



■ An expert addressing the gathering during stakeholders workshop at the Punjab Agricultural University in Ludhiana on Thursday.

GURMINDER SINGH/HT

# Experts discuss planning for food security at agri varsity

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**LUDHIANA:** The department of economics and sociology, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), organised a day-long stakeholders' workshop on United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) funded project 'capacity building in national planning for food security'.

Progressive farmers and entrepreneurs from across the state; representatives of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD); faculty of economics from Punjabi University, Patiala; scientists from Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVSU), Ludhiana; faculty of city colleges; and PAU senior

**There is a need to shift focus from food production to storage and distribution to meet the food requirements of population**

SS JOHL  
chancellor, Central University  
of Punjab

officials, heads, and faculty members, participated in the workshop.

PAU vice-chancellor Dr Baldev Singh Dhillon, while inaugurating the workshop, emphasised that proper planning was necessary for addressing the issues of food security, environmental protection (con-

servation of natural resources) and farm sustainability.

Central University of Punjab, Bathinda, chancellor, SS Johl, said, "There is not a dearth of food grains in India. But, there is a lot of food wastage due to mismanagement, lack of proper storage capacity for storing food grains, and poor distribution system."

He said even the food grains were being exported at loss. A shift from food production to proper management, storage, distribution and a new category of market was essential to meet the food requirements of the increasing population, he added. Ramesh Chand, director, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi, said the notion of food security must expand with development and rise in income.