

Tunnel work cracks Shimla homes; 15 families evacuated

Min Anirudh Singh Visits Families, Assures All Possible Help

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Shimla: At least two residential buildings were evacuated near Sanjauli in Shimla district on Friday night after cracks developed in the structures, allegedly due to ongoing tunnelling work beneath the Chalaunthi bypass.

Around 40 people from 15 families were forced to evacuate around 10 pm amid intense cold, with temperatures plunging close to 1°C. Many affected families spent the night by the roadside, lighting fires to keep themselves warm.

Police and district administration officials, including additional district magistrate (law and order) Pankaj Sharma, reached the spot at night to supervise the evacuation. After cracks were noticed on the Sanjauli-Dhali bypass road as well, authorities ordered an immediate suspension of vehicular traffic on the route.

Under Singh, a local, said homeowners had informed the tunnel construction company earlier this week about cracks appearing in their houses. "Company officials visited and told us the cracks were normal and there was no danger. However, last night, the same officials asked us to evacuate," he said.

Himachal Pradesh panchayat minister Anirudh Singh visited the affected families on Saturday and as-



A house in Shimla shows deep cracks linked to the under-construction NHA tunnel work, and (below) families evacuating buildings



rod them of all possible help. "Fair compensation will be provided immediately to those who have suffered losses. I have also instructed that an immediate survey be conducted of all buildings along the alignment, from Bhatakuffi onwards. Instruments should be installed so that any settlement or movement can be detected immediately and no one shifts blame later," the minister said.

The minister said he had been repeatedly raising the issue with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Union minister Nitin Gadkari for the past two-and-a-half years. Special committees were formed to address damage occurring beyond the acquired land, he said, adding that similar committees were also constituted in Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand.

Shimla DC Anupam Kashyap, who visited the site with SP Sanjeev Kumar Gamihi, said a committee headed by the Shimla (rural) SDM had been formed to assess the damage. The committee is expected to submit its report within a week, which will help determine compensation. The state geologist has also begun preparing a report on the causes of the damage, which is expected within a week. Four-lane construction work has been suspended.

Earlier incidents

On June 30 last year, a multi-storied building in Mathu Colony of Bhatakuffi near Sanjauli collapsed following a landslide. An inquiry committee attributed the incident to hill cutting for the four-lane road project. In July 2023, the Shimla district administration directed the company executing the Kaithlighat-Dhali four-lane of National Highway-5 to pay Rs 5.61 crore as compensation to affected families.

Under NGT scanner

On Jan 8, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) took cognisance of environmental and safety concerns linked to the four-lane road widening project on NH-5 in Shimla and issued notices to the state govt and the NHA. Petitioner Navender Singh Rathore, an agricultural landowner in the Mashobra and Landhi-Dhar areas of Shimla (rural), submitted that the work was being carried out on an extremely fragile and environmentally sensitive slope with a steep gradient of nearly 70 degrees, leading to landslides and environmental degradation. The matter is scheduled for hearing on Feb 9.

North plains near freezing point, Hoshiarpur coldest in India at 1.1°C

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Bathinda: Most parts of Punjab and Haryana continued to shiver on Saturday, with minimum temperatures plummeting to 1°C to 4°C – a departure from the normal of up to 2.5°C.

At 1.1°C, Hoshiarpur remained the coldest in the plains of India, followed by 1.3°C in Amritsar and Bhatinda. 2.8°C in Patiala, 3.2°C in Gurdaspur, 3.4°C in Bathinda, and 3.6°C in Adampur and Halwara in Punjab.

In Haryana, Mahendragarh recorded a low of 1.6°C, Gurgaon, 1.8°C. Sonapat 2.4°C and Narnaul 3.5°C. Chandigarh registered a night temperature of 4°C.

Cold wave to severe cold wave conditions prevailed in some parts of Himachal Pradesh, while cold wave conditions persisted in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh. No significant change in minimum temperatures is likely over north-west India during the next seven days, predicted the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Dry weather to persist in HP till Jan 16

Shimla: The Shimla meteorological office has forecast dry weather across Himachal Pradesh until Jan 16. The weather department also issued a yellow alert for dense fog and cold wave conditions at isolated places in Bilaspur, Una, Hamirpur, Kangra and Mandi districts during this period. Additionally, isolated areas of Chamba district may experience cold wave conditions on Jan 11. At a low of -30.9°C, Rukmuni in Lahaul-Spiti district was the coldest in Himachal Pradesh, while maximum day temperature of 20.4°C was recorded at Sajaura in Kullu district. The meteorological department predicted a gradual rise in minimum temperatures, by 2° to 5°, while the maximum temperatures are expected to increase by 2° to 3° over the next four-five days.

rological Department (IMD).

Dense to very dense fog with low visibility prevailed in many parts of Punjab and some parts of Haryana. Zero visibility was reported in Amritsar; 25 metres in Faridkot; less than 50 metres in Bathinda, Adampur, Halwara and Ludhiana; 60 metres in Gurdaspur; and 100 metres in Patiala in Punjab.

In Haryana, visibility dropped to 10 metres in Narnaul, 30 metres in Bhiwani, 30 metres in Karnal, and 70 metres in Hisar.

As per the IMD, dense to

very dense fog conditions are very likely to prevail in morning hours in isolated pockets of Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh till Jan 12 or even beyond.

Cold wave conditions are very likely in isolated pockets of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh on Jan 11 and 12.

As against Friday, a fall of 2.2°C in average minimum temperature was recorded till Saturday morning in Punjab, while Haryana recorded a fall of 0.9°C.

