

DRUNKEN DRIVING CHALLANS

After New Year high, comes low of court appearance and fine

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AMONG THE 205 drunken drivers who were issued challans on the New Year Eve, 185 offenders paid their fine at the challaning branch of the district courts in Sector 43 on Wednesday to get their vehicles released.

However, maximum offenders will get the release orders of their vehicles on Thursday.

The challans were disposed of by the court of Imanbir Singh Dhaliwal, JMJC (Judicial Magistrate First Class). As per the records, a total of 349 traffic violators appeared in the court on

Wednesday and the court disposed of 297 challans in total.

The 185 drunken drivers paid fine from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000 based on the alcohol content found in them. A fine of Rs 2.88 lakh was collected from the offenders, out of which nearly Rs 2 lakh was for drunken driving. As per traffic rules, a driver whose alcohol content is found to be over 100 mg has to pay Rs 2,000 in fine while one with less than 100 mg content of alcohol has to pay a fine of Rs 1,000.

Amrao Singh, DSP (Traffic), Chandigarh Police, said: "We have issued challans to 205 violators. Today 185 were penalised by court. Those who violated the per-



Traffic offenders at the district courts in Sector 43, Chandigarh, on Wednesday. *Jasbir Malhi*

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missible limit of 30 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood were issued challans for the offence. Following this, an application for seizing driving licences of the violators has been moved by the UT Police and as per norms the licenses will remain suspended for three months."

On Wednesday, the court staff at the challaning branch continued working till 8 pm, but could not clear the challans of all the

drunken drivers. Thus, the remaining offenders were called to the court on Thursday. The offenders who have paid the fine for the challan will also get their vehicles released on Thursday as they could not receive the release orders of their vehicles on Wednesday.

Manish Kumar, a resident of Naraingarh (Haryana), who was issued drunken driving challan on the New Year Eve at Housing Board Light Point, said, "I came here in the court this morning. After the whole day's struggle, I have been able to pay the fine, but I am yet to get the release orders of my car."

"Tomorrow I had to take an

examination at Naraingarh, but I will have to come back to the court again," he added.

Another offender, Gurpreet Singh of Kharar, who was issued drunken driving challan at Sector 37/41 roundabout, said, "I was here in Chandigarh on New Year Eve with my two friends. I never knew that consuming a beer would cost me so much."

"I had consumed only one beer. The amount in my sensor was 58 mg, but since Chandigarh Police is very strict with the violation, I have to pay a fine of Rs 1,000. I will have to come back to court tomorrow to get release orders of my car by taking another day off from my office," he added.



Manimajra woman makes abduction call, police personnel find her son

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THE CHANDIGARH Police launched an extensive search operation following a call about kidnapping of three-year-old child, Suraj, from near his house at Mata Raj Kaur Gurdwara, Manimajra, and found him standing abandoned at a distance of around 300 metres in Modern Housing Complex in Manimajra on Wednesday. The call of kidnapping was made by the mother of child, Lalita Devi, at 1.45 pm and her son was found standing around 2.25 pm. Three police parties — two of Manimajra police station and one of PCR wing — launched the search operation.

Sources said, "Lalita Devi called the police control room stating that someone informed me that my son dressed in a green suit was kidnapped by two motorcyclists from near her house."

The SHO of Manimajra police station, Inspector Ranjeet Singh, said, "Within minutes, a team reached the house of Lalita Devi, which is situated in a crowded locality. We interacted with local residents, who expressed ignorance about the fact that any kidnapping took place in the area. We launched a search operation. A boy dressed in green clothes was found standing near Gate



Chandigarh Police personnel after reuniting the missing boy with his mother in Manimajra on Wednesday. *Express*

Number-3 of Modern Housing Complex. The location from where the boy was found is hardly 300 metres away from the house of Lalita Devi. Her husband Raju Parshad, a migrant labourer, also came to the spot. The boy was never kidnapped. Lalita Devi was casually told by a passerby that he had

seen two motorcyclists along with a boy. We tried to trace the passerby but failed."

A medical examination of Suraj was also conducted at Civil Hospital, Manimajra, for ruling out the possibility of injury and he was found physically fine. Later, the boy was handed over to his parents.

The call of kidnapping was made by the mother of child, Lalita Devi, at 1.45 pm and her son was found standing around 2.25 pm

