of such workers issued by the government last week. As per the policy, the employees, who have worked on ad hoc, contractual, daily wage, work charged or



temporary basis for a continuous period of minimum 10 years till the issuance of the policy, will be regularised. However, the employees will not be placed in the regular cadre of sanctioned posts under the statutory service rules. A special cadre of posts will be created especially for them. Now in light of that notification, the state Department of Personnel has issued terms and conditions.

The Democratic Employees Front said the terms issued by the department would leave the contractual and daily wage workers at the receiving end. "The employees have given prime of their lives to the government. Now they will be considered as fresh recruits and will have to serve a three-year probation again. The government must introspect. Does an employee, who has already served for more than a decade, still need to go under three-year fresh probation?" asked Germanjit Singh, president of the Democratic Employees Front, Punjab. He said the employees would be devoid of benefits of their past service. "Even they will be deprived of equal work, equal pay practice," he added.

UT Adviser asked to file compliance affidavit by Jan 31: CAT

**Commissioner News Service**

**CHANDIGARH** : The Chandigarh Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) has directed the Adviser to the UT Administrator and the Education Secretary of the Chandigarh Administration to file compliance affidavit by January 31 this year in a contempt petition filed by a retired professor of the Post Graduate Government College, Sector 11. In the contempt petition, Dr Brahm Parkash, professor and former acting principal of the college, alleged that the UT Administration was intentionally disobeying orders issued by CAT on March 21 last year. He stated that many teachers of the government colleges approached the tribunal for directing the Administration to not retire them at the age of 58 under the Punjab rules. They also relied on the judgment of the Punjab and Haryana High Court passed in Dr Joginder Pal case. Allowing their applications, CAT directed the



Administration to permit the petitioners to continue in the service till the age of 65 as provided under the UGC regulation mandating 65 as the retirement age for all teachers in centrally funded institutions. As per the order, the applicants, who stood relieved in terms of the Punjab rules on attaining the age of superannuation, shall be given an option to rejoin. They will get notional benefits from the date of relieving and on rejoining. Further, the Education Secretary was also directed to ensure that a uniform system is adopted by all colleges in case of retired employees within a period of six weeks from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.

The Bench has also dismissed a review application filed against the March 21 order by the respondents in April last year. The respondents also challenged the order before the High Court, but no stay order was granted. The petitioner said in view of the order, he submitted an option to rejoin the services, but no action was taken by the respondents on it. He said the orders passed by the Bench were required to be complied with in six weeks, but the respondents failed to do so. The petitioner prayed before the Bench that in view of the order, the respondents may be summoned, tried and dealt with in accordance with the Contempt of the Court (CAT) Rules-1992. After hearing the arguments, the Bench comprising Ramesh Singh Thakur, member (J), and Rashmi Saxena Sahni, member (A), directed the respondents to file compliance affidavit by January 31.

PGI's emergency chemist replaced by Amrit Pharmacy

**Commissioner News Service**

**CHANDIGARH** : The chemist, paying a substantial rent of Rs 1.5 crore, had raised his hands on December 31. The margin of rent has been beyond comprehension as new pharmacy is paying a rent of just Rs 5 lakh. In a move aimed at providing relief to patients, the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, has replaced the very chemist operating within the emergency hall with an Amrit Pharmacy. Overcharging for medicines has long been a concern at the institute,



prompting the establishment of a committee in October last year. Comprising eight consultants, this committee is closely monitoring the practices of chemists on the campus. Despite the private chemist offering discounts, complaints persisted about the high costs compared to external sources. The Amrit Pharmacy initiative aligns with the institution's commitment to affordable medicines and

reliable implants for treatment (AMRIT). This retail pharmacy promises average discounts of up to 60% on MRP for drugs, implants, surgical disposables and other consumables. The PGI campus currently hosts seven Amrit Pharmacies, two Jan Aushadhi stores and four private chemist shops. Notably, six private chemist shops remain vacant and unused.



## People are threatened to face ED, CBI at their homes if not supporting BJP : Mamata Banerjee

global shocks in the future. The ministry said that in the next three years, India is expected to become the third-largest economy in the world, with a GDP of USD 5 trillion. "The government has, however, set a higher goal of becoming a 'developed country' by 2047. With the journey of reforms continuing, this goal is achievable," it said. The Nirmala Sitharaman-headed ministry stressed that the reforms will be more purposeful and fruitful with full participation of state governments. The participation of states will be fuller when reforms encompass changes in governance at the district, block, and village levels, and making them citizen-friendly.

