

# Treating leukaemia without chemo: How a novel PGI therapy is improving survival rate

PGI's Department of Clinical Hematology recently won innovation award too for the treatment

**PARUL**  
CHANDIGARH, MARCH 26

In 2003, Pankaj Malhotra, Head, Department of Clinical Hematology, PGIMER, introduced arsenic trioxide (ATO) and all-trans retinoic acid (ATRA) to form the backbone of a treatment of acute promyelocytic leukaemia (APL) without chemotherapy.

Malhotra revealed that patients often arrived at hospitals in critical conditions, and despite treatments, many of them succumbed within 10 days. Additionally, the cost of treatment was so high that most patients cannot afford it.

"Our department too treats around 60,000 patients annually, and to address this chal-

lenge, we began treating these patients with this combination as chemotherapy often leads to rapid deterioration in such patients. This was initiated as an experimental therapy, and introducing this therapy was initially difficult. Typically, new treatments originate from foreign countries, and the PGIMER faced significant reservations for pioneering this approach, but we persevered, improving the therapy over time with excellent outcomes," added Malhotra, whose study was honoured in the 'Innovation' category on the PGIMER Research Day.

The study showed that treatment of all risk classes of APL with ATO and ATRA without chemotherapy is associated with excellent long-term outcomes in the real-world setting. It de-

**Treatment involves administering a combination of arsenic and ATRA (Vitamin A), says HoD of Clinical Hematology, PGIMER**

scribed the experience of treating patients with APL of all risk classes with ATO and ATRA without chemotherapeutic agents. Patients received induction with ATO and ATRA followed by three cycles of consolidation with ATO and ATRA (each 1 month apart) after achieving morphological remission. Patients with intermediate and high-risk disease received a further two years of mainte-

nance.

A total of 206 patients were included in the study, and with the use of ATO and ATRA, the outcome for APL has improved dramatically over the last decade and is now among the best long-term survival rates among haematological malignancies.

"This innovative treatment involves administering a combination of arsenic (a type of metal) and ATRA (Vitamin A), and the results have been outstanding. Many women patients treated with this therapy have gone on to lead healthy lives, get married, and have children without complications," added Malhotra.

Over the years, the PGIMER has made several modifications to enhance the effectiveness of the therapy. The success of this

innovation has now been recognised at an international level, with its publication in a leading hematology journal. This achievement is not only a milestone for the PGIMER but also for the entire country.

Several major hospitals in India, as well as the US and Australia, have adopted the PGIMER's treatment protocol.

The institute provides this therapy free of cost to economically disadvantaged patients, spending approximately Rs 10 to 12 lakh annually on its implementation. To date, 258 patients have received treatment using this method, and many patients can lead normal lives after receiving proper treatment. As the disease progresses gradually, regular blood tests can only detect leukemia in its early stages.

# Govt awards Chandigarh for 100-day TB elimination drive

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHANDIGARH, MARCH 26

CHANDIGARH WAS awarded for its "exemplary performance" during a 100-day intensified campaign – launched in the Union Territory in December 2024 – in view of World TB Day on March 24 this year. Dr Suman Singh, director Health Services,

received the award bestowed on Chandigarh by J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers.

During the drive, part of the national initiative, in Chandigarh – which primarily focused on case-finding among vulnerable and high-risk population of the UT – nearly 1.2 lakh people were screened, with X-rays carried out on 20,000 of them. The fresh TB cases, identified during the examination, have been put under treatment.

The Punjab Governor and Chandigarh Administrator, Gulab Chand Kataria, who became a "Nikshay Mitra" under the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyan of NTPC, agreed to provide nutritional support to the TB patients in the UT.

Dr Deepak Bhasin, senior director (Pulmonology) at Mohali Max Hospital, said that TB, despite being a preventable and curable disease, remains one of the most contagious infections today. "Tuberculosis, an infection that primarily affects the lungs, can be treated with antibiotics, but it gets serious if not treated on time. The symptoms usually develop gradually, and may include a persistent cough lasting more than three weeks – often with mucus (phlegm) or blood, along with fatigue, loss of appetite, weight loss, high fever or night sweats, and general discomfort."

Speaking about the treatment, Dr Bhasin further said: "The primary TB treatment is to take antibiotics for at least six months. If the disease has spread to the brain, spinal cord or area around the heart, a patient might also require to take steroid medicine for a few weeks. It is crucial not to stop the treatment on your own. A patient should only discontinue medication upon the doctor's advice."

