

**Giani Harpreet tells Akali Dal to abide by edict on revamp**

AMRITSAR, DECEMBER 2

Former Akal Takht Jathedar and SAD breakaway group president Giani Harpreet Singh on Tuesday asked the party leadership to abide by the temporal seat edict directing the party revamp.

The edict was issued on December 2 last year by five Sikh high priests, including Giani Harpreet, after SAD president Sukhbir Badal and other party leaders were held guilty of religious misconduct over issues concerning Sikhs during the party's decade-long rule from 2007-17.

The temporal seat had also formed a seven-member panel to undertake a membership drive for the party. However, the party rejected the panel, citing legal and constitutional obligations, while carrying out its own membership drive, leading to the re-election of Badal as the SAD chief.

A year after the edict was issued, Giani Harpreet expressed resentment against the SAD leadership for "not complying with it". He said senior leaders should set an example by following the temporal seat directions.

The former Jathedar inaugurated the factional office in the city. —TNS

**NOC condition to contest goes**

Poll panel allows candidates to file self-declaration over panchayat dues

GS PAUL  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 2

The Punjab State Election Commission has done away with the requirement of obtaining a no-objection certificate (NOC) to contest the zila parishad and block samiti polls.

The commission said if those wanting to contest the elections were unable to obtain the certificate, they could simply file an affidavit stating there were no outstanding dues against them and they weren't possessing any property illegally.

Affidavits can be verified and attested by an executive magistrate or oath commissioner, broadening the avenues through which candidates can obtain necessary papers.

The returning officer will accept such nominations and the affidavits to the relevant authority, which must respond within 24 hours.

If no report is received within this deadline, the candidate will be presumed not to be a defaulter or unauthorized occupant of a property.



A candidate enquires about nomination forms at the administrative complex in Jalandhar on Tuesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

**Plaints from parties**

The move, being interpreted as an attempt to simplify the nomination process, comes amid allegations that Block Development Panchayat Officers were delaying the issue of the NOC at the behest of AAP to prevent Opposition candidates from contesting the polls.

In a letter to the Punjab Chief Electoral Officer on Monday, state Congress president Amrit Singh Raja sought his intervention over the issue.

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) too had taken up the issue with the poll panel.

The NOC is issued by the Block Development and Panchayats Officer, clearing that the leader wanting to contest the polls has not defaulted on panchayat taxes. It was a mandatory step before filing nominations till now.

According to the election schedule, nominations can be filed between December 1 and 4 while the papers will be scrutinised on December 5. The papers can be

withdrawn on December 6.

**Referred to earlier notification**

The panel issued the order referring to its earlier notification released on September 26 last year. "Directions regarding the updated nomination process have been issued to all district election and returning officers," the commission said on its official website. Arshdeep Singh Kler, SAD's legal cell head, said a representation in this regard was submitted to the commission while a plea was filed in the High Court seeking relief. "Fortunately, the situation was simplified after the commission issued a notification," he said.

**Chulha tax**

One of the key requirements for obtaining an NOC is the payment of the *chulha tax*, a levy based on the number of cooking stoves in a household. Earlier collected by panchayats and as low as Rs 2, the tax is now imposed only during election periods to ensure that candidates have cleared outstanding dues.

**Ferozepur Range DIG shifted to Jalandhar PAP**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 2

The state government has transferred Ferozepur Range DIG Harmanbir Singh Gill to the Punjab Armed Police (PAP), Jalandhar.

Gill was recently part of a major controversy surrounding the alleged police high-handedness in the Tarn Taran Assembly bypoll.

DCP Snehdeep Sharma of the Ludhiana Commissionerate has been given the additional charge of the Ferozepur Range. The orders, issued by the Punjab Home Department, state that the officer has been shifted on administrative grounds, but the transfer has come ahead of the zila parishad and block samiti elections and just after the Tarn Taran bypoll. The orders have been issued "in concurrence" with the State Election Commission.

The controversy over the bitterly contested Tarn Taran Assembly byelection on November 11 is still continuing with allegations of false cases against Akali leaders.

