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Government to fill up 700 posts of home guard

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 31

As many as 700 posts of Home Guard volunteers in the Home Guards and Civil Defence Department will be filled up. The decision was taken in the Cabinet meeting held under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu here today. In another major decision, the Cabinet also decided to shift the Himachal Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) office from Shimla to Dharamsala.

The Cabinet also gave it nod to regularise the services of 203 Panchayat Secretary (Zila Parishad cadre), who completed two years of contract service on March 31.

The Cabinet also approved an amendment to the Post-graduate/Specialist Services (PG/SS) Policy by withdrawing the mandatory requirement of one-year field posting prior to eligibility for Senior Residency at IGMC, Shimla, and Tanda Medical College. This decision has been taken in line with the policy followed at AIIMS, Chamiyana.

As in 2010, the Cabinet gave the in-principle approval to start de-novo reservation roster for the members and chairpersons of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Further, it allowed the Himachal Pradesh Forest Development Corporation to collect minor minerals and carry out dredging operations in rivers and ponds located in forest areas across the state, with the aim of better source management and environmental sustainability.

The Cabinet also decided to bifurcate the Elementary Education Block Ramshahar in Solan district by creating a new Elementary Education Block at Baddi, along with the creation and filling up of the requisite posts to ensure smooth functioning.

OTHER KEY DECISIONS TAKEN

- The Cabinet gave it nod to regularise the services of 203 Panchayat Secretary (Zila Parishad cadre), who completed two years of contract service on March 31.
- It approved an amendment to the PG/SS policy by withdrawing the mandatory requirement of one-year field posting prior to eligibility for Senior Residency at IGMC, Shimla, and Tanda Medical College.

Deposit refund scheme for non-biodegradable waste soon

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 31

The government will shortly introduce a Deposit Refund Scheme for the management of non-biodegradable waste on an experimental basis at tourist places with high footfall in the state. Under this scheme, consumers will pay a refundable deposit over and above the price of products like glass bottles, plastic beverage containers, aluminium cans, liquid packaging, flexible plastic packaging and multilayered packages. The extra charge paid on the product will be returned upon the return of the empty product at the fixed collection centres at that particular place.

"The idea is to encourage tourists and vendors to take responsibility for the waste they generate. The scheme will initially be launched in high-footfall areas," said Industries Minister Harshwardhan Chauhan while briefing the media after the Cabinet meeting.

Emphasising that the scheme was part of a larger effort to safeguard the fragile ecology of the state, the minister said that plastic and polythene were a major challenge in the hilly regions. "The refundable fee mechanism is a step towards bringing behavioural change. This will be based on QR code scanning. The vendor will charge a nominal fee and that will be refunded once plastic pack is disposed of at the collection centre," he said.

Shimla produces around 2,500 tonne solid waste during the peak tourist season, and a lot of it gets dumped on roads and jungles, causing damage to the ecology.

THE SCHEME

Under this scheme, consumers will pay a deposit over and above the price of products like glass bottles, aluminium cans, etc, which will be returned upon the return of the empty product

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN HELPED

"The idea is to encourage tourists and vendors to take responsibility for the waste they generate. The scheme will initially be launched in high-footfall areas. – Harshwardhan Chauhan, INDUSTRIES MINISTER

Govt to raise ₹800 cr loan via sale of securities

SHIMLA, MAY 31

The Himachal Pradesh government has decided to procure a loan by selling government securities worth Rs 800 crore and the proceeds would be utilised for some development programmes.

An auction in this regard would be held by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) at Mumbai on June 3 and the successful bidder would have to make the payment by June 4, as per a specific notification issued by the state government, an official said on Saturday. The tenure of the loan commencing on June 4, 2025 would be 20 years, ending on June 4, 2045.

The borrowings of the state government have already crossed Rs 1-lakh crore.

Auction to be held by RBI in Mumbai on June 3

The going has been tough for Himachal government during 2025-26, as the Revenue Deficit Grants (RDG) have been reduced from Rs 6,258 crore in 2024-25 to Rs 3,257 crore in 2025-26 and the Goods and Services Tax (GST) compensation had already ended in June 2022.

The committed liability of the government on payment of salary and DA to employees and the pensioners was about Rs 30,000 crore per annum. PTI

Tourist footfall picks up pace in Kullu-Manali region as temperature increases in plains

DIPENDER MANTA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MANDI, MAY 31

With temperatures soaring in the northern plains, tourists are flocking to the cool climes of Himachal Pradesh, especially Kullu-Manali and the Lahaul-Spiti region, seeking respite from the scorching heat these days.

This surge has pushed hotel occupancy rates in Manali to over 60 per cent and local hoteliers are optimistic that the number will soon reach full capacity.

There has been spike in online queries for hotel bookings, especially for the month of June. With school summer vacations beginning in many states, tourist footfall is expected to rise sharply in the coming weeks.