## One joins, two leave: Haryana CM's swipe at INDIA bloc

dictates that the president can be impeached with 56 votes," the Sun.com added.

The Parliament had recently amended its standing orders to make it easier to submit an impeachment motion.

The Maldivian Parliament has a total of 80 members. The Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) has 45, followed by its ally The Democrats (DEM) with 13 members.

Of the ruling coalition of PPM-PNC, the Progressive Party of the Maldives has 2 while the People's National Congress has 13 members. There are three independents while the Jumhooree Party and the Maldives Development Alliance (MDA) have two each.

The gathering of signatures for an impeachment motion against the President comes a day after the PPM-PNC coalition, submitted no-confidence motions against Speaker Mohamed Aslam and Deputy Speaker Ahmed Saleem – both from MDP.

The decision to submit an impeachment motion was taken unanimously in the parliamentary group meeting of the MDP held on Monday, The Edition.mv reported.

"The Constitution, along with the Parliament's standing orders, dictates that the president can be impeached with 56 votes," the Sun.com added.

The Parliament had recently amended its standing orders to make it easier to submit an impeachment motion.

Earlier on January 24, calling India the "most long-standing ally," the MDP and the Democrats had expressed concern about the Muizzu government's "anti-India stance."

The open support (for India) by the two parties had come a day after the Maldives government said a Chinese ship, equipped to carry research and surveys, would be docking at a Maldivian port after being permitted to make a port call for replenishment.

The permission to allow the Chinese ship had come amid strained ties between India and Maldives after President Muizzu made Beijing his first port of call early this month soon after assuming office. Traditionally, New Delhi has been the first port of call for a Maldivian President.

**Commissioner News Service**  
**KARNAL** : “A thousand pieces of a broken heart; some fall here, some fall there. There is a lack of trust within the coalition leaders. One joins, two leave; two join, three leave. All their experiments have failed, and will fail in the future,” said CM Manohar Lal Khattar in reply to a question on Bihar CM Nitish Kumar leaving the alliance. The CM was in the city to hold a Jan Samvaad programme. Referring to INDIA alliance as a series of failed experiments, CM Manohar Lal Khattar claimed that there was no trust among them. Regarding Congress leaders Kumari Selja,

Randeep Surjewala and Kiran Choudhary's yatra, the CM said democracy allowed everyone the right to organise programmes and conduct tours. "People will judge and reply," he remarked. The CM said old-age service ashrams would be set up in every district and would provide accommodation facilities for 50 people each. He also announced that around 200 illegal colonies would be regularised soon.

**Commissioner News Service**  
**Cooch Behar/Siliguri :**  
“The BJP is using central agencies for elections... it is threatening people over the phone to send Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) sleuths to their homes if they do not vote for the saffron party,” West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said at a public distribution programme here.  
Banerjee on Monday accused the BJP of threatening people to send central probe agencies to their homes if they do not vote for the saffron party in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.  
The TMC supremo advised locals in Cooch Behar, particularly Rajbanshis, to ensure that their names are on the voters’ list to “protect themselves” from the Citizenship (Amendment) Act or CAA.  
The West Bengal Chief Minister also asserted that she will not follow any dictate of the BJP to worship any particular god. “I follow Ramayana, Quran, Bible and Guru Granth Sahib,”

do not do drama by visiting poor people's homes to eat food brought from outside," she said. While referring to the ethnic violence in BJP-ruled Manipur, she claimed that over 200 churches have been gutted and several women paraded naked during the strife in the northeastern state.

"In Manipur, they have set on fire 200 churches and women were paraded naked," she alleged, adding that the Christmas holiday was also cancelled.

Banerjee alleged that the Centre is bringing up the issue of CAA to do politics before the Lok Sabha polls.

"They [BJP] have again started to speak about CAA. This is nothing but politics. We have

given citizenship to everyone (and) they (people in border areas) are getting everything. They are citizens, which is why they are allowed to vote," she said.