TB remains one of the deadliest infectious diseases globally, but with timely diagnosis and proper treatment, it can be cured and maintained, Dr Bhasin said.

It is crucial to undergo diag-

## WHAT'S ON



During a press briefing on the upcoming lifest

### SHOOLINI UNIVERSITY TO HOST STELLAR LINE-UP AT LIFEST

Shooolini University's upcoming literature festival, a celebration of words, ideas, and creativity, promises to be an unforgettable experience, with a diverse range of sessions, workshops, and performances. The fifth edition of the festival will feature an impressive line-up of personalities, including filmmaker Imtiaz Ali, thespian Kanwaljit Singh, singers Usha Uthup and Ila Arun, VJ Maria Goretti Warsi, actor Shrusti Seth, lyricist Raj Shekhar, diplomat Vikas Swarup, business leader Harit Nagpal, writer S R Harnot and many more. The renowned authors, artists, and thinkers will engage in thought-provoking discussions, readings, and performances.

One of the highlights of the

three-day festival, from March 28 to 30, is the introduction of the Shooolini Sahitya Samman, an award that recognises outstanding contributions to literature. The festival will also feature the release of books by authors from Shooolini University. Festival director Dr Ashoo Khosla said that in addition to the main sessions, the festival will include a range of workshops, including screen adaptation, mindfulness, puppetry, and philately. These interactive sessions will provide participants with hands-on experience and expert insights. Kanwaljit said he was happy to be a part of the prestigious Shooolini Lit Fest, which had given access to students to be a part of the festival as it was important for young minds to leave their mobile phones and start reading books.

## 'Encourage passion, curb drug addiction': 600 teams to play 'Gully Cricket' in Chandigarh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHANDIGARH, MARCH 26

THE UT Cricket Association (UTCA) and the Chandigarh Police are set to kickstart the third edition of 'Gully Cricket Tournament 2025', starting from April 20 onwards, officials said.

The annual tournament – aimed at encouraging a passion for cricket among the youth of Chandigarh and promoting a drug and crime-free society under the 'Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan' – is expected to see the participation of 600 teams comprising over 7,200 cricketers in the 14-19 age group. A national league, the Gully Cricket tournament hosts cricket trials in every state, ensuring that no talent goes unnoticed.

During a press conference in Chandigarh on Wednesday, UTCA president Sanjay Tandon said: "This year, we will conduct the third edition of the Gully Cricket Tournament. The tournament, a unique initiative by the UTCA and the Chandigarh Police, is aimed at tapping talents among the UT youths. Our objective is to provide the youths with a platform to showcase their talents as well as mentor and nurture them – an opportunity for them to play for Chandigarh in BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) tournaments."

In 2024, a total of 3,456 play-

ers had registered themselves for the tournament. The UTCA selected 20 of them; with the final match held at the Sector 16 stadium. The registration process this year – being conducted through all the police stations across Chandigarh – will continue until April 7. "The tournament is an integral part of the Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi," said Tandon.

Chandigarh's inspector general of police IPS R K Singh, senior superintendent of police IPS Kanwardeep Kaur, and senior superintendent of police (City) IPS Geetanjali Khandelwal were also attended the press conference in Chandigarh on Wednesday.

"...Researches have shown that activities such as sports help reduce criminal behaviour and drug abuse, and the Chandigarh Police is proud to be associated with this event," R K Singh said.

It has been informed by SUKHESH AGGARWAL that Sh/Smr. RAM NIVAS AGGARWAL expired on 19/07/2024 and his/her hashave also intimated the following legal heirs of the deceased owner/lessee:

Name of Legal Heir - Relation with deceased  
1. SAHIL AGGARWAL - SON  
2. SUKHESH AGGARWAL - WIFE  
3. ANKUSH AGGARWAL - SON  
4. SHAFYY AGGARWAL - DAUGHTER

Now, SUKHESH AGGARWAL has applied for the Transfer of Lease Rights in respect of COMMERCIAL SICO NO. 11, SECTOR 30-D, Chandigarh (CPL 452) to the extent of 15.00% share on the basis of Un-Registered Will of Late RAM NIVAS AGGARWAL in his/her favour, on the basis of Un-Registered Will dated 25/06/2024. If anybody has any information about any other legal heir(s) of the deceased other than mentioned above the same may be intimated to the Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh, immediately.