**Was part of controversy surrounding cops over Tarn Taran byelection**

The SAD cried foul during and after the poll, alleging that the Punjab Police, acting at the behest of the Bhagwant Mann government, registered dozens of "false and fabricated" cases of criminal intimidation, conspiracy and poll code violations against its leaders and workers to cripple campaigning.

Party president Sukhbir Singh Badal lodged a formal complaint with Punjab's Chief Electoral Officer against Tarn Taran SSP Ravjot Kaur Grewal. On November 8, three days before the polling, the Election Commission suspended Grewal after an election observer flagged "serious lapses in impartial conduct" across four districts — Tarn Taran, Amritsar, Batala and Moga. Shortly, DIG Gill submitted a report to the state government defending the police action.

**Dera Bassi BDPO slapped notice for dereliction of duty**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 2

The State Election Commission (SEC) has issued a show-cause notice to Dera Bassi BDPO Baljit Singh Sohi for the dereliction of duty. He remained absent from his office on December 1, the first day for filing nominations for the zila parishad and panchayat samiti elections.

Because of his absence, candidates could not obtain the mandatory no-objection certificate, and thus could not file their nominations. The notice was issued to him on Tuesday, said State Election Commissioner Raj Kamal Chaudhari.

On the day of announcement of elections on November 28, he had categorically asked all officers on election duty to remain present in their offices during the office hours so that candidates were not inconvenienced.

Meanwhile, on the second day of filing of nominations, 25 candidates filed papers for zila parishad and 110 for panchayat samitis in the state.

**SC panel seeks details of policy allowing housing projects in delisted forest areas**

Activists called it bid to regularise illegal farmhouses abutting forestland

RAJMEET SINGH  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 2

The Supreme Court's Central Empowered Committee has sought details of the recent Punjab Government policy for the approval and regularisation of low-impact green habitats in forest areas that have been removed from the purview of the Punjab Land Preservation Act (PLPA), 1900.

Committee Chairman Sidhanta Das has written to Punjab Chief Secretary KAP Sinha, seeking details of the specified portions of the delisted land across the state and related apex court orders.

A top government functionary said the committee's intervention had come at a time when foresters and environmentalists were questioning the policy, alleging that it aimed to benefit

influential persons, including politicians and serving and retired bureaucrats. They alleged that the policy opened the doors for regularisation of hundreds of illegal farmhouses in delisted areas that would have otherwise faced demolition.

A total of 55,000 hectares of land — abutting forests with rich flora and fauna in several parts — has been excluded from the PLPA.

Warning that the policy would have far-reaching ecological implications for the fragile kandi belt in lower Shivalik Hills stretching from Mohali to Pathankot districts, foresters, environmentalists and the Public Action Committee (PAC)-Matterwara argued that the move was "legally untenable, scientifically indefensible and potentially in contempt of the Supreme Court directions".

Seeking withdrawal of the policy, the PAC-Matterwara had, in a representation to the Punjab Chief Minister, maintained that Shivalik Hills were characterised by unconsolidated geology, steep slopes and high sediment mobility, where even limited construction could destabilise slopes. The outfit expressed serious concern over the state not waiting for the Centre's approval to the impending declaration of the eco-sensitive zone around the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary and not adhering to the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act (FCA), 1980.

Officials in the Punjab Forest Department, referring to a March 2015 communication from the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to the state, pointed out that while removing land in Mohali, Ropar, Nawanshahr,

Hoshiarpur and Gurdaspur districts from the PLPA's purview, the ministry had specifically stated that "such areas would continue to be treated as forestland under the FCA-1980".

"The owners of such land may utilise delisted PLPA areas for bona fide use of agriculture and for sustaining their livelihood," the ministry had said.

A senior official said when 55,000 hectares were delisted in 2010, the state Forest Department had conducted an on-ground assessment of agricultural activity and the scope for sustaining livelihoods. Since then, the official said, the state had not approached either the Centre or the Supreme Court regarding the rapidly changing land use in these areas. "Now, all of a sudden, low-density housing has been permitted in land abutting forests," he said.



Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann pays tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at Edogawa Gandhi Park in Japanese capital Tokyo on Tuesday.

