

# **GMCH-32 takes a leap forward**

Sets CT scan centre, will start operations from January; limit on waiver to be uncapped

#### **RITIKA JHA PALIAL** TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 22** Twenty years after its establishment, Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Sector 32, has started its own CT scan centre.

The centre is currently under trial (having performed tests on over 20 patients in the past couple of days). It will become operational in January (2014). The service until now was available via a centre running on a public private partnership mode where the costs were 40 per cent higher (Rs 500 for head) than government hospital rates and the condition of one poor-free test per 10 poor patients existed. Now, the cost will be lesser and the waiver for poor patients will no longer be



The CT scan centre at the GMCH-32 is under trial. TRIBUNE PHOTO: PARVESH CHAUHAN

limited. "The rates will be on a par with the PGI," said Director-Principal of the GMCH Dr Atul Sachdev. The hospital first floated to Complete the GMCH Dr Atul Sachdev.

the tenders for starting its own CT scan centre in 1999, but it failed to complete the Description of the tenders for starting its never pursued. In 2004, the hospital out-

ources in the sourced the service to a priadministration vate company without

charging any rent. The centre that was being run by private players courted several controversies ranging from fleecing patients to violating terms of the agreement pertaining to poor patient funds.

Last year, for instance, an inquiry conducted by a committee found that instead of providing free service to 10 per cent of the total number of poor patients, as mentioned in the agreement, the private centre had been waiving 10 per cent of the cost obtained from services availed of by the poor patients.

There was no check on whether the waived amount ever reached the poor patients. Set up in the department of radiology, the Rs 14-crore project has raised high hopes.

# Dark days, even darker nights

#### HINA ROHTAKI TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PANCHKULA, DECEMBER 22 Panchkula remains to be unsafe for women. Leave aside the presence of police personnel, not even a single PCR vehicle is seen in isolated areas.

The correspondent visited several such areas and found that there was nothing in the name of security. This despite the fact that there are 18 PCR vehicles. At the Sector 6 roundabout, where a PCR vehicle was stationed, a policeman was seen lazying around. There were no PCR

vehicles on the border of Panchkula-Chandigarh near the MDC T-Point, in front of girls' college at Sector 14, MDC T-Point, Sector 11 roundabout and Golf Club in

was no check on Sector 3, Panchkula. r the waived amount "The presence of po

"The presence of police personnel in markets and the other sensitive areas can give ogy, women a sense of security," has said Priya Chopra, a resident of Sector 12. Commissioner of

#### WOMEN UNSAFE IN PANCHKULA

A resident of Mansa Devi Complex, Sector 5, narrated her ordeal while returning home at 10.30 pm. The girl is a call centre employee. "As I reached the MDC T-Point near Mansa Devi Singh Dwar, two youths appeared from nowhere in front of my car. They were in an inebriated state. Had I not tried running them over, they would have harmed me."

Police Rajbir Deswal said the vehicles were deployed as per priority on Sundays. Tarsem Garg, chairman, Nagar Sudhar Sabha, Panchkula, said, "We were told that two PCR vehicles would be stationed in the market, but we have never seen policemen patrolling the area. Anti-social elements keep frequenting the market." He stated: "There should be a check on PCR vehicles and officers." Vishakha Dhiman, a resident of Sector 6, said, "Senior police officers should visit such areas every week."



### MAYORAL ELECTIONS Councillors divided over choice of ht h

### candidate

#### AMIT SHARMA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 22** A majority of nominated councillors are expected to support the Congress in the forthcoming Mayoral elections, but most of them are divided over the choice of candidate.

With two names doing the rounds, the party will have to face a tough time choosing the candidate.

As the Mayor's seat for the next term of one year is reserved for an SC candidate, Congress councillors HC Kalyan and Satish Kumar Kainth are the top contenders for the post.

One of the nominated councillors stated that they were ready to vote for

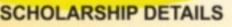
With two names doing the rounds, the Congress will face a tough time choosing the candidate for the post of the Mayor

the ruling party, but they wanted that the candidate should be of their choice. "I have decided to vote for the candidate of my choice but if the party fields some other candidate, I will have to rethink my decision," he stated.

Echoing similar views, another nominated councillor stated that he was waiting for the Congress to finalise the candidate. If the name of his choice was picked up, he would vote in the favour of the party, he said.

During the last Mayoral elections, all nine nominated councillors had told Pawan Kumar Bansal about their preferences. Sources said the Congress would be finalising the candidate keeping in view the Lok Sabha elections to be held in 2014. "A popular candidate will be considered for the elections,' sources stated. The nominated councillors are expected to meet in the coming days to chalk out their strategy. There are 36 MC house members, 13 from the Congress, including the MP, 11 from the SAD-BJP alliance, two from the BSP, an Independent councillor and nine are nominated councillors. The last date for filing nominations is the December 28 and the elections will be held on January 1.





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Monday, 23 December 2013 Registration Time: 1000 – 1100 hrs CII Northern Region Headquarters Sector 31-A, Chandigarh

### Prior registration is mandatory

### KEY SPEAKERS

Mr Man Mohan S Kohli Chairman Cll Chandigarh Council & CEO, Aroma group

Mr Vikram Hans Past Chairman Cll Chandigarh Council & Managing Director Multi Overseas India Private Limited

Mr R K Verma Chief Engineer (I/C) Central Electricity Authority

Mr Amit Kumar Director The Energy and Resources Institute Mr Deepak Gupta Senior Programme Manager Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation

Mr Alekhya Datta Research Associate The Energy and Resources Institute

Dr Parimita Mohanty Fellow & Area Convenor The Energy and Resources Institute

Mr Alok Kumar Jindal Fellow & Area Convenor The Energy and Resources Institute

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