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MC-commissioned survey lists 16,500 street vendors in Chandigarh



As per the Act, the vendor should not operate from more than one site and should not be into selling tobacco, cut fruits, meat or prohibited items.

An ongoing survey commissioned by the municipal corporation has identified 16,500 street vendors in the municipal limits of the city so far.

The survey that began in July had documented 13,000 vendors till last week. Parveen Chaudhary, chief executive officer of Haryana Nav Yuvak Kala Sangam, the agency conducting the survey, said, “We are about to complete the survey as only Mauli Jagran Colony and Manimjra are left. We hope the final figure will be around 17,000.”

“Licences will be given by September-end and the scheme will be implemented in first week of October.

He said, “We are identifying the vendors under geographic information system (GIS) mapping to ensure their longitude and latitude enabling for ensuring the vending area of the vendor. Based upon positioning, the vendors will be issued radiofrequency identification (RFID) cards along with ID cards. Later, training will be given to street vendors on food safety and hygiene.” The work of indentifying vending zones is going on for full-time and part-time street vendors, he said.

The project to launch a survey and register the street vendors was started in July under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014. The Union ministry of urban development had approved the execution of the Act in December 2015.

The law aims to register and rehabilitate street vendors so that they are not exploited. It also calls for proper rationing of urban streets and spaces. In Chandigarh, the final list of street vendors will be finalised by September-end, after consultations with the enforcement wing of the municipal corporation.

PROVISIONS OF THE LAW

Under the Act, a vendor should have attained the age of 14 and should not be engaged in a regular public or private sector job. The vendor should not operate from more than one site and should not be into the business of selling tobacco, cigarettes, cut fruits, meat or prohibited items, the law adds.

The vendors are not allowed to set up stalls near hospitals, religious places, educational institutes and fire stations. They are not allowed to function at berms, cycle tracks, footpaths, roundabouts and other places where they may cause traffic snarls or health hazard. The vendors will have to pay a vending fee between Rs 500 and Rs 1,500 a month, depending on the category and the place they operate from.