Earlier in the day, Union minister and BJP leader Shantanu Thakur claimed that the CAA will be implemented across India within the next seven days.

"Within the next one week, CAA will be implemented not only in West Bengal but also across the country," Thakur said at a public meeting in Kalkdwip in South 24 Parganas district.

Banerjee, while speaking at the programme in Cooch Behar, also accused the BSF of "torturing people and issuing separate identity cards to people residing in border areas".

She cautioned locals not to accept such identity cards from the BSF, else they would "fall into the NRC trap".

"The BSF is torturing people... it is trying to issue separate identity cards to people living in border areas. Never accept these cards

## Feb 29 enhanced date for voter enrolment period

**Commissioner News Service**  
**AMRITSAR :** A fresh notification was issued by the Gurdwara Election Commission with a revised schedule in this regard. The last date for receipt of claims and objections will be April 11, 2024. The final publication of the voters' list will be May 3, 2024. The voters' enrolment process for the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) general poll has been pushed to February 29, 2024. Earlier, the voters' registration was between October 21 and November 15. Many Sikh organisations, including the SGPC, had approached Justice S. S. Saron (retd), Commissioner, Gurdwara Election Commission.

apprising him about the problems being faced by members in registering their votes. In the 2011 elections, a total of 52.69 lakh voters were registered in Punjab, followed by 3.37 lakh in Haryana, 23,011 in Himachal and 11,932 in Chandigarh. As Haryana may be out of the picture this time as it has already constituted a separate ad-hoc Haryana Sikh Gurdwara



# P.C.

Management Committee, the voters from Himachal and Chandigarh would participate in the SGPC poll.

While Chandigarh has started the enrolment procedure from today, Himachal has yet to start this exercise. Thus, taking cognisance of flaws in the registration process, the Gurdwara Election Commission has extended the window.



# केश कान्ति

बालों की समस्याओं का  
साइंटिफिक व इफैक्टिव सॉल्यूशन

हर्बल हेयर एक्सपर्ट ऑयल



**केश कान्ति नैचुरल शैम्पू**

- हेयर फॉल रोक कर बालों को घना बनाये
- बेजान बालों में चमक लाये
- झड़ई स्कैल्प को मॉइस्चराइज़ करे
- दो मुँहे बालों को कम करके उन्हें मज़बूत बनाये





**केश कान्ति एलोवेरा शैम्पू**

- बालों को घना बनाये
- रूखे बालों को मॉइस्चराइज़ करे
- बेजान बालों को झीप कंठिशन करके नरिश करे
- हाइड्रेट करके टूटने से बचाये



**केश कान्ति एंटी डैंड्रफ़ शैम्पू**

- रूसी हटाकर बालों को झड़ने से रोके
- स्कैल्प को नरिश करके बालों को हेल्दी बनाये
- झाइनेस हटाकर बालों को चमक दे





**केश कान्ति हेयर ऑयल**

- बालों का रूखापन दूर करे
- दो मुँहे बाल व बालों को असमय सफेद होने से रोके
- बालों की जड़ों को मज़बूत करके उनकी ग्रोथ में मदद करे
- बालों को गिरने और डैंड्रफ़ से बचाये







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## Maldives opposition parties flag concerns of media censorship, financial status & foreign deals

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi : In the latest flare up of the diplomatic row between India and Maldives, the island nation's two Opposition parties have expressed grave concern with President Mohamed Muizzu's 'anti-India- stance. Two main opposition parties in Maldives called India as the "most long-standing ally". The main opposition parties, Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) and the Democrats, came out in support of India, a day after the Maldives government said a



Chinese ship, equipped to carry research and surveys, will be docking at a Maldivian port after being permitted by the Male government to make a port call for replenishment.

President Mohamed Muizzu had visited China after taking charge of the seat of governance, skipping

an India visit. Breaking tradition of his predecessors, Muizzu, known for being pro-China, visit to the East Asian country further played into a controversy that embroiled following 'derogatory' remarks by three Maldivian ministers of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Lakshadweep visit.

## New ETP plant accorded by CPCC

Commissioner News Service

Chandigarh: The PGI has submitted a detailed action plan before the CPCC, explaining how the project will come up with required parameters. As choice of technology to construct the ETP is one of the prime components, the PGI has consulted all such aspects with the UT authority concerned. The PGI has said it will come up with the ETP by the end of December2024. The Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) has finally got UT administration's 'consent to establish' a new effluent treatment plant(ETP) of 3.5 MLD capacity on its premises.



As per information, the consent to establish the ETP has been given following a thorough scrutiny and assessment of the plan submitted by the PGI. "The dimensions, outflow and choice of right technology are part of the assessment to check the sustainability of the project," sources said. As per rough estimates, there are around 10 to 11 points across the institute from where effluents are being released.

## Maldives parliament witnesses clashes during crucial vote on President Muizzu's Cabinet



Commissioner News Service

Male : Clashes broke out in Maldives' Parliament on January 28 between pro-government MPs and Opposition lawmakers over differences over the approval of four members of pro-China President Mohamed Muizzu's Cabinet.

The main Opposition Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP) decided to withhold parliamentary approval for four members of President Muizzu's Cabinet ahead of the voting on the Cabinet. Subsequently, pro-government MPs initiated a protest, hindering the parliamentary sitting from

proceeding, according to local media reports.

During the clash, an altercation occurred between Kanditheemu MP Abdulla Shaheem Abdul Hakeem Shaheem and Kendhikulhudhoo MP Ahmed Easa when the former tripped and knocked down Easa.

Mr. Shaheem had also sustained injuries on his head when the two parliamentarians fell near the chamber during the scuffle. Minority leader Moosa Siraj had attempted to stop the altercation.

## 140 CISF personnels deployed in Parliament premises

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi : Across the parliament premises 140 personnels strength has been stationed in the complex .The strategic strength of contingent has been raised in view of the serious lapse in the security cover.



The ensuing Budget session is set to begin on 31 Jan,and comprehensive overhaul has become inescapable,said the security officials.

The main point of installation of the force would be to frisk away the visitors to the new parliament building and get their belongings scrutinized.

It might be mentioned here that during last winter session on 13 Dec 2023 security breach was caused by 2 individuals who managed to reach a lok sabha chamber from the

visitors gallery which is a serious breach of the regulation. The chaos was created by dissipation of yellow colour smoke from the available canisters on the spot.

## Innovative procedures to douse blaze

Commissioner News Service

Chandigarh : Modular extinguishers equipped with state of the art technology now would help douse the blaze at battery back up rooms, revealed the sources at PGI .



No sooner , the temperature hit the 65 degree Celsius ,a bulb would burst and sprayed powder from extinguisher would douse the flames.

About 1550 general extinguishers have been planned for

procurement and further strengthening the ailing fire system in the PGI. Also the PGI Administration has purchased 5 smoke exhaust blowers. The equipment would be

foldable and portable ,fit for carriage very conveniently, with instantly venting away of smoke from further endangering the interiors of the building.

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## No nod for repair of Pb- HP Algran bridge as yet

Commissioner News Service

Patiala : Illegal mining for sand around the bridge has weakened its structure. After the bridge was closed, the traffic from Nangal and Nurpurbedi was diverted to Jindwari-Bhalan and Kahanpur- Bhangalalink roads, respectively. Executive Engineer, Devinder Mall whose team had prepared the status report along with the cost estimate of protecting the bridges of Algran and Agampur, said: "The Algran bridge is under the government's consideration and tenders for its repair will be floated soon.Diversion routes are available via Anandpur Sahib and Kalwan." Sukhdeep Singh Dhindsa Chief construction Engineer said: "Having joined on Friday, I need time to study the matter and see if any file awaits priority clearance."



Kul Hind Kisan Sabha Ropar president Surjit Singh Dher said: "The Algran bridge connects Nurpur Bedi with Bhalan and Nangal, and links Ropar with Una in Himachal Pradesh. Since the stream below is low on water, the locals have cut a temporary path for vehicles through its bed."

Signs of distress around piers 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, while an independent surveyor

also concluded that the bridge was unsafe. Pier 7 is left with a grip length of hardly 2m, while tiling of the well had crushed its pedestals. After damage to the railing and footpaths was also reported last month, the administration had closed the bridge and recommended restoration of soil (bed level) to its original condition around the wells to stabilise piers 6, 7 and 8 particularly.

## SGPC schedules special session on Feb 01



Commissioner News Service

Amritsar : Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee , Akal Takhat ,has convened a special session of its general house On Feb 01,2024.

In view of police firing and violation of Maryada ( religious conduct ) at Gurdwara Sri Akal Bunga Sahib in Sultanpur Lodhi ,the decision of special session had been finalised last week by the Executive committee. AAM Aadmi party led by Bhagwant Singh Mann has desperately hurt sikh religious sentiments by opening firing in the gurdwara ,was accountable against the perpetrated

act, said Harjinder Singh Dhami, President SGPC .Assault on the gurdwara steered by the government woul. not be tolerated by the committee,added Mr Dhammi The SGPC also slammed the stand taken by Delhi's AAP govt against the early release of Bombay blast convict Devender Paul Singh Bhullar. Mr Dhami raised the issue of repeated paroles given to Gurmit Ram Rahim ,Head of Sirsa based Dera Sacha Sauda by the Haryana govt and castigated one sided justice system was not acceptable by the SGPC.

## PU schedules senate meeting on Feb 10

Commissioner News Service

Chandigarh: Hearing the plea filed by Keshav Malhotra and others, Justice Vinod S Bhardwaj of the HC on Jan 20 adjourned the case to Feb 15 while hearing the submissions filed by Kesav Malhotra and others . He said the interim order will continue till the next date of hearing.

Panjab University will hold a meeting of its senate on February 10. The meeting was earlier scheduled for December 29 last year,but it was put off after the Punjab and Haryana high court ordered a stay on the PU syndicate elections.

On anonymity condition, an official said the meeting is important because all the syndicate decisions happened in 2023, and policies are framed in anticipation of the senate. Finalizing decisions within the senate



becomes imperative, and essential processes like budget approvals and board of finance meetings should not encounter any delays. Although the official agenda is not out yet, most probably the highlight of this senate meeting will be BoF minutes and passing of the budget for the session 2024-25.

In its meeting held in October, Panjab University's Board of Finance (BoF) cleared a revised expenditure of Rs 752.2 crore for the 2023 24 session and Rs 789.6 crore for the 2024-25

session. For the 2024-25 session to generate Rs 789.6 crore, Rs332.3 crores will come from internal income and Rs 457.3 crore will be annual maintenance grant, including Rs366.8 crore from UGC and Rs 90.5 crore from Punjab. The vised budget will be enough to meet the salaries of teachers. However, Rs 278 crore needed to pay the arrears since 2016 are still pending, and- the university has asked the central and Punjab government for a one-time grant.

## Death knell sounded for INDIA by Nitish, Mamata

Commissioner News Service

New Delhi: With JD(U) of Nitish Kumar exiting the INDIA doorways have eyes widely peeled for steering more possible exits, amid afresh crisis of optics for the opposition alliance just when it was hoping to hit the road for the tough Lok Sabha elections to be held in the backdrop of Ayodhya and renewed BJP ascendancy following the assembly wins.

Congress slammed Nitish with derisive epithets like "chameleon" and "traitor", while party president Mallikarjun Kharge said RJD supremo Lalu Prasad had warned about the "unreliable" Kumar jumping ship to the BJP side. But what looked like impotent rage of the anti-BJP camp could do little to rubbish the concerns that Nitish's exit only undercuts the attempts to mount a national alternative to BJP.The opposition has viewed Bihar,



Maharashtra and West Bengal as states where grand alliances can whittle down BJP's 2019 tally significantly. Nitish's desertion is set to give a leg up to BJP. As observers speculated a pattern that BJP has begun to win back its old allies, well placed Congress sources played down doomsday concerns by expressing confidence in Shiv Sena staying on board in Maharashtra. A senior leader said 37 of 48 seats have been settled, and some in Mumbai and Marathwada remain to be decided. This could

be challenging given Sena's traditional claim in the city and Congress's own history of winning there. A meeting of allies on Jan 30 is crucial in finalising the deal on paper, with hopes of including Bahujan Vikas Aghadi of Prakash Ambedkar in the alliance. However, the principal worry remains West Bengal,where Congress is ready to dump its old ally Left bloc for Trinamool Congress, but the latter has now announced it will in Bihar, and Congress is cognisant of the consequences.

## State of the art fire dousers in battery backup rooms



Commissioner News Service

Chandigarh: In all battery back up rooms for which modular extinguishers equipped with state of the art technology have been purchased

An order has also been placed for buying 1,550 general extinguishers to strengthen the fire prevention system in other areas. These too will be supplied within a few days. Several shortcomings had come to the fore after a massi we fire had ripped through Nehru Hospital in October. Too Ver come



those, the PGI administration had been continuously making amend ments. The latest purchases 1 are a part of that change, when the fire was reported in PGI last year, patients and the security staff had to break windowpanes to let the smoke out. In order to avoid such situation in future, the PGI administration has bought five smoke exhaust blowers. The speciality of this equipment is that being foldable and portable, it can be easily taken to any place and smoke can be vented out within a few minutes.

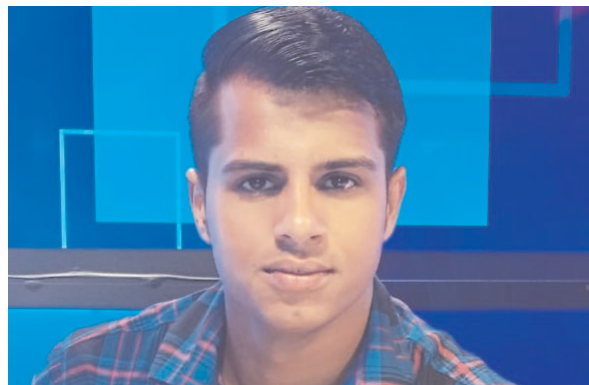
## Suicide spree continues, another Mohammad Zaid at Kota

Commissioner News Service

Kota : Another NEET aspirant,19 year old Mohammad Zaid from Moradabad (UP) was found hanging in his hostel room on Last Tuesday.

He was preparing for the coaching in Medical Education Examination but met his life with fatal end due to frustration.

Anti - suicide device was not fit-



ted in the ill fated fan which was used by the mortal in committing the suicide, said Bhawani Singh DSP , Circle Officer. Sources said Mr

Zaid was determined to clear NEET in his second attempt and could have become prosperous doctor as he had envisioned his goal.

## 'WHO IS WHO' AT SAS NAGAR (MOHALI)

### HELPLINE DISTT SAS NAGAR

Municipal Corporation : 1800137007

SDM : 0172-2219580

Fire Brigade : 101, 0172-2225902

Electricity Complaint : 9646115973 (Online)

Police Control Room : 100, 0172-2210357, 58

DSP Office : 0172-2272003, 0172-2272045

SSP Office : 0172-2219211, 212, 2219356, 2219357 (M) 9115516066

PUDA Office : 0172-2215308, 10, 11

Punjab School Education Board : 3047444

Industrial Area : 0172-2250910

Police Station Ph-1, 0172-2272850, Ph-II, 9115516027, 9115516015

Police Station Mataur : 9115516020

Police Station Suhana : 9115516029

Police Station Balaugi : 9115516040

Police Station Zirakpur: (M) 95929 16063

### COMPLAINT CENTERS

Water Supply : 18001802468

Mohali Division Electricity Complaint Number : 9646115973

### COMPLAINTS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Street Light : 0172-5044907, Sanitation Branch : 0172-5044907

Birth and Death : 0172-5044902,

Engineering Branch : 0172-5044909, 5044907 (O)

### OTHER HELPLINE

WOMEN - 1091 & CHILDREN - 1098

VIGILANCE HELPLINE - 1800-1800-1000

0172-2231669, 0172-2216142

### HEALTH SUVIDHA CENTER

Civil Hospital Phase-6, Mohali

Multi Specialists Government Hospital Phone 0172-2225464

Cheema Medical Complex Phase 4, Multi Speciality, Child Specialist 3101030 Ambulance, Mobile 9815400070

PUDA OFFICE - 0172-2215308

### PASSENGERS SERVICE

Punjab Roadways : 0172-2704023

CTU : 0172-2704005

PRTC : 0172-2704128

Haryana Roadways : 0172-2704014,

Himachal Roadways : 0172-2704015

Railway : 0172-2641656

Airport : 0172-2654832

FUNERAL PHONE : 9914855855

GRAVEYARD : 9888970033, 0172-2236403