Dy CM orders probe into HP bus accident

Times News Network

Shimla: A day after the bus accident at Haripur in Haripur district claimed the lives of 13 passengers and left several others injured, deputy chief minister Mukesh Agnihotri, who also holds the portfolio of transport minister, ordered a magisterial inquiry to determine the cause of the mishap.

Sirmour deputy commissioner Priyanka Verma, who visited the accident site on Saturday, said a committee headed by the SDM was formed for an in-depth investigation. The committee also includes a mechanical expert and a police representative. The SDM has been directed to submit the report within 15 days. Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee president and local MLA from Shri Remakaji assembly constituency, Vinay Kumar, also visited the accident spot on Saturday.

The 3-seater private bus, carrying nearly 75 passengers, was travelling from Shimla to Kupri.

CM directs solar push in hospitals

Times News Network

Shimla: Himachal Pradesh chief minister Sukhvir Singh Sukhu directed the installation of rooftop solar systems across health institutions in the state to promote renewable energy and reduce costs. The state aims to meet over 80% of its annual energy requirement of 13,000 million units through renewable sources. It further plans to install solar projects with a combined capacity of 500 MW over the next two years. Existing projects include the 32 MW Pechubela, 5 MW Bhajal, and 10 MW Aghlaur solar power plants, which already generated significant electricity and revenue.

FIR filed over fake state govt calendar posts on social media

Shimla: The state CID (Crime Investigation Department) cyber crime cell on Friday registered an FIR after taking serious note of fake, misleading, and malicious posts circulating on social media concerning the state govt calendar for 2025, issued by the department of printing and stationery, expressed concern over the altered content.

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ED attaches ADEL Landmarks' properties worth ₹589.4 crore for 'duping home-buyers'

Manvir Saini @timesofindia.com

Chandigarh: Tightening the noose further around builders and colonisers who duped thousands of homebuyers in Gurugram, Palwal and Faridabad, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) on Saturday attached properties and assets worth Rs 589.4 crore linked to ADEL Landmarks Limited (erstwhile Era Land Mark), its promoters and associated companies.

According to information, the operations were carried out by the Gurugram unit of ED following orders from a Special PML-S court, presided over by Vani Gopal, on Friday. Besides the titles registered in the name of companies, the federal agency also attached the properties belonging to these accused directors, namely Hem Singh Bharana and Sumit Bharana. The provisionally

attached assets include various plots and parcels of land admeasuring approximately 340 acres, located in Gurugram, Faridabad, Palwal and Bahadurgarh in Haryana, as well as Meerut and Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh. These properties are owned by M/s ADEL Landmarks Ltd and its associated subsidiary companies.

Notably, ED initiated the investigation on the basis of

74 FIRs registered/chargesheets filed by Haryana Police, Delhi Police and the Economic Offences Wing (EOW), Delhi. As per the allegations in the FIRs, M/s ADEL Landmarks Ltd., its promoters and associate companies cheated and defrauded numerous homebuyers by failing to deliver the promised flats and units within the stipulated timelines, even after delays ranging from 12 to 19 years.

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Annexure IV

Score card to be filled by the applicants for the Post of Assistant Professors in the affiliated Colleges of Guru Nanak Dev University

S.N.	Academic Record	Score				Score Claimed	Score Verified by the Shortlisting Committee
1.	Graduation *	80% & Above = 21	60% to less than 80% = 19	55% to less than 60% = 16	45% to less than 55% = 10 in case of SC/ ST/ OBC (non- creamy layer)/ PWD) 50% to less than 55% = 10 (in case of General Category)		
2.	Post-Graduation *	80% & Above = 25	60% to less than 80% = 23	55% (50% in case of SC/ ST/ OBC (non- creamy layer)/ PWD) to less than 60% = 20			
3.	M.Phil.	60% & above = 07	55% to less than 60% = 05				
4.	Ph.D.	25					
5.	NET with JRF	20					
	NET	15					
	SLET/SET	10					
6.	Research Publications (2 marks for each research publications published in Peer-Reviewed or UGC-listed Journals)	06					
7.	Teaching / Post Doctoral Experience(2 marks for one year each)#	10					
8.	Awards						
	International / National Level (Awards given by International Organisations/ Government of India / Government of India recognised National Level Bodies)	03					
	State-Level (Awards given by State Government)	02					
Total (100 Marks)							
60% weightage of 100 marks as per formula = $\frac{\text{Marks secured}}{\text{Maximum marks (100)}} \times 60$							

* In the relevant subject

#However, if the period of teaching(as full time adhoc/contractual or permanent) approved courses in recognized university/college /Post-doctoral experience is less than one academic year then the marks shall be reduced proportionately.

Note:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|--------------------|
| (A) | (i) M.Phil + Ph.D | Maximum - 25 Marks |
| | (ii) SET/SLET + Ph.D | Maximum - 30 Marks |
| | (iii) NET + Ph.D | Maximum - 33 Marks |
| | (iv) NET + JRF + Ph.D | Maximum - 35 Marks |
| | (v) In awards category | Maximum - 03 Marks |

Note : The total sum of marks awarded against Sr. 3, 4 & 5 shall not exceed 35 marks.

List of Enclosures:

-13-

The applicant must produce all the evidentiary documents such as: copy of publications, project sanction letter, utilization and completion certificates issued by the University and acknowledgements for patent filing and approval letters, student's Ph.D. award letter, etc. along with degrees/certificates of educational qualifications.

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| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

DECLARATION

I have read the applicable guidelines, which are binding. I do hereby solemnly declare that the information given in Annexure-III, the statements made and documents uploaded with this application form are correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief. If any information given by me in this application is found to be false or misleading, my candidature is liable to be cancelled and I may be subjected to legal/disciplinary proceedings.

Date:

Place:

Signature & Designation of the Applicant