If anybody has any objection upon the mutation of the said share in the said property, in favour of the above named applicants, he/she/they may furnish the same in writing (supported with affidavit duly attested by Magistrate/ Notary) in the office of the undersigned within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the said share in the said property will be mutated accordingly in the name of above said beneficiaries and no further claim whatsoever will be entertained at any later stage.

Rajiv Tewari, Assistant Estate Officer, Exercising the Powers of Estate Officer, U.T., Chandigarh

**मार्तीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान मोहाली**  
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MOHALI  
(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

### Integrated PhD Admissions (August 2025 session)

Applications are invited from prospective candidates for admission to the Integrated PhD Program at IISER Mohali. Applications are invited in the areas of Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Mathematical Sciences for the session beginning in August 2025. Candidates interested in pursuing research in interdisciplinary areas are also encouraged to apply.

The details of eligibility criteria, online application form and application procedure are available at <https://www.iisermohali.ac.in>. The online application facility will remain opened till April 10, 2025 (Thursday) 11:59 PM.

**CHANDRA SHEKHAR AZAD UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY, KANPUR-208 002 (U.P.)**

Advertisement

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for various posts in the University.

Advt. No.01/2025- Professor for different colleges of the University (18 posts).

Advt. No.02/2025- Associate Professor for different colleges of the University (31 posts).

Advt. No.03/2025- Assistant Professor for different colleges of the University (63 posts).

Details may be downloaded from the University website ([www.csauk.ac.in](http://www.csauk.ac.in))

Applications on prescribed proforma must reach to the office of the undersigned on or before 5.00 pm of 10 May, 2025 through Registered/Speed post only.

Director,  
Administration & Monitoring

**काशी हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय** BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY

An Institution of National Importance established by an Act of Parliament

(Advt. No - 07/2024- 25)

### (Position of Junior Clerk, Administrative Sector)

Banaras Hindu University, invites ONLINE applications from eligible Indian Citizens possessing the prescribed qualifications for filling up the post of Junior Clerk, Administrative Sector.

Last date for online submission of application form is 17.04.2025.

The downloaded application form along with supporting documents should reach to the Office of the Registrar, Recruitment & Assessment Cell, Holkar House, BHU, Varanasi-221005 on or before 22.04.2025 upto 5:00 p.m.

For details of qualifications and other instructions, please visit University website: <http://www.bhu.ac.in/rac>

Date: 18.03.2025

REGISTRAR

**मार्तीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान मोहाली**  
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MOHALI  
(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)

### PhD Admission (August 2025 session)

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### OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL CHANDIGARH (DRT 3)

Ground Floor, SCO 33-34-35, Sector 17-A, Chandigarh - 160017

#### DEMAND NOTICE (THROUGH PUBLICATION)

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC/888/2023 25-11-2024 PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK Versus

MESSRS BALAJI TRADING COMPANY AND OTHERS

To,  
(CD 1) Messrs Balaji Trading Company, B-1-667 New Upkar Nagar Civil Line Ludhiana Punjab Through Its Proprietor Sh. Varinder Singh.

(CD 2) Sh. Varinder Singh S/o Sh. Balvinder Singh, B-1-667, New Upkar Nagar, Civil Lines, Ludhiana (Punjab) Proprietor of M/s Balaji Trading Company.

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL CHANDIGARH (DRT 3) in OA/1095/2019 an Amount of Rs 23,06,752.00 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Six Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Two Only) along with pendente lite and future interest @10.00% Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 08/04/2019 till realization and costs of Rs 58,000 (Rupees Fifty Eight Thousands Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally Fully/Limited).

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipt of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.

3. Whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way, therefore this notice is given by this publication directing you to put in appearance before this Tribunal on 17.04.2025 at 10.30 AM.

4. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of your assets on or before the next date of hearing.

5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:

(a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.

(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 25/11/2024

Recovery Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL CHANDIGARH (DRT 3)

**JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK** Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071. Branch Office: 16/12, 2nd Floor, W.E.A Arya Samaj Marg, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005.

### E-AUCTION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

The undersigned as authorised officer of Jana Small Finance Bank Limited has taken possession of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that online auction (e-auction) of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS"