

Chandigarh newspaper hawkers strike work

Newspaper hawkers in Chandigarh and the neighbouring towns of Panchkula and Mohali went on a strike Sunday and did not distribute any newspapers in an effort to press their demands.

The hawkers in the three towns are demanding higher commission per copy of the newspapers they distribute and also want an end to the practice of coupon system for paid-up subscription.

"No newspaper was distributed by hawkers in the entire tri-city Sunday. We will not do it (distribute papers) till our demands are met," Chandigarh, Panchkula and Mohali Hawkers' Union president Sushil Kumar said.

The hawkers' union said it was talking to newspaper managements in the city to resolve the issue.

"I have been waiting for my newspaper since morning. There is no sign of either the newspaper or the hawker. This is so irritating, especially on a Sunday," said Manjeet Ahluwalia.

The tri-city comprises a population of nearly 1.5 million people with Chandigarh alone accounting for nearly 1.1 million.

Chandigarh is a major publishing centre for newspapers in English, Hindi and Punjabi.

Leading newspapers being published from here include The Tribune, Hindustan Times, Indian Express, Times of India, Dainik Bhaskar and nearly a dozen others.

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