

TOPIARY PARK

Panel finds 'non-supervision', 'possible graft'; pushes for probe, orders penalty

Rs 5,000 to be deducted from officials' salary for non-functional washrooms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
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TAKING NOTE of the poor quality of infrastructure at Panchkula's Topiary Park (Sector 6), the Haryana Right to Service (RTS) Commission has ordered strict

action along with penalties on officials for negligence in work. After a recent visit to the park, a team headed by Commission Chief Commissioner TC Gupta, a former IAS officer, observed that a path in the park was laid only recently and despite having a three-year warranty and constructed by importing the material, it got damaged within few months of its construction, clearly indicating "non-supervision during construction and possible corruption".

According to a spokesperson of the commission, it was ascertained that superintending engineer-level officer of Haryana

Shehri Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP) got this work executed and, therefore, chief administrator of the HSVP has been asked to conduct an inquiry into it, fix responsibility for this lapse and send a report to the commission by January 31 this year. "Since maintenance of park is a notified service, the construction of a substandard path (made from EPDM rubber) by spending public money amounts to non-maintenance of park and, therefore, the commission will consider imposition of penalty on the concerned under whose supervision this EPDM path was laid," the spokesperson said.

The chief administrator has

also been advised to identify the executive engineer responsible for installing the rainwater harvesting structure near the fountain which is of no use keeping in mind the topography of the park. "He may consider recovering the amount of infructuous expenditure spent on its construction from him by issuing a chargesheet", the commission said.

The commission has imposed a penalty of Rs 5,000 on the officials after the chief commissioner observed that the washrooms were in a dilapidated state and unfit for public use. It would be deducted from the salary of the

executive engineer and the sub divisional engineer or other officials concerned. In addition to general maintenance and cleanliness issues, the flush was found to be non-functional.

According to the commission spokesperson, it was also complained by many residents that the park's musical system was being operated at the whims and fancies of the operator. In this regard, the executive engineer concerned has been advised to identify the person and display his name on the notice board in the park along with names of other officials responsible for maintenance of the park.



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