"With the rise in mercury in the plains, tourists are thronging toward Kullu-Manali and Lahaul-Spiti. We expect the hotel industry to perform well in June," said Anup Thakur, president of the Kullu-Manali Paryatan Vikas Mandal. "Summer vacations in schools are about to begin or have begun in some schools. This will definitely bring more visitors from other states."

The surge in the tourist fottfall has pushed hotel occupancy rates in Manali to over 60% and local hoteliers are optimistic that the number will soon reach full capacity.

Hotel owners, many of whom faced a downturn earlier in the year, are now pinning their hopes on the peak summer season.

Hem Raj Sharma, a hotelier in Manali, noted that the ongoing tensions between India and Pakistan had adversely impacted tourism in April and May. "However, tourist inflow is now increasing considerably," he added.

Gajender Thakur, former president of the Kullu-Manali Hoteliers' Association, acknowledged that the tourist season has been weaker than last year. "Still, we are hopeful that June will bring a strong rebound. Currently, room occupancy is at around 65 per cent, and we expect it to go beyond 90 per cent in the coming weeks," he said.

The tourism industry, a vital component of the region's economy, is now gearing up to accommodate the anticipated influx. Hoteliers and local businesses are enhancing services and infrastructure to provide a comfortable experience to tourists, hoping that this summer will make up for the sluggish start to the year.

With its breath-taking landscapes, cool climate and adventure opportunities, Kullu-Manali and Lahaul and Spiti continue to be a top choices for travellers looking to escape the punishing summer heat of the plains.

Mandaviya unveils ₹100 cr ESIC hospital at Kala Amb

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NAHAN, MAY 31

In a bid to reinforce healthcare infrastructure for workers, Union Minister for Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated a built 30-bed Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) hospital at Kala Amb in Sirmaur district of Himachal Pradesh today. Built at a cost of around Rs 100 crore, the facility is designed to be upgraded to a 100-bed hospital in future.

The hospital is set to benefit over one lakh ESI beneficiaries in Sirmaur and the adjoining districts. Equipped with departments such as general medicine, surgery, gynaecology, orthopaedics, ophthalmology and dental, the facility will offer both OPD and IPD services. Additional features include modular operation theatres, medical gas pipeline systems and other advanced medical infrastructure.

Union Minister for Labour & Employment Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates the 30-bed ESIC hospital at Kala Amb in Sirmaur district.

Addressing the gathering, Mandaviya said, "This is not merely a building, but a shrine dedicated to our Shram Shakti — the workers who are the backbone of our nation." In a gesture symbolising respect for labour, the minister also felicitated the construction workers who contributed to building the hospital.

He announced the government's decision to establish medical colleges in all ESIC hospitals with 200 or more beds. Importantly, 40 per cent of the seats in these institutions will be reserved for the wards of insured persons, aimed at ensuring greater access to higher education for workers' families.

The minister asserted that the ESIC network is being expanded under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who, he said, "has honoured the dignity of India's workforce like no other." He added that ESIC hospitals stand committed to treating every worker, regardless of whether the cost of medication is Rs 1 or Rs 1 crore.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject : Transfer of Ownership in respect of constructed Plot Nos.1599, Sector 9, Urban Estate, Karnal vide Memo Nos : 1599 dated 16/9/1984 issued by The Estate Officer HUDA, consequent upon the intestate death of allottee Sh Shivashraya Singh. Sh Shivashraya Singh who was the allotee of the subject cited property as per record has died on 28th December 2017 and has no registered or unregistered will, leaving behind following legal heirs : 1. Indravati Singh (Wife) 2. Sunil Singh (Son) 3. Saroj Singh (Daughter) Sunil Singh S/o Sh Shivashraya Singh R/o House Nos. 1599,Sector 9, Urban Estate, Karnal intend to apply for the transfer of the said property in his favour being the legal heir and request for re- allotment in the name of Sunil Singh. If any person is having any objection against the transfer of ibid plot nos./House Nos., he /she can submit objection in writing to the Estate Officer HUDA, Karnal, along with supporting documents within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise the Estate Officer may accord permission to transfer/re-allotment of the said property in name of Sunil Singh as per HUDA policy and may not entertain subsequent claims, if any.

Legal Heirs
on Behalf of Estate Officer HSVP

Tourists, residents await resumption of Leh bus service on Manali-Leh route

DIPENDER MANTA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MANDI, MAY 31

The strategic Manali-Leh highway is now open for traffic and tourists and local residents are eagerly awaiting the resumption of the Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) bus service on the popular Delhi-Manali-Leh route. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) had restored the Darcha-Sarchu-Leh road stretch on May 12, enabling both military convoys and civilian travel to Ladakh.

Rigzin Samphel Heyerpa, a local tourism stakeholder in the Lahaul valley, says that as Indian Army convoys have begun moving towards borders, adventure-seekers and tourists from across India and abroad are desperately waiting for the resumption of the budget-friendly HRTC bus service.

At present, tourists have to hire taxis at high fares to travel to Leh. The HRTC bus service, operated by the Keylong depot, is not just the lifeline of tourists, but also a major economic contributor to the inhabitants of the region.

In 2024, the Keylong depot recorded an impressive earning of Rs 1.25 crore in just 95 operational days on the Delhi-Leh route.

This seasonal service has consistently drawn both domestic and international tourists, seeking an adventurous yet affordable route to Ladakh.

An official of the HRTC Keylong Depot told *The Tribune* that a communication had been sent to the corporation headquarters in Shimla regarding the resumption of the bus service. "We are awaiting the approval. As soon as we receive it, the bus operations between New Delhi and Leh via Manali will be resumed," he added. While the route is operational and weather conditions are improving steadily, the delay in the official clearance has made tourists anxious.

"This route is not only economical but also offers a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We hope this bus service starts soon," says another tourism stakeholder.

The Delhi-Manali-Leh HRTC service remains one of the most iconic high-altitude journeys in the country, passing through high mountain passes like Baralacha La, Nakee La, Tanglang La and Lachung La.

Medicinal plants face high risk of extinction, need conservation

AMBIKA SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

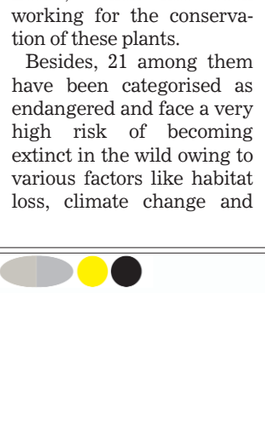
SOLAN, MAY 31

Buransh, state flower of Himachal Pradesh, as well as popular condiments like "tejpatta" can disappear if efforts are not made to conserve these plants, which have been listed as vulnerable by the state biodiversity board and faces a high risk of disappearing.

Also known as Rhododendron, this wild flower has been adorning the hills with its resplendent red. A slew of factors like over-exploitation for medicinal purposes, habitat destruction and changes in the flowering pattern are attributed as the key reasons for this status thus necessitating the need for conservation. Its three species, namely Rhododendron anthopogon, Rhododendron campanulatum and Rhododendron lepidotum fall under this category.

The commonly used "bhojpatra" has been categorised as endangered as per the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Also known as Himalayan birch, it holds significant historical, cultural and ecological importance. It was historically a writing material for sacred texts and scriptures and also finds use in traditional medicine and is part of Hindu rituals.

"The state biodiversity board has identified 60 medicinal species which are facing various categories of threat, as per the IUCN, with 12 of them having been assessed as critically endangered that face an extremely high risk of extinction," said DC Rana, Member Secretary, State Biodiversity Board, which has been working for the conservation of these plants.



The wild flower, Rhododendron, has become vulnerable due to its over-exploitation.

Besides, 21 among them have been categorised as endangered and face a very high risk of becoming extinct in the wild owing to various factors like habitat loss, climate change and human activities, including their over-exploitation. Additionally, 27 of them fall in the vulnerable category and face the risk of disappearing in the state, said Rana.

"The board is creating awareness on the sustainable use of these plants while promoting their conservation," he added.

Another key plant, "Brahma kamal", has been assessed as critically endangered.

"Brahma kamal" has cultural and spiritual importance in the Hindu theology and is considered a sacred flower, believed to bring good luck, prosperity and divine blessings.

The flower blooms once a year, often at night and its association with Lord Brahma makes it a symbol of purity and divine beauty.

"Tejpatta", which holds significance in both culinary and medicinal practices, is another vulnerable specie. Its aromatic leaves are used as a flavoring agent in cooking, especially in curries and pickles while it is also has slew of medicinal values like aiding digestion, managing diabetes, etc.

"Khurasani Ajwain", commonly known as "karu", is believed to be the promoter of liver and digestive health also fall in the vulnerable category.

Disc Award conferred by outgoing DGP on 172 cops withdrawn

SHIMLA, MAY 31

In a shocking instance, the DGP Disc Award, that were conferred to as many as 172 police officers in recognitions of their outstanding work during 2024 by the outgoing DGP Dr Atul Verma, were withdrawn as soon as the officer left the premises of the police headquarters after the last day of his service.

Verma, the 1991-batch IPS officer, who was serving as the Director General of Police (DGP) since May, 2024, retired today as the DGP and conferred DGP Disc awards to police personnel. However, later on, an order was issued in which it was mentioned that the awards conferred by Verma have been withdrawn with immediate effect. The orders were passed by Ashok Tiwari, who has been granted the additional charge of the post of DGP by the state government here today.

Tiwari, an IPS officer of 1993-batch, presently serving as Director General, State Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau, was earlier granted the additional charge of DGP during the leave period of Dr Verma.

The police department has also shared the post in which pictures and names of police personnel who were conferred with the awards to the police personnel on its social media platforms, however, the posts were later deleted. — TNS

pnb Housing Finance Limited Ghar Ki Baat

APPENDIX -IV-A E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (IES)
E-Auction-Sale Notice for Sale of Immoveable Assets Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Registered Office: - 9th Floor, Antriksh Bhawan, 22 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001, Phones:-011-23357171, 23357172, 23705414, Web: - **www.pnbhousing.com**
Karnal Branch:-PNB Housing Finance Limited, SCO 218-219, 2nd Floor, Sector 12, Part 1, City Centre Huda, Karnal - 132001

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) & guarantor(s) indicated in Column no-A that the below described immovable property (ies) described in Column no-D mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/Physical Possession of which has been taken (as described in Column no-C) by the authorized Officer of M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor, will be sold on "**AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS** and **WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS**" as per the details mentioned below. Notice is hereby given to borrower(s)/mortgagor(s)/Legal Heirs, Legal Representative, (whether Known or Unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s), assignee(s) of the respective borrowers/ mortgagor(s)(since deceased) as the case may be indicated in Column no-A under Rule-8(6) & 9 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 amended as on date.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/secured creditor's website i.e. **www.pnbhousing.com.**

Loan No. Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Guarantor(s)/Legal heirs (A)	Demanded Amount & Date (B)	Nature of Possession (C)	Description of the Properties Mortgaged (D)	Reserve Price (RP) (E)	EMD (10% of RP) (F)	Last Date of Submission of Bid (G)	Bid Incremental Rate (H)	Inspection Date & Time (I)	Date of Auction & Time (J)	Known Encumberances/ Court Cases if any (K)
HOU/KAR/1217/467125, B.O.: Karnal, Sushil Kumar / Sunita Devi	Rs. 17,46,482.61/- as on 18/04/2022	Physical Possession	Plot Situated At Ward No. 17, Vig Colony, Gharaunda, Kashyap Painter Wali Gali, Tehsil Gharaunda, Karnal Haryana-132114, Comprised In Khewat No. 1257, Khatoni No. 1561, Murraba No. 147, Killa No. 20 , 5/72 Portion Of Rakba 3 Kanal 12 Marle Bakdar 5 Marle (150 Sq. Yds), Jamabandi Year 2010-2011 In The Name Of Smt. Sunita Devi Vide Sale Deed Regd. No. 4299 Dated 06/01/2014	Rs. 1008000	Rs. 100800	19-06-2025	Rs. 10,000	12.06.2025 10.00 AM 5.30 PM	20.06.2025 02.00 PM 03:00 PM	Not Known

*Together with the further interest @18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and/or realization thereof. ** To the best knowledge and information of the authorized Officer of PNB Housing Finance Limited, there are no other encumbrances/ claims in respect of above mentioned immovable/secured assets except what is disclosed in the column no-K. Further such encumbrances to be catered/paid by the successful purchaser/bidder at his/her end. The prospective purchaser(s)/bidders are requested to independently ascertain the veracity of the mentioned encumbrances.
1. As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction PNBHFL/the authorized Officer of PNBHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/secured assets. **2.** The prospective purchaser/bidder and interested parties may independently take the inspection of the pleading in the proceedings/orders passed etc. if any, stated in column no-K. Including but not limited to the title of the documents of the title pertaining thereto available with the PNBHFL and satisfy themselves in all respects prior to submitting tender/bid application form or making Offer(s). The bidder(s) has to sign the terms and conditions of this auction along with the Bid Form.**3.** Please note that in terms of Rule 9(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the bidder(s)/the purchaser is legally bound to deposit 25% of the amount of sale price, (inclusive of earnest money, if any, deposited) on the same day or not later than next working day. The sale may be confirmed in favour of (bidder(s) only after receipt of 25% of the sale price by the secured creditor in accordance with Rule 9(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The remaining 75% of the s sale consideration amount has to be deposited by the purchaser within 15 days from the date of acknowledgement of sale confirmation letter and in default of such deposit, the property/secured asset shall be resold. **4. C1 INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED** would be assisting the Authorised Officer in conducting sale through an e-Auction having its corporate office at Plot No.68, 3rd Floor, Sector 44, Gurgaon, Haryana 122003 Website- www.bankeauctions.com. For any assistance related to inspection of the property or obtaining the Bid Documents and for any other query or for registration, you have to co-ordinate with **Rahul Dua** Contact Number **1800 120 8800, auction@pnbhousing.com** is authorised person of PNBHFL or refer to **www.pnbhousing.com**

Place : Karnal, Dated: 01.06.2025 **Authorized Officer, M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited**