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Rajasthan's Own English Newspaper



## Global markets plunge: Trump's tariff turmoil sends European & Asian stocks into tailspin

Jaipur

After reciprocal tariff announcements made by US President Donald Trump last week, Monday turned out to be a Black Monday for stock markets worldwide. The announcement by China to impose counter-tariffs in response to Trump's measures raised concerns about the beginning of a global trade war. This led to a drop of more than 5% in US stock markets on Saturday, and the impact was felt on Asian stock markets on Monday. Stock

Vimal Kothari & Moni Sharma Taiwan, Japan, China, Hong Kong, and other countries saw a sharp decline as they opened.

Monday was a challenging day for Indian stock markets, similar to other global markets. Investors in Jaipur were

est level in 10 months, leading to panic not only among retail investors but also among professional institutional investors. The stock market losses on Monday led to a reduction in market capitalization of stocks by ₹19 lakh crore on Monday morning, which shrank to around ₹14 lakh crore by market close.

disheartened by market

slump, but some savvy

investors took the risk

of investing in small

portions in the declining

market. Indian stock in-

dices reached their low-

#### FEAR BREWING: THE START OF A GLOBAL TRADE WAR?

The global stocks meltdown continued at Wall Street's open on Monday as US President Donald Trump showed no sign of backing away from his sweeping tariff plans, and investors bet the mounting risk of recession could see the Federal Reserve cutting interest rates as early as May. Experts believe that the main cause of the global market decline on Monday is the fear of the beginning of a global trade war. There is also a concern that, in response to China's counter-tariff measures, the US could raise its tariffs on China from 34% even further, escalating the global trade war between the world's two largest economies. This would have a significant impact on global economy, and all countries would be affected. However, there is a silver lining as US has started discussions with various countries following reciprocal tariff announcements, which could provide some relief to affected countries.

## **OVER \$10 BILLION WIPED OUT**

## India's richest four take a hit in stock market crash





Gautam Adani

Even the country's richest

in Monday's stock market

people were not spared

crash. Along with retail investors,

the country's top four billionaires,

Mukesh Ambani, Gautam Adani,

Savitri Jindal & family, and Shiv

world fell sharply, as per Forbes'

real-time billionaire list. Mukesh

Ambani, chairman of Reliance

Nadar, together lost over \$10

billion as markets around the





Savitri Jindal Industries, lost the most. His wealth fell by \$3.6 billion, bringing his total net worth down to \$87.7 billion. Gautam Adani, who runs the Adani Group, saw a \$3 billion drop in his fortune. His net worth now stands at \$57.3 billion. Savitri Jindal & family, owners of the OP Jindal Group, lost \$2.2 billion. Shiv Nadar, founder of HCL Technologies, also took a hit. His fortune fell by \$1.5 billion to \$30.9 billion.

#### **KEY REASONS FOR** MARKET DECLINE

- The key reason for the global market downturn is Trump's reciprocal tariff announcements
- Donald Trump implemented reciprocal tariffs on 180 countries worldwide
- This will increase the cost of imports to the US, discouraging exporters to the US
- The increase in import costs raises concerns about a possible economic slowdown in the world's largest economy, the US

#### **BSE INDEX IMPACT**

**APRIL 4** ₹40,409,600.62 cr **APRIL 7** ₹38,983,100.81 cr

## **IN BRIEF**

#### Ahead of Haj, Saudi bans visas for India, 13 other countries

markets in India,

New Delhi: With the Haj pilgrimage approaching, Saudi Arabia has temporarily halted the issuance of Umrah, business, and family visit visas for citizens from 14 countries, including India and Pakistan, in a bid to address overcrowding during the pilgrimage.

#### **JMC** restructures its wards from 250 to 150

Jaipur: The Jaipur Municipal Corporation has restructured the wards reducing them from 250 to 150. The draft and maps were released by the District Collector. A notification regarding the delimitation and reorganisation of JMC wards has also been issued. Following the publication of the maps. objections can be filed by the citizens till 6 pm on April 17.

## Cooking LPG gas price hiked by ₹50 per cylinder from today

New Delhi

The price of LPG cylinders has been increased by ₹50 for both subsidised and non-subsidised consumers, Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announced on Monday. Hike applies to Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.

The revised prices will come into effect from April 8. "For PMUY beneficiaries, the price will rise from ₹500 to ₹550 per cylinder. For other consumers, it will increase from ₹803 to ₹853," Puri said. Union Petroleum Minister added that the revision is subject to periodic re-



view, typically every

2–3 weeks. This major development comes just days after the oil marketing companies (OMCs) reduced the price of 19-kg commercial LPG cylinders by ₹41.

**GOVT INCREASES EXCISE DUTY ON PETROL, DIESEL** BY ₹2/LITRE, NO CHANGE IN RETAIL PRICES: PURI

The government on Monday hiked excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹2 per litre each from Tuesday, but there will be no change in retail prices as the increase will be adjusted against price cut that was warranted because of falling international oil prices. The excise duty on petrol was hiked to ₹13 per litre and that on diesel to ₹10 a litre, an official order showed. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the international price of crude came down to around \$60 a barrel, but please remember that our oil marketing companies carry inventories over a 45-day period.

## Govt to deploy hi-tech surveillance along LoC to thwart intrusion: Shah





(L-R) UHM Amit Shah being felicitated by BSF personnel, in presence of Dr Jitendra Singh and Manoj Sinha, at BSF camp in Kathua on Monday. Omar Abdullah greets Amit Shah at Srinagar airport, Monday.

First India Bureau

Srinagar

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday said that electronic surveillance systems will be deployed along the Line of Control between India and Pakistan to dismantle the cross-border tunnels and thwart repeated incidents of intrusion in Jammu and Kashmir.

While addressing THE

CM SHARMA INAUGURATES 'NIRAMAY RAJASTHAN CAMPAIGN'

BSF personnel during his visit to border outpost 'Vinay' near in Hiranagar sector of Kathua district, the Union Home Minister said new technology will help security forces to respond to any action from the enemy side.

Shah also commended the dedication and devotion of the BSF in safeguarding the borders throughout the year and said "the real challenge is understood only when one visits the place." "In cold, rain or extreme heat when temperatures cross 45 degrees Celsius, you remain on guard 365 days and 24 hours on the forward posts keeping an eve on enemy activities,' he said.

"To identify and dismantle underground tunnels, technical means would be put in place," Amit Shah added.

## Jaipur hit & run: 2 killed as speeding SUV rams into pedestrians, vehicles

First India Bureau Jaipur

A speeding luxury car struck multiple pedestrians and two-wheeler riders on Monday in Jaipur's Nahargarh police station area. The car driver, reportedly driving at an extremely high speed, rammed into anyone in his path before fleeing the scene. Tragically, 2 people lost their lives after being run over, while around a dozen were injured. The injured victims were rushed to SMS Hospital, 3 of the injured are



critical. Before reaching Nahargarh, the driver, Usman was driving under the influence of alcohol and had already hit several vehicles on MI Road. After that, he continued hitting vehicles at multiple locations in the Nahargarh police station area. MLA Balmukund Acharya reached accident site.

### Vikas Sharma Jaipur

LPG PRICE INCREASE

₹500 to ₹550

**DELHI** 

₹803 to ₹853

**JAIPUR** 

₹806.50 to ₹856.50

hief Minister Bhajan Sharma stated that the state government is committed to realizing vision of 'Viksit Bharat and Viksit Rajasthan' while actively working towards goal of 'Aapno Agrani Rajasthan - Aapno Swasth Rajasthan'.

CM assured that the promises made to people of the state would be fulfilled on time, without any negligence, empha-



CM Bhaian Lal Sharma felicitates health worker Anita Kumari, in presence of Gaiendra Singh Khimsar. Gayatri Rathore and Dr Shiv Kumar Sarin, during 'Niramay Rajasthan Campaign' in Jaipur on Monday.

of the government's approach. Sharma was addressing the inaugural

sizing this as a hallmark event of the Niramay Rajasthan Campaign and various health-related initiatives at the Rajast-

han International Centre. Wishing everyone a happy World Health Day, he acknowledged the cru-

in building a healthy society and the trust patients place in them, viewing them as divine figures. CM urged the residents of Rajasthan to actively participate in the Niramay Rajasthan campaign and make it a public movement to achieve the goal of Ayushman Rajasthan. CM Sharma highlighted that inspired by PM Modi, state government has made significant improvements in healthcare services over the past year.

cial role that doctors play





# Preserve culture, not addiction, urges Jodh IG

IG Kumar's message resonated deeply with those present, offering a refreshing and culturally rooted approach to combating drug use

First India Bureau Jaipur

Jodhpur range IG Vikas Kumar Sends Unique Message Against Drug Use — A Call for Tradition with a Healthy Twist. In a powerful and thoughtful appeal, Inspector General Vikas Kumar of Jodhpur has delivered a unique message in the ongoing fight against drug abuse—this time, addressing it through the lens of hospitality. Speaking at a public forum, IG Kumar urged citizens to refrain from serving opium and other intoxicants to guests, a practice still



prevalent in some traditional gatherings in Rajasthan. "We are a people who place our guests on a pedestal," he said.

"We welcome them with love and honour—then why do we offer them poison?"

He continued, "Opium and doda have neither the fragrance nor the greatness of our soil. They contain ingredients that kill the human spirit and reduce one to dust. Why should we serve death in the name of hospitality?"

Calling for a return to healthier traditions, the IG pointed to the wealth of offerings from Rajasthan's own land: "We have plenty that reflects the aroma and richness of our soil—ker, sangri, pilu, figs, dates,

**Naveen Sharma** 

Jaipur

On Monday evening, the

ACB arrested a college

principal in Jaipur. The

ACB team caught the ac-

cused principal red-hand-

ed while accepting a

bribe of Rs 25,000. The

bribe was demanded

from a student in ex-

change for marking them

present for periods and

syllabus portions where

they were actually absent.

pomegranates. Let us welcome our guests with onion kachoris, Bikaneri bhujia, gulab jamuns, and rasgullas—treats that delight and nourish."

He emphasised that

these wholesome alterna-

tives not only uphold the dignity of the guests but also enhance their wellbeing. "Let us collectively carry forward the tradition of manuhar (gracious hospitality) in the right spirit—by removing what is harmful and preserving what is good. Through this, we will build a healthier body, a stronger generation, and a more progressive Rajasthan."

## Govt sets April 30 deadline for ACR completion

First India Bureau Jaipur

The gazetted officers and employees of the state government have been instructed to complete their ACR (Annual Confidential Report) submissions by April 30. The final date for filling out the ACR on the Rajkaj Software Portal has been set as April 30. Additionally, the APAR channel on the Rajkaj Portal has been made available for all officers and employees belonging to the sub-

ordinate cadre. Authorities have been directed to ensure that the APAR channel is accessible to every concerned official and employee. Personnel Secretary KK Pathak has issued a circular in this regard, emphasizing the importance of timely compliance.

## Gas cylinder blast leaves a child dead, 15 injured

First India Bureau Jodhpur

A major fire broke out near the Nagauri Gate area in Jodhpur this evening, claiming the lives of two people, including a child, and injuring at least 15 others. The injured were rushed to Mahatma Gandhi Hospital, where a team of doctors is closely monitoring their condition.

The incident occurred near the Miyo Ki Masjid, where a small family gathering was underway. More than two dozen people were present when a gas cylinder leak led to a sudden and powerful blast, causing panic and chaos in the area. As the fire quickly spread, around a dozen people managed to escape, but several others were trapped inside.



The furniture kept in house fed the fire and made it harder to get under control.

Firefighters rushed to the scene and are still working to bring the flames under control. A police team also arrived promptly to assist in rescue efforts. Those suffering from breathing difficulties due to smoke inhalation were immediately hospitalised.

Local leaders, including MLA Atul Bhansali

and former BJP city president Jagatnarayan Joshi, also reached the site to assess the situation. CM Bhajan Lal Sharma on Monday expressed grief over the loss of lives caused by the fire. He also wished a speedy recovery to the injured and directed officials to ensure proper treatment for them.

## City restaurant raided: ACB traps college principal taking ₹25k bribe 34 people detained, 22 hookahs seized by cops



Police held 34 youngsters for creating ruckus during the raid.

#### CRIME **ROUNDUP** IN HANUMANGARH

Satynarayan Sharma Jaipur

In a campaign launched against hookah bars operating under the guise of cafes and restaurants, DCP South Digant Anand took action against such erring places. In a raid conducted at Brulicious restaurant in the Vidhayakpuri police station area, police arrested restaurant manager Chandra Bahadur and seized 22 hookahs and a large quantity of flavours. Besides, 34 youngsters who created a ruckus outside the restaurant were arrested and five luxury cars were also seized. DCP Anand said, "This attitude is very dangerous for society. The campaign against those who serve drugs to the youths will continue."

## ONE HELD WITH HEROIN

On the directions of SP Arshad Ali, action 1 person has been arrested with 24.08 grams of heroin by Tibbi police in Hanumangarh under the ongoing Flush Out campaign. Iqbal Singh was arrested with heroin and a case has been filed under the NDPS Act. Tibbi police station officer

#### ONE ARRESTED WITH **GUNS, AMMO & DRUGS** Pratapgarh police,

SP Vineet Kumar Bansal, arrested an individual and seized 161 live cartridges along with a pistol and two 12 bore guns. Besides, one 1.650 kg of MDMA worth around Rs 5 cr was also seized. Ingredients used in making MDMA, 3.3 kg of crystal powder and 1 kg of white powder and a

bike without a number plate

was also seized.

was carried out and Hansraj Luna said that drug smugglers will not be spared under any circumstance.

under direction of

Jaipur In regard to widening of Sirsi Road, the efforts of the JDA teams' appeals are snowing results, as the affected people have started removing their constructions on their own. Since this morning, these teams have been present at the site, actively persuading the affected people to remove their

structures voluntarily. They are encouraging people to clear the constructions themselves without the need for

Meanwhile traders in the Khatipura area have



The ACB stated that the incident took place at Gaurav TT College located in Bilwa, Sanganer Tehsil. A B.Ed first-year student at the college had

filed a complaint with the ACB. In the complaint, the student alleged that Principal Lokendra Singh was demanding Rs 30,000 to mark him present for periods he was absent and for the remaining B.Ed syllabus. The student also mentioned being repeatedly harassed to pay the amount. Upon verifying the complaint on April 2, the allegations found to be true.

## Transport Dept now in damage control mode

**JAIPUR AAO CAUGHT RED-HANDED TAKING** 

Acting on information, they caught Assistant Admin-

handed, accepting a bribe of Rs. 5,000. The bribe was

linked to a request to change the name of a medical

(ADC) Narendra Kumar Rager, whose chamber was

also searched in connection with the investigation.

Both ADC Bachchan Singh Meena and AAO Dinesh

Kumar Sindhi's roles are under suspicion in this case.

shop as part of an alleged scam. Interestingly, the spotlight also fell on Additional Deputy Commissioner

istrative Officer (AAO) Dinesh Kumar Sindhi red-

₹5K BRIBE; ROLE OF ADC UNDER INSPECTION

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) in Jaipur

Control Office situated in Satellite Hospital.

on Monday conducted a major raid at the Drug

Shivendra Parmar

Jaipur

decision on restarting the fitness centers that have been shut for the past week. Now, adopting a defensive stance, the dept has made an alternative arrangement to conduct manual fitness inspections at transport offices.

In an attempt to get the fitness system for vehicles, which has been completely halted for the past seven days, back on track, officials of Transport Dept have now gone into damage control mode. Transport Headquarters has issued instructions to all RTOs and DTOs to start conducting manual fitness

inspections at their respective offices.

However, this decision In Rajasthan, the Trans- by Transport Dept has port Department has not also raised several quesyet been able to take a tions. If this alternative arrangement had to be made anyway, then why were seven days wasted? When the fitness centers were closed on April 1, why wasn't this manual system started at that time itself?

> Earlier, on April 1, after the closure of fitness centers, their operators from across the state reached the Transport Headquarters. Expressing their displeasure over the shutdown, the fitness center operators said that most of them are ready to upgrade their centers into Automated Testing Stations, but department is not granting the approvals.

## 'Model Facility': ADG Jail praises Tonk Jail during surprise visit



Wajahat Akhtar Tonk

ADG Jail Rupinder Singh conducted a surprise inspection of Tonk Jail and was quite satisfied with the functioning there. During the inspection, he found no prohibited or objectionable item in the jail.

Praising the jail administration for proper upkeep, Singh said that the environment inside Tonk jail is quite clean. "The prisoners here are very disciplined and organic farming is being done. Rajasthan's jails have earned a good name in the country. The Supreme Court and High Court have also praised the prisons of Rajasthan," he said, adding that Rajasthan's open jail system is number one in India.

Singh mentioned that recently the Punjab and Haryana High Courts also praised Rajasthan jails. "The Industrial Training Institutes running in our prisons have earned a lot of applause," he said.

## JDA appeals pay off as residents begin clearing encroachments

**Abhishek Shrivastava** 

forced action. Earlier, IG Kailash Bishnoi had issued instructions in this regard, directing enforcement wing to act accordingly.



united to protest against JDA's decision to widen Sirsi Road. The Khatipura Vyapar Mandal has started an indefinite hunger strike in opposition to the move, which is aimed at expanding the road to 160 feet from its current width. The JDA plans to widen the road from Jharkhand Mod Khatipura Tiraha and further towards the 200-feet bypass. Construction removals are set to begin on April 9th.

#### **URBAN BODIES CAN ISSUES E-PATTAS NOW**

Urban local bodies will now be able (e-pattas) just like the e-leases through urban

to issue e-leases JDA. The department has granted approval for issuing bodies. The e-patta can now be issued with a single signature. Officials of the local bodies will be authorized to issue the e-pattas. It will no longer be mandatory for the head of the urban body to personally sign documents.

## 



Parents wait outside an exam centre in Jaipur as the Class 5 board exams begin on Monday. Exams are being held in a single shift from 8 AM to 10:30 AM and will continue MUKESH KIRADOO

## **WORLD HEALTH DAY** Health is earned, not bought: Dr SK Sarin

Vikas Sharma Jaipur

n the occasion of World Health Day, a state-level programme was organised at the Rajasthan International Centre in Jaipur, where renowned physician and Director of ILBS, Dr SK Sarin, was

'Niramay'

among the distinguished guests. In an exclusive conversation with First India, Dr Sarin lauded the Rajasthan government's initiatives, especially the

campaign,

aimed at addressing



health issues through spepeople that health is neicial drives. Calling the efther gifted nor purchased, fort commendable, he but something that must stressed that days like be earned through con-World Health Day remind tinuous effort.

Dr. Sarin reflected on how people often neglect their health until they fall ill, which makes them realize its importance only when it is too late

For a healthy life the first step is to protect oneself from infections. Equally important, he said, is the need to prevent non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which do not spread from person to person but are responsible for around 68% of deaths in India

recommendations was to maintain a controlled weight. He pointed out that many people are not even aware of what their ideal body weight should be. For men, he suggested a simple formula: subtract 100 from one's height in centimetres. For women, he advised subtracting 105 from their height to arrive at the ideal weight. Dr Sarin also added that being slightly below this calculated figure could be beneficial for overall health.

a deeply concerning

statistic. One of his key

RISE IN MERCURY WITH TEMPERATURES SOARING 5-7°C ABOVE NORMAL ACROSS STATE

# Heatwave sweeps Raj; Barmer at 45.6°C

degrees. The impact of Jaipur, Udaipur, Kota, and



Jaipur

Maximum temperatures between 40 to 45 degrees Celsius, which is 5 to 7 degrees above normal was recorded in most parts of Rajasthan on Monday. According to the MeT Dept the highest temperature was in Barmer in western Rajasthan at 45.6 degrees Celsius, which was 6.8 degrees above normal, while in Chittorgarh in eastern Rajasthan, the temperature reached 44.4 degrees Celsius, 7.2 degrees above normal.

Over the next 3–4 days, weather across the state is expected to remain dry, with temperatures likely to rise by another 1 to 2 many areas of Bikaner,



Tourists seen embracing umbrellas at Jantar Mantar in Jaipur as mercury soars to 41.8 °C on Monday.

Jaipur divisions. During

this period, there is also a

strong possibility of se-

vere heatwave conditions

**NAIM KHAN** 

Bikaner, and Kota divier, thunderstorms, and sions. However, from light rain across parts of April 10–11, a new westwestern & northern Raj, ern disturbance is expectgiving a little respite with ed to be active, which may a drop in temperatures by at isolated places in Jaipur, bring scattered cloud cov- 2–3 degrees Celsius.

#### **MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE** IN VARIOUS CITIES



- Jaisalmer 45.4
- Bikaner 44.3
- Kota 44.1
- Vanasthali 43.6
- Jodhpur, Churu and Sri Ganganagar 43.3
- Bhilwara 43
- Lunkaransar 42.8
- Dholpur 42.6
- Dungarpur & Jalore 42.3
- Ajmer and Pilani 42.1

Jaipur 41.8

(TEMP IN DEGREE CELSIUS)

## Secretariat staff to hold protest rally today in Jpr

First India Bureau Jaipur

Rajasthan Secretariat Forum has announced that it will organize an Attention Rally (Dhyanakarshan Rally) on Tuesday, to press for the fulfillment of long-pending demands related to promotion and other administrative matters of Secretariat employees. Despite repeated appeals over last 3 months at various levels, including to the CM, no decisive action has been taken, causing widespread dissatisfaction among staff. In view of employees sentiments and lack of resolution, the Raj Secretariat Forum, along with affiliated organizations, has decided to stage a rally. The rally will be held at 1:00 PM near the main building.

The Forum has clarified that if the demands are still not addressed even after this rally, the movement will be intensified with special programs and protests in the coming days.

## Meghwal defends Waqf Dotasra, Jully appear before CID-CB over Kota Bill; corners Gehlot

**Laxman Raghav** Bikaner

Union Law Minister and Bikaner MP Arjun Ram Meghwal held a public hearing at MP Seva Kendra in Bikaner on Monday, listening to residents' concerns and instructing officials for prompt resolution. During the session, Meghwal addressed several significant issues including the Waqf Bill, language debates, CM Bhajan Lal Sharma's canal journey, and Ashok Gehlot's recent remarks.

Defending Waqf Bill, Meghwal said it aims to empower poor Muslims ing Hindi's role as a uni-



Arjun Ram Meghwal

and Muslim women without infringing on religious rights, dismissing opposition criticism as misleading. On Hindi-Tamil language dispute, he emphasized India's linguistic diversity while underlin-

fying language. Meghwal praised CM Sharma's canal vatra as a positive step to understand and resolve water issues affecting farmers. Responding to Ashok Gehlot's criticism regarding IIFA, Meghwal accused him of focusing on negativity and stressed the importance of constructive dialogue for progress. On a viral video showing a BJP leader congratulating Gehlot during IIFA, Meghwal emphasized social harmony, stating he too extended congratulations and that such gestures should be seen as goodwill, not politics.

heatwave conditions and

warm nights is expected

to be most intense be-

tween April 7 and 9 across

## IG remark case; accuse govt of agency misuse Ravi Sharma Udaipur

PCC Chief GS Dotasra and LoP Tika Ram Jully appeared before CID-CB in Udaipur on Monday, recording their statements in a case related to controversial remarks made against Kota Range IG.

The two Cong leaders were accompanied by a large number of party workers. Dotasra accused govt of misusing agencies to suppress Oppn voices, calling it unjustified. Jully reiterated that their movement for public issues will continue. The case stems from remarks made during a public meeting in Kota, prompting police action.



Govind Singh Dotasra, Tika Ram Jully celebrated the birthday of MLA Dr Dayaram Parmar at Kherwara in Udaipur on Monday.

## DOTASRA, JULLY ATTEND DAYARAM'S B'DAY

PCC Chief Govind Singh Dotasra and LoP Tika Ram Jully visited Kherwara on Monday to celebrate the birthday of MLA Dr Dayaram Parmar. At a large gathering of Congress workers, both leaders addressed a workers' conference. Dotasra took sharp digs at the BJP, particularly targeting MP Kirodi Lal Meena, saying, "One Kirodi has created chaos within BJP." Mocking the ongoing political drama, he said slips were "circulating everywhere" and dared the BJP to file multiple cases against Congress leaders.

#### **RAJ CONG LEADERS TO** ATTEND EXTENDED CWC MEETING IN AHMEDABAD

An extended Cong Working Committee (CWC) meeting is scheduled in Ahmedabad on Tuesday, with several top leaders from Raiasthan set to attend. Former CM Ashok Gehlot, PCC Chief Dotasra, LoP Tika Ram Jully, Sachin Pilot, Bhanwar Jitendra Singh, and Harish Chaudhary will join the session, along with state in-charge Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa. The meeting, to be held at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Memorial, will focus on resolutions for the upcoming party convention and is expected to shape Congress's strategy ahead of key elections.

## SC accepts Govt's proposal on Ana Sagar Lake DTS case reports to be

Jaipur

In a significant development in the Ajmer Ana Sagar Lake matter, the Supreme Court on Monday accepted the Rajasthan government's proposal to develop an additional wetland in the area. The proposal had been submitted through an affidavit filed by the District Collector of Ajmer on behalf of the state government.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta and Rajasthan's Additional Advocate General Shivmangal Sharma appeared before



the court in the matter. However, the Supreme Court has yet to deliver a decision regarding speconstructions cific around the lake, including cases related to Patel Stadium and Gandhi Smriti Udvan.

The next hearing in the case has been scheduled for May 16.

#### DGP SAHOO APPEARS BEFORE HC; SPECIAL **CELLS TO TRACE MISSING PERSONS ORDERED**

Jaipur: Rajasthan DGP U.R. Sahoo appeared before the High Court on Monday in connection with four habeas corpus petitions concerning missing minors like Devilal, Mukesh, and Jameel. Advocates Narendra Singh Gurjar and Syed Saadat Ali represented the petitioners. The court praised IPS officer Ajaypal Lamba for a major crackdown leading to 827 arrests in a single day and questioned why similar urgency isn't applied in missing minors' cases. While the court suggested a special cell under Lamba, officials clarified that each police range is headed by a separate IG. Accepting this, the bench ordered formation of special cells in each range under IG-rank officers, with oversight from DGP Sahoo. The court also directed the creation of a statewide database and strict monitoring of recovery efforts. Police must begin probe within three days of a habeas petition. Sahoo said 96% of miss-

ing persons had been recovered so far.

#### **SINGLE LEASE CASE: RAJ HC HEARING TO CONTINUE TODAY**

Jaipur: The Raj High Court on Monday continued hearing high-profile single lease (ekal patta) case involving former minister Shanti Dhariwal. The matter was heard by a special single bench led by Chief Justice MM Shrivastava and scheduled for further hearing on Tuesday. The key argument focused on adding Ashok Pathak as a party to case. Senior advocates SS Hora and Vivek Raj Singh Bajwa appeared for Dhariwal, while ASG S.V. Raju, AAG Shivmangal Sharma, and others represented the state.

# uploaded on 'Rajkaj'

First India Bureau

Jaipur

The JDA has announced that factual reports related to DTS (Document Tracking System) cases will now be uploaded on the Rajkaj e-portal.

JDA Commissioner Anandhi issued clear directives regarding this process. All zonal deputy commissioners have been instructed to ensure that these factual reports are prepared and submitted. The reports must be forwarded through the concerned Additional Com-



missioner or supervisory officer before being sent to the JDA Commissioner. It was clarified that only those complaints received during public hearings, which are included under the DTS system, will be considered DTS cases and require uploading.

## **AGRICULTURE DEPT MEET**

## Kirodi takes review meet post 'resignation'

**Vinod Singh Chouhan** Jaipur



griculture Minister Dr Kirodi Meena

chaired his first review meeting post submitting his resignation, sharply criticizing the functioning of officials, especially in Bharatpur zone, for prolonged postings and alleged corruption. He ordered departmental probes & promised to clear pend-

Responding to Ashok Gehlot's remarks on MSP, Meena refuted claims of

ing work in 3 months.



Secretary Rajan Vishal along with other senior officials are also seen here.

negligence, stating regular millet purchases were ongoing. He vowed to make the Agriculture and Horticulture Departments corruption-free and to investigate scams under the previous government, in-

cluding poor soil quality and fake claims. Addressing local issues, Meena raised concerns over illegal hotel constructions in Sawai Madhopur, impacting the tiger population, and assured coordination

with the Forest and Road Transport Ministries. He also responded to a complaint involving MLA Danish Abrar's mother receiving 90% subsidy under polyhouse scheme, promising an inquiry.

#### MIN FLAGS STAGNATION, **PLEDGES REFORM**

Agriculture Minister Dr Kirodi Lal Meena also mentioned his initial delay in reviewing the department had caused stagnation but assured swift action going forward. He said officials failed to answer critical questions during the review. On Sawai Madhopur's Sadhus, he vowed to act when needed, emphasizing someone must safeguard their concerns. He also stressed the need to connect the sanctuary to the mega highway for better access and protection.

## Review of previous govt's last six months underway: Jogaram Patel

Report to be submitted after Tuesday's review First India Bureau

Jaipur

A review of the decisions taken during the final six months of the previous government is currently underway, senior minis-

high-level meeting. Following the review meeting, Minister Jogaram Patel said that key issues included the expenditure from loans taken under medical sector, particularly relating

to non-BSR items worth

ters confirmed after a



Parl Affairs Min Jogaram Patel

Rs 1 crore, and the land allocation for mining purposes in Bharatpur.

Minister Patel added, "The remaining 4-5 points will be reviewed on Tuesday, and the report will be finalised." Patel said that most of the

pending matters concern the allocation of land to social institutions, along with issues related to the Revenue, Medical, and Education Departments.

Meanwhile, Health Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar said, "All pending issues will be thoroughly considered on Tuesday, and a final decision will be made. The report will then be handed over to the government." Khimsar clarified that the decision to present the report in the Cabinet would rest solely with the government and not with the committee.

## **OFIRST INDIA** 04

Mahavir Jayanti, one of the most significant Jain festivals, will be observed on April 10

# BHAGWAN MAHAVIRA - POLE STAR OF INDIAN SPIRITUAL SKY



## Jasbir Singh

The writer is former Chairman Rajasthan Minorities Commission & National Working President Forum for Awareness of National Security



The history of world is a witness that most of the wars have happened in name of religion for this very reason. For Indian society, principle of anekant is best in present context because in our society languages, dialects, scripts, rituals, customs, gods and family deities change at a distance of every few miles. For a country like India, it is also said that "chaar kose par badle paani, aatth kose par vaani" "water changes at every four miles, language changes at every eight miles". Lord Mahavira gave Updesh i.e. advice not

it doesn't, throw it away Bhagwan Mahavira was filled with such a great humility. Bhagwan Mahavir had to face many troublemakers, people hammered nails in his ears and threw stones at him, people used to drive him out of villages. but he always used to say, "Mitti me savva bhuye su, vairam majjh na kevai" which means "I am friends with everyone, with the whole world and I have no enmity with anyone." He used to say that enmity should not be countered

with enmity, anger not

with anger because more

the enmity increases, the

more you keep creating

hell around you which is

Hundreds of salutations

to such a great, pure and

great Bhagwan Mahavira

on his birth anniversary

solely of your own making.

Aadesh i.e. orders; aadesh

means, do what I say, up-

desh means, I am sharing

with you what happened to

me. If it suits you, do it, if

lowers living in India and many countries of the world are celebrating the 2,624th birth anniversary (Janam Kalyanak Mahotsav) of Bhagwan Mahavira, with enthusiasm and zeal. Bhagwan Mahavira had founded this religious tradition 2,600 years ago for the welfare of the individual and the society and it is not only alive and vibrant even today but also holds a place of emulation and respect in our society. A tradition continuing in a vibrant manner for such a long time is undoubtedly an indicator of its inner strength. It is believed that Bhagwan Mahavira went into deep meditation for more than twelve years, stayed away from worldly activities by being absorbed in the self, as a result of which he got the realization of the truth. The deep meditation done by him on the individual, mind and soul made him a scientist of religion.

Bhagwan Mahavira was such a polestar of the Indian spiritual sky who never spoke uselessly, never thought uselessly, never did uselessly in his entire life. There was utmost dignity in his life and his inner energy became an arrow and he aimed his bowstring towards his target and created new waves in the society of that time. He descended into the very deep layers of Sadhana and searched and found the truth on the basis of this deep experience. He described the fourteen stages of meditation and told that this journey starts from Mithyatva and is completed at the stage of Ayogi Kevali Jinn.

He was not only a spiritual personality but his messages given in the context of an individual naturally had social dimensions as well. The importance and relevance of his messages also includes the welfare of the society. The motto of Jain tradition is "Parasparograho jivaanaam" which indicates that mutuality is the foundation of a civilized and cultured society and it should be nurtured. While the life, conduct and message of Lord Mahavira have spiritual zenith, they also contain useful messages for the society. Discrimination on the basis of high and low has been a big problem in the Indian society for centuries. Lord Mahavira attacked this and clearly said "Nohine no ayrite" i.e. no one is neither small nor big. Many people ask that when in this world someone is strong, someone is weak, someone is intelligent, someone is less intelligent, someone is rich,





Bhagwan Mahavira had founded this religious tradition 2,600 years ago for the welfare of the individual and the society and it is not only alive and vibrant even today but also holds a place of emulation and respect in our society. A tradition continuing in a vibrant manner for such a long time is undoubtedly an indicator of its inner strength. It is believed that Bhagwan Mahavira went into deep meditation for more than twelve years, stayed away from worldly activities by being absorbed in the self, as a result of which he got the realization of the truth. The deep meditation done by him on the individual, mind and soul made him a scientist of religion

someone is poor, then how can it be said that there is no difference between small and big. Lord Mahavira says that a person is a soul; he is not a body, mind or intellect. This inequality imposed by the society is external, not internal, hence it should not be given much importance. He gave the three jewels of Jain tradition, Samyak Darshan, Samyak Gyan and Samyak Charitra to our society. Along with this, he gave us the very valuable principles of non-violence, non-possessiveness, non-desire, non-stealing and awareness, which have been our inspiration for centuries. He said that violence, possession, desire, theft and negligence are the nature of man and only through sadhna, tapasya, self-restraint and meditation, these natures can be transformed into capabilities.

He gave great importance to living consciously (apramada) to achieve the ultimate goal of life. When a young man went to him to ask what should I do so that my life becomes successful, he told him to stop worrying about what to do and what not to do, do whatever

you do consciously and with awareness. When you do every action consciously i.e. in apramada, then you will start doing only that which is worth doing.

Once his disciple Gautam asked him who is a sage, then he gave a short but unique answer that "asupta muni". i.e. he who lives life in awareness. Gautam asked then who is not a sage, then the answer was again short but unique "supta amuni". i.e. he who does not live life with awareness. Apramada is very useful for worldly persons also. A careless person cannot get success even in the worldly field. The broad meaning of apramada is to do any work with complete dedication and awareness. Such apramada and awareness is also a surefire medicine or mantra for worldly success. Lord Mahavir's message of non-violence is his priceless gift to this world. The meaning of non-violence is understood to be "not to hurt anyone". This meaning is not wrong either but Lord Mahavir did not preach non-violence in such a limited sense. He said that the absence of attachment and hatred is the real non-violence. Having the ego of being non-violent is also violence.

While he stressed upon non-violence, he also said that having humility is very important for an ideal life. Therefore, in the Jain tradition, eight types of ego have been said to be discarded. These are ego of one's intelligence, ego of one's religiosity, ego of one's lineage, ego of one's caste, ego of one's body or mentality, ego of one's miraculous powers, ego of one's yoga and penance and ego of one's looks and beauty. According to Lord Mahavira, only after such preparation can a person get the fruits of knowledge, character and meditation.

Lord Mahavira gave the rule of Anuvrat to a person to improve on day-to-day basis. Just as an atom bomb made of small atoms can cause a massive explosion, similarly by following small vows, positive and revolutionary changes can take place in a person's life. By following the rules of anuvrat, whatever is inappropriate from social and personal point of view can be discarded. In this way, Lord Mahavira gave us an easy concept and vision of building a healthy society through anuvrat. Another important principle given by him in the present context is that of Anekant. Even in his time, there were many sects in the society which had their own principles, rules and traditions. He declared that any person can reveal only one part or aspect of truth, not whole truth. If someone considers only one part of the truth to be the whole truth and declares himself to be true and the other to be false, then conflict and clash is certain.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL

## IN-DEPTH

## Modi exposes TN netas' hypocrisy on language

rime Minister Narendra Modi's jibe at Tamil Nadu's political leaders—who sign official letters in English while vociferously opposing Hindi—has exposed a contradiction at the heart of their language politics. The anti-Hindi stance, often projected as a defence of Tamil identity, is frequently reduced to a political tool rather than a genuine cultural concern.

While the preservation of linguistic diversity is vital in a federal democracy like India, selective outrage weakens the credibility of such campaigns. If English, a colonial legacy, is acceptable for communication and administration, then targeting Hindi—a fellow Indian language—appears more ideological than rational.

Modi's remark, though politically charged, raises an important question about the sincerity of regional parties when it comes to language pride. True respect for Tamil or any regional language should reflect in consistent usage and promotion, not just in rhetoric.

It is time for leaders to move beyond symbolic protests and focus on meaningful measures to strengthen their linguistic heritage.

# A TALE OF INDIA'S TWO NEIGHBOURS



rime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Sri Lanka has underlined the evolving strategic equations in India's neighbourhood. The visit, marked by warmth and mutual assurance, showcased Sri Lanka's growing proximity with New Delhi, particularly in matters of regional security. Colombo's categorical assertion that it would not allow any foreign power to use its territory against India is a significant diplomatic signal—one that reaffirms its intent to balance foreign influence, especially China's, while safeguarding its sovereignty and regional stability.

This approach starkly contrasts with Bangladesh's current drift. Dhaka, under Mohammad Yunus, the chief adviser to the interim government, has leaned

heavily towards Beijing, inviting extensive Chinese investment and allowing deeper strategic inroads. While economic cooperation is natural and necessary, Bangladesh's increasing dependency on China—especially in infrastructure and defence—has raised concerns in New Dell



concerns in New Delhi. The absence of unequivocal assurances from Dhaka, similar to those from Colombo, reflects the growing trust deficit between India and Bangladesh.

What makes Colombo's position particularly notable is that Sri Lanka too has deep economic ties with China, including participation in the Belt and Road Initiative. Yet, it has drawn a line when it comes to allowing foreign military or strategic leverage that could threaten Indian interests. This balancing act is a lesson in diplomatic finesse. India must now re-engage Dhaka with greater urgency and force, addressing legitimate concerns without appearing hegemonic. South Asia's future stability hinges on ensuring that neighbourhood diplomacy is driven by mutual respect, trust, and a shared vision of peace. Ignoring strategic shifts could prove costly in the long run.



On World Health Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to building a healthier world. Our Government will keep focusing on healthcare and invest in different aspects of people's well-being. Good health is the foundation of every thriving society!

Narendra Modi @narendramodi



Tending to a Tulip garden isn't easy at all. From planting & maintenance to ensuring the perfect blooms requires special care & hardwork. The garden needs 11 months of preparation to showcase the tulips for a month-long bloom. Extending my gratitude to the entire team!

Kiren Rijiju @KirenRijiju





When meditation is mastered, the mind is unwavering like the flame of a lamp in a windless place

BHAGAVAD GITA

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# **Crown Prince of Dubai's visit to** India to bolster India-UAE ties

Official visit to India on April 8-9

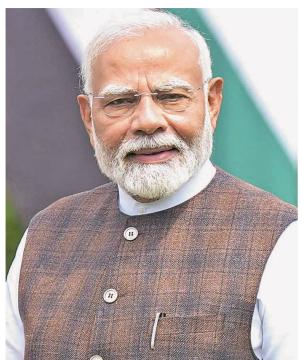
New Delhi

At the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Defence of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), will undertake an official visit to India from April 8 to 9, 2025, a press release by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated.

This marks his first official visit to India in his capacity as Crown Prince of Dubai. He will be accompanied by several key Ministers, senior-level government officials, and a prominent delegation of business leaders, reflecting the growing depth of India-UAE partnership and their expanding strategic scope.

On April 8, Prime Minister Modi will host a working lunch in honour of His Highness, providing a platform for highlevel discussions on strengthening bilateral cooperation across multiple sectors, stated the press release.

In addition to his engagement with the Prime Minister, the Crown Prince will hold separate



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Crown Prince of Dubai Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Maktoum.

#### meetings with External Affairs Minister S Jais-**GOOD HEALTH FOUNDATION OF EVERY** hankar and Defence Min-THRIVING SOCIETY: PM MODI ister Rajnath Singh.

In his message on the World Health Day on Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Monday that his government would keep focusing on healthcare and invest in different aspects of people's well-being. "On World Health Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to building a healthier world," he said. Good health, he added, is the foundation of every thriving society.

aimed at further accelerating economic cooperation and shaping a forward-looking commercial partnership between the two nations.

Dubai has long served as a vital hub in India's

The interaction is commercial and cultural exchanges with the UAE. The strong people-to-people ties are underpinned by the large Indian diaspora in the Emirates - estimated at 4.3 million - with a sig-

nificant majority resid-

ing in Dubai. The visit is expected to add new momentum to the India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and further enhance India's institutional and grassroot-level ties with Dubai.

Formal diplomatic relations between India and the UAE were established in 1972. Since Prime Minister Modi's landmark visit in 2015, the first by an Indian PM in over three decades, bilateral engagement has grown significantly.

The UAE hosts India's largest overseas commu-

## Rahul joins 'Palayan Roko, Naukri Do' padyatra in Bihar

Begusarai

Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Monday joined the ongoing 'Palayan Roko, Naukri Do' padyatra of the Congress in Bihar's Begusarai district.

Clad in a white T-shirt, Gandhi participated in the padyatra in Begusarai town and was accompanied by several party leaders, including Kanhaiya Kumar and state party president Rajesh Kumar.

A large number of leaders and workers of the Congress and its student and youth wings, carrying party flags and placards demanding the immediate filling-up of vacancies in defence forces, also took part in the padyatra.

Earlier in the day, Gandhi arrived at Begusarai from Patna, where he was received at the Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport by Rajesh Kumar and other senior party leaders.

He will later return to Patna to address the 'Samvidhan Suraksha Sammelan' (Save the Constitution Symposium). After that he will visit Sadaqat Ashram, the Bihar Congress office in Patna, to address party workers.

This is Gandhi's third Bihar tour since January, when he had urged party workers to "inflict an ideological defeat" on the BJP in the assembly polls due later this year.

Raebareli MP



Congress leader and LoP in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi during the 'Palayan Roko Naukri Do Yatra', in Begusarai, Bihar.

#### **'EMPOWERMENT OF DOWNTRODDEN NOW TOP PRIORITY**

Congress leader

Rahul Gandhi

on Monday asserted that his party was "learning from its mistakes in Bihar" where the party had been lax in bringing about all-round development through empowerment of the downtrodden. Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha was addressing a symposium in the state capital, months ahead of the crucial assembly polls in which the Congress, in alliance with RJD and the Left. Gandhi claimed that PM Modi had built a "system" in which the country is being run by wealthy.

**'US PRESIDENT CAUSED TUMBLE IN** STOCK MARKET'

Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on Monday attacked US **President Donald Trump** over the stock market situation and said that the US president has caused the stock market to tumble. "The US president has led to a tumble in the stock market. Less than 1 per cent of the people here have their money invested in the stock market, which means the stock market is not a field for you. Unlimited money is made in it, but you don't get the benefit of it," the Lok Sabha LoP said in Patna

shared a minute-long video message on X on Sunday, urging the youth of Bihar to join him in the march in Begusarai wearing "white T-shirts".

"Our aim is to draw the attention of the world to

the plight of Bihar's youth, who find government jobs getting scarce day by day and privatisation bringing no benefits. Let us bring the government in the state under pressure and change it," he said in the video.

## **Delhi Speaker in Tirupati**

Following engage-

ments in the capital,

Sheik Hamdan will visit

Mumbai from April 8 to

9. During his time there,

he will participate in a

business roundtable in-

volving top Indian and

Emirati business leaders.

explore opportunities for

increased trade and in-

vestment in both tradi-

tional sectors such as in-

frastructure and energy,

as well as emerging fields

like fintech, innovation,

and sustainability.

The roundtable will



Delhi Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta during a visit at Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Andhra Pradesh's Tirupati on Monday

## Bengal teachers who lost their jobs meet CM Mamata Banerjee

Kolkata

After West Bengal Chief Mınıster Mamata Baneriee met the teachers who lost their jobs after the Supreme Court verdict, the teachers said that the state government should be held responsible, adding that the TMC chief gave a 'lollipop' today.

After meeting the CM, one of the teachers, Suman Biswas said that the CM, her cabinet, and the commission were all involved

in corruption. "The state government should be held responsible. The CM, her cabinet, and the commission are all involved in corruption. Bribes have been taken in exchange for jobs, and



A teacher breaks down after speaking during an interaction with West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

hence, she gave a 'lollipop' today, saying that the government will provide 'voluntarily' jobs to 25,000 and will look into the matter. I appeal to the people of the country to look into what is going on in West Bengal,"

Biswas said.

"This is the Bengal of Khudiram, and we know how to fight against the government and Mamata Banerjee. The job is our right. The CM should publish the names of those em-

### **'CONSPIRACY ON TO DESTROY EDUCATION'**

Minister Mamata Banerjee alleged that there is a "conspiracy" going on to destroy the education system. "There is a conspiracy going on to destroy the education system. Teachers of classes 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th are the gateways to higher education...Many (teachers) are gold medalists, they have achieved great results in their lives," Mamata said.

ployees who are clean and file a review petition in the Supreme Court. We are ready to have a big movement. They have taken away the jobs by putting a stain on that they are ineligible," he added.

## SC junks plea seeking 100% manual counting of VVPAT slips

**Agencies** New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a plea seeking direction to the Election Commission of India (ECI) that there should be 100 per cent manual counting of the VVPAT slips in addition to electronic counting by the control unit of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM).

A bench of CJI Sanjiv Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and KV Viswanathan declined to interfere with the decision of the Delhi High Court which had earlier dismissed the public interest litigation (PIL) filed by the appellant.

## **IN MANIPUR**

## BJP leader's house set ablaze over post on Waqf Bill

Agencies

Thoubal (Manipur)

he district magistrate of Manipur's Thoubal district imposed a prohibitory order in the Lilong Assembly constituency, a Muslim majority constituency, after a mob set afire the house of the state BJP minority Morcha president Sunday night.

The police said that a mob of around 7,000strong, armed with sticks and stones, stormed into the house of Md Asker Ali at Lilong Sambrukhong



People take out a protest march against the ACT in Thoubal

Mamei, and set it ablaze. Thoubal district magistrate said in the prohibitory order, "The matter is very sensitive in and around Lilong Assembly Constitu-

ency and there is likelihood of further disturbance which poses a risk to peace and public tranquility in the Lilong Assembly Constituency and has requested the

The incident followed after the BJP leader posted on social media supporting the passing of the Waqf Bill. "Do not do politics on Waqf **Amendment Bill.** Welcome Bill. We support WAB," the post by Ali read

undersigned to issue prohibitory orders under Section 163 of BNSS, 2023 to the whole area of Lilong Assembly Constituency. Whereas, I have perused

the report submitted by the Superintendent of Police, Thoubal, and of the opinion that there is sufficient ground for proceeding under section 163 of BNSS, 2023, to prevent serious breach of peace, disturbance of public tranquility and imminent danger to human life and properties".

The incident followed after the BJP leader posted on social media supporting the passing of the Waqf Bill. "Do not do politics on Waqf Amendment Bill. Welcome Bill. We support WAB," the post by Ali read.

## 14 passengers injured in bus, loader collision in U'khand

**Agencies** Dehradun

A bus and an electric loader collided in Uttarakhand on Monday, headon while travelling towards Vikasnagar from Dehradun, leaving 14 passengers with severe injuries. No casualties have been reported so far.

The incident occurred in Sherpur village in Sahaspur. Those injured received primary treatment before being referred to the higher-center Graphic Era Hospital for further care.

The collision caused both vehicles to overturn,





The mangled remains of the bus and the loader.

leading to a chaotic scene. ceiving the news. The The local authorities with police and administrative teams arrived at the scene soon after re-

authorities made efforts to ensure the injured were transported to the hospital swiftly.

# CDS flags growing space capabilities...

of India's adversaries; Primary elements of warfare will depend on space, believes Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan

**Agencies** New Delhi

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan Monday stressed defining military space, developing a space culture, and identifying vulnerabilities to defend as he underlined that space was emerging as the new domain of warfare with an infinite horizon.

In his inaugural address at the third edition of the Indian DefSpace Symposium, General Chauhan drew attention to what India's adversaries were doing in space and how their capabilities were growing by leaps and bounds.

"We must define what is military space and then work towards creating a space culture,

Kunal Kamra

BookMyShow

**Agencies** 

New Delhi

Days after ticketing portal

BookMyShow removed

Kunal Kamra's content

and nixed his name from

its list of artistes, the

stand-up comedian has

written an open letter,

asking the portal to hand

over contact information

of the audiences it col-

lected from his shows. In

the letter posted on X, Ku-

nal Kamra said he understands that BookMyShow

needs to "maintain a cordial relationship with the state, and I know that

Mumbai is a major hub for live entertainment".

"Without the state's coop-

eration, iconic shows like

Coldplay and Guns N'

The ticketing platform,

run by Bigtree Entertain-

ment Private Limited, has

removed Kunal Kamra's

content and delisted him

amid a massive row over

his jokes against Shiv Sena

leader and Maharashtra's

Deputy Chief Minister

Eknath Shinde. In a show

at Mumbai's Habitat stu-

dio, the comic sang a par-

ody of 'Bholi Si Surat', a

popular song from the Bol-

lywood movie 'Dil To Pa-

gal Hai'. The lyrics tar-

geted Mr Shinde, referring

to him as 'gaddar' (traitor).

Roses wouldn't

ble," he said.

pens open

letter to



from left to right, Lt Gen AK Bhatt (Retd), DG, ISpA; Amb Sujan R. Chinoy, Director General, MP-IDSA; Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari (Retd), Former Chief of the Air Staff, Indian Air Force; Honlible Gov Shekhar Dutt, SM, IAS, Former Governor of Chhatttisgarh, Former Defence Secretary, Govt. of India; General Anil Chauhan, Chief of Defence Staff, Indian Armed Forces; Jayant Patil, Chairman, ISpA; AVM Pawan Kumar, DG, DSA during the inaugural session at ISpA Indian DefSpace Symposium.

fighting concepts etc. So, creating capabilities on Earth's orbital system and on the ground

military doctrines, war and protecting these assets is entirely another. Identifying potential threats to military operation space is critical to enhance military ca- to national security. pabilities is one thing These threats may origi-

nate from state or nonstate actors," General Chauhan said.

According to Chauhan, vulnerabilities may also extend beyond the space-based and onMILITARY SPACE In his inaugural address at the

**Creating capabilities** on Earth's orbital system and on the ground to enhance military capabilities is one thing and protecting these assets is entirely another. Identifying potential threats to military operation space is critical to national security **GEN ANIL CHAUHAN, CDS** 

mand and control infra-

structure can be degrad-

ed and denied. We all

know the capabilities of

third edition of the Indian DefSpace Symposium, General Chauhan drew attention to what India's adversaries were doing in space and how their capabilities were growing by leaps

and bounds. "We must

define what is military

space and then work

**WE MUST DEFINE** 

towards creating a space culture, military doctrines, war fighting concepts etc. ground systems that support them. "The com-

which are growing by leaps and bounds today. They have created a special aerospace force. They have demonstrated in-orbit manoeuvres. We of our risk mitigation strategy," Chauhan said. According to Chauhan, vulnerabilities may also extend beyond the spacebased and on-ground systems that support them. "The command and control infrastructure can be degraded and denied. We all know the capabilities of some of our adversaries which are growing by leaps and bounds today. They have created a special aerospace force. They have demonstrated in-orbit manoeuvres. We have also heard about dog fights in space. It is important we keep track of these as they form part of our risk mitigation strategy," Chauhan said.

dog fights in space. It is

important we keep track

of these as they form part

ED searches TN realty group started by minister's kin

PTI Chennai

The Enforcement Directorate on Monday searched multiple premises spread across Chennai, Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore as part of an investigation against a real estate group promoted by the brother of state minister and senior DMK leader, K N Nehru, official sources said.

The realty company --TVH Group -- was founded by KN Ravichandran.



The federal probe agency has conducted searches as part of a probe linked to the TVH group, the sources said.

Ravichandran is the brother of KN Nehru, the Tamil Nadu minister for municipal administration.

Premises linked to the probe in Tiruchirappalli, which is the home city of minister Nehru, were also searched.

Reacting to ED searches, Law Minister S Regupathy hit out at the BJPled Centre by alleging that the "Enforcement Directorate is an ally of the BJP," just like the parties of Chandrababu Naidu (TDP) and Nitish Kumar (JD-U).

## DRINK SPIKED, CONFINED FOR 7 DAYS

## UP student alleges gangrape by 23 men



Varanasi

A Class 12 student was allegedly gang-raped by over 20 men in Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi between March 29 and April 4. UP Police have registered an FIR against 23 men, 11 of whom are unidentified. Six men have been detained by the police so far.

The woman went missing when a friend took

Some of the accused were known to her acquaintances from Instagram and former classmates. Following a complaint from the girl's family, police located her and also began questioning staff at the hookah bar

some of our adversaries have also heard about

her to a hookah bar in the Pishachmochan area of Varanasi on March 29.

According to the police, the victim was preparing for admission to a sports course and regularly went to UP College for running practice. "As per her statement, on March 29, a friend took her to a hookah bar in the Pishachmochan area, where other men also joined. The girl alleged that she was drugged with a spiked cold drink and then taken to different hotels in the Sigra area,

where she was gangraped," senior police official said. Some of the accused

were known to her - acquaintances from Instagram and former classmates. Following a complaint from the girl's family, police located her and also began questioning staff at the hookah bar. CCTV footage from the location is being examined as part of the investigation.

## Alwar entrepreneur's startup focuses on carbon neutrality

**Shyam Sharma** 

A young entrepreneur has Tocused on carbon neutrality in Alwar as part of his environmental conservation efforts. Gaurav Gupta, a resident of Budh Vihar in Alwar, has signed an MoU with the state government for a fifteen crore project aimed at innovation. His startup will be an effort towards sustainable recycling and carbon neutrality.

Through this startup, Gaurav aims to engage the youth of Alwar, providing them with employment opportunities right in their own city. According to Gaurav, the Prime Minister's concept of an enviThrough this startup, Gaurav aims to engage the youth of Alwar, providing them with employment opportunities right in their own city

ronmentally conscious lifestyle calls for an international public movement to protect and preserve the environment, advocating for deliberate and responsible consumption over reckless and destructive use. Under this business model, Gaurav's company, LEADRX, will focus on carbon neutrality.

Gaurav explains that the government has made it a priority to promote startups based on sustainability that can reduce the carbon intensity of our economy and help India become a carbon-neutral country before 2070. As part of this effort, his startup will establish a network of sustainable recyclers in the country, creating direct and indirect employment opportunities for over 500 people and making a positive impact on society and the national economy.

This startup will connect waste generators with recyclers, who will recycle the waste in an environmentally friendly manner.

## Karnataka minister's 'big city' shocker on Bengaluru molestation

Agencies Bengaluru

In remarks that could stir a controversy, Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara on Monday said incidents like the one in which a woman was molested on a street tend to happen in a big city like Bengaluru. However, he emphasised that legal action would be taken against the molester, and he directed the police to increase beat

patrolling. "Incidents like these tend to happen here and there in a big city like this. Whatever legal ac-



Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara in a shocking remark said such incidents tend to happen here and there.

tion needs to be taken will be done in accordance with the law. I have also instructed our commissioner to increase beat patrolling," G Parameshwara said.

Last week, CCTV footage went viral on social media showing a man groping a woman on a street at Bharati Layout in Suddaguntepalya before fleeing. The incident

happened in the early hours of April 3.

The video shows a man approaching two women walking in a narrow lane before pushing one of them against a wall. The man then gropes her and touches her inappropriately before running away. The two women, visibly startled by the incident, walk away from the area, the footage shows.

Bengaluru police have registered a suo motu case after the incident sparked outrage even though the victim is yet to file a complaint.

## **SUN SHINES BRIGHT**

## Illnesses, income woes: Delhi's outdoor workers reel under heatwave



Passengers wait at the AIIMS bus stop amid scorching heat, on World Health Day, in New Delhi.

New Delhi

s World Health Day is observed under the theme "My health, My right", thousands of outdoor workers across the national capital — from autorickshaw drivers and rickshaw pullers to roadside vendors — are grappling with a growing health crisis due to extreme heat and air pollution.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a yellow alert for the city, forecasting a heatwave to persist until Wednesday. Delhi's maxi-

mum temperature settled at 38.2 degrees Celsius, 3.1 degrees above the seasonal average on Sunday. The minimum temperature was 18.5 degrees Celsius, and the Air