**Mann woos Japanese firms to invest in state**

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 2

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Tuesday met Japanese business tycoons in Tokyo, impressing upon them to invest in the state.

On the first day of his Japan visit, he held parleys with representatives from several companies — including Yamaha, Honda Motor and Toray Industries.

Mann batted for strategic tie-up with Japan in key sectors such as electronics, food processing and renewable energy. He invited the Japanese companies to explore the new possibilities

emerging in the state.

Mann called upon the investors to join the 6th Progressive Punjab Investors' Summit scheduled from March 13-15 at the ISB, Mohali. Mann said the summit would showcase Punjab's progress, bringing together leading industrial players and present new opportunities for partnership and collaboration.

He said Punjab was moving forward with a renewed vision to become a leading centre for modern industry, technology and global collaboration. —TNS

**Protesting since Nov 18, farmers storm DC office over demand for relief to tiller's family**

ARCHIT WATTS  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, DECEMBER 2

A large number of farmers stormed the district administrative complex here on Tuesday and blocked all entry and exit points, seeking Rs 10 lakh relief and government job for the kin of the farmer who died in a road accident on November 11.

They lifted their *dharna* about 7 pm from inside the complex, announcing that it would continue outside the building.

The farmers belonging to Muktsar, Bathinda, Mansa, Moga, Fazilka and Faridkot have launched the indefinite stir under the banner of the Bharti Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan). The decision to gherao the complex was taken earlier as several farmers had been protesting over the issue outside the building since November 18.

Harjit Singh from Kotkapura had died in a road accident on November 11 while returning from Fazilka district after distributing free wheat seeds to flood-hit farmers. The protesters had also been demanding free treatment for farmer Balwant Singh, who was injured in the same mishap.

On Tuesday, the "outnumbered" police personnel failed



Farmers protest at the Muktsar DC office on Tuesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

to stop the protesters as they entered the premises in the afternoon and squatted at all entry and exit points. A large number of cops were deployed around the complex as a preventive measure while all entry and exit gates were locked. Deputy Commissioner Abhijeet Kaplish came to his office but left early today.

The farmers raised slogans against the state government through public address systems installed on their vehicles.

Gurpash Singh Singhewala, senior vice-president of the BKU (Ekta Ugrahan) in Muktsar district, said, "We are demanding justice for a farmer who lost his life while returning from Fazilka after doing the task that the state government should have done."

"Similarly, we want free treatment for the injured

farmer. The state government, however, has not listened to us for about a month now. Our protest will continue until all the demands are met," he said, adding that they did not harass the public or any employee.

"Today's protest was just to show our strength to the state government. Since the DC expressed his inability to resolve the issue, we lifted the protest from inside the complex. However, our protest will continue outside the building," he said.

Muktsar ADC Gurpreet Singh Thind said, "Talks are underway with the farmers and we are assuring them that our demands will be met. We are not being held hostage by them. We are here to resolve the issue and engage in discussions with them."

**Rail Roko stir by mazdoor morcha on December 5**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 2

The Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM) has announced to organise a two-hour Rail Roko stir on December 5, in protest against the draft Electricity Amendment Bill. They will stop trains at 26 locations across 19 districts in the state between 1 pm and 3 pm.

Morcha leader Sarwan Singh Pandher said though they had been promised by Union Minister Piyush Goyal as well as state government functionaries that the Bill would be brought for discussion in the House only after parleys with all stakeholders, the farmers' objections have not been considered. "We are thus going ahead with the protests," he said.

Meanwhile, BKU (Ekta Ugrahan) has lent support to the Theka Mullaazam Sangharsh Morcha, an umbrella body of outsourced employees from various state government departments. The members of the union are on a strike from December 2 to 4, demanding that their services be regularised.

**No alliance with Akali Dal for state elections, says BJP**

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 2

Punjab BJP working president Ashwani Sharma on Tuesday said his party won't contest the 2027 state Assembly poll in tie-up with estranged partner Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), two days after his party colleague and former CM Amarinder Singh batted for it.

After a party meeting here, he said the BJP won't go for any alliance for the upcoming zila parishad and block samiti polls too. He

also sharpened the attack against the state's ruling AAP, accusing it of "strangling democracy".

He alleged that ever since AAP formed the government in 2022, it had been "misusing government machinery to manipulate elections".

"The same tactics that were used to install AAP mayors and presidents in municipal elections are now being used for the upcoming zila parishad and block samiti elections," he claimed. —TNS

**Three bike-borne men fire at bus, conductor injured**

FEROZEPUR, DECEMBER 2

Three motorcycle-borne men fired at a Punjab Roadways bus, resulting in injuries to its conductor.

The incident took place at 5.10 pm when it crossed Karian Pehlawan village situated on Ferozepur-Fazilka road. The bus was going from Ferozepur to Sriganaganagar.

According to information, around 25 rounds were fired. The assailants are yet to be

identified. Conductor Amandeep Singh received a bullet injury in his leg.

After the incident, the assailants fled from the spot following which the driver took the bus to the nearest police station in Lakho ke Behram.

Later, the investigation was taken over by Mamdot police as the incident took place in the area under their jurisdiction. —OC

**SALE NOTICE UNDER INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE, 2016**  
**VENUS GARMENTS (INDIA) LIMITED - In Liquidation**  
Liquidator's office: 5203, DLF CITY PHASE -4, Gurgaon, Haryana, 122002.  
Date & Time of E-Auction: Saturday, 27th December, 2025  
from 11:00 am to 03:00 pm

Notice is hereby given to the public at large for inviting bids for Sale of M/S VENUS GARMENTS (INDIA) LIMITED - In Liquidation having its registered office at Village Hussainpura, Opposite Hotel Amalats, G T Road (West), Ludhiana, Punjab - 141008 by the Liquidator appointed by the Hon'ble NCLT, Chandigarh dated 22.07.2025 on "As is where is basis", "As is what is basis", "Whatever there is basis", and "No recourse basis".

Sr.No/Option No.	Nature of Business/ Asset and Description	Reserve Price (INR)	Earnest Money Deposit (INR)	Incremental Bid Amount (INR)
A	Sale of the Corporate Debtor's Assets in standalone basis/parcel/ lots Date and Time of Auction: Saturday, 27th December 2025 at 11:00 A.M. to 03:00 P.M.			
Lot A-1	Land and Building, situated at Village Hussainpura, Near Hotel Amalats, GT Road, Ludhiana, Punjab, admeasuring 3630 Sq. Yards (0.75 acres).	10,90,00,000	55,00,000	2,50,000
Lot A-2	Land and Building, situated at Kharsa No. 125-6, Khata No. 2354/2606, 2355/2607, Village Kara Bara, Ludhiana, Punjab, admeasuring 1300.25 Sq. Yards.	4,95,00,000	25,00,000	1,50,000
Lot A-3	Land and Building, situated at B-XXIII-E6/1540, Kakawal Road, Ludhiana, Punjab, admeasuring 4840 Sq. Yards.	13,88,00,000	70,00,000	2,50,000
Lot A-4	Land and Building, Plot No. A-9, Part A Punjab Apperal Park, Village Barmalpur, GT Road, Tehsil Payal, Ludhiana, Punjab, admeasuring 9039.48 Sq. Yards.	3,40,00,000	17,00,000	1,50,000
Lot A-5	Securities and Financial Assets comprising of 1,84,000 equity shares with a face value of Rs.10 each in M/s Glaze Garments (India) Limited (but excluding bank balance)	6,00,000	35,000	5,000

Last date of submission of Eligibility Documents: 24th December, 2025 in the manner mentioned in detail E-auction Process Document.  
Inspection of Assets of Corporate Debtor: From 3rd December, 2025 to 24th December, 2025  
Last Date for submission of Earnest Money Deposit: 24th December, 2025  
Date and time of E-Auction for qualified bidders: 27th December, 2025 at 11:00 AM to 03:00 PM

**Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction:**  
1. E-Auction will be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" through e-auction platform https://baancket.com with unlimited extension of 5 min each.  
2. Prospective bidders need to register on Baancket auction platform. (https://baancket.com, https://ibi.baancket.com) and should carefully submit the requisite documents, including a declaration of eligibility under section 29A of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code through the electronic auction platform.  
3. Kindly note that the prospective bidders shall submit an undertaking that they do not suffer from any ineligibility under section 29A of the Code to the extent applicable and that if found ineligible at any stage, the earnest money deposited shall be forfeited.  
4. Prospective bidders shall deposit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) through the Baancket auction platform. It is also specified that if the bidder is found ineligible under any criteria, EMD shall be forfeited as per IBI, vide Circular No. IBI/LI/Q84/2025 dated 28th March, 2025.  
5. Kindly note that EMD payment must be made through the BAANKNET portal by adding funds to the eWallet and clicking "Participate" for the respective auction. Name of Eligible Bidders will be identified and conveyed by Liquidator to participate in online e-auction on the portal www.baancket.com. The interested bidders should create their User ID & Password in the auction portal and deposit their EMD amount in the E-Wallet of the portal. For any query regarding the e-auction, reach out to BAANKNET (Baancket Asset Action Network), Email ID: support.baancket@psalliance.com, Mobile No: +91 8291220220.  
6. All the auction process documents are uploaded on the Baancket Portal and the participants must download the same and submit all the documents on the portal.  
7. The Bidders, prior to submitting their Bid, should make their independent enquiries, regarding the Company, Assets, incidental costs, if any, at their own expense and satisfy themselves.  
8. The Successful Bidder will be responsible for the applicable stamp duties, legal cost, transfer charges and fees, GST and other taxes related to the sale unit under this E-Auction and for completing the documentation. The Successful bidder shall bear the applicable stamp duties/transfer charge, fees etc. and all the statutory/non-statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessment charges, fees etc. in respect of the property/asset put on auction. Any statutory and other dues payable and due on property/asset shall be borne by purchaser as per the provisions of applicable law.  
9. As per the Paragraph 12 of Schedule I of IBI (Liquidation Process), Regulations, 2019, on the close of the auction, the highest bidder shall be invited to provide balance sale consideration within 90 days of the date of such demand. Provided that payments made after thirty days shall attract interest at the rate of 12%. Provided further that the sale shall be cancelled if the payment is not received within 90 days. As per the Schedule I of IBI (Liquidation Process), Regulations, within three days of declaring the highest bidder, the liquidator shall conduct due diligence and verify the eligibility of the highest bidder. The liquidator shall present the auction results, details of highest bidder, and the due diligence conducted on it to the consultation committee under regulation 31A. The liquidator shall declare the highest bidder as the successful bidder or reject such bid, after consultation with the consultation committee under regulation 31A. If a bidder is found ineligible, the earnest money deposited by him shall be forfeited. In case the highest bidder is found ineligible, the liquidator may, in consultation with the consultation committee, declare the next highest bidder as the successful bidder after following the same process as provided under clause (12A) to clause (12E) of the Schedule I of IBI (Liquidation Process), Regulations. On payment of the full amount, the sale shall stand completed, the liquidator shall execute certificate of sale or sale deed to transfer such assets and the assets shall be delivered to him in the manner specified in the terms of sale.  
10. It is clarified that this invitation purports to invite prospective bidders and does not create any kind of binding obligation on the part of the Liquidator or the Company to effectuate the sale. The Liquidator reserves the right to cancel or modify the e-auction process and / or not to accept and / or disqualify any interested party / potential investor / bidder without assigning any reason and without any liability.  
11. The documents regarding the above assets can be inspected by the prospective bidders with a prior appointment in accordance with the terms of the E-Auction Process Document, by contacting Mr. Pramod Kumar Misra at +91 9810702519.  
12. PLEASE REFER THE COMPLETE E-AUCTION PROCESS DOCUMENT/ E-AUCTION PROCESS MEMORANDUM FOR THE DETAILS/ TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE AUCTION.  
13. Sale shall be subject to the provisions of Insolvency and Bankruptcy code, 2016 and Regulations.  
Date: 03/12/2025 Sd/ Pramod Kumar Misra  
Place: Gurgaon Liquidator : Venus Garments (India) Limited (Under Liquidation)  
IBBI Reg No: IBBI/PA-001/IP-P-02669/2022-2023/14099  
AFA Valid Up to: 30.06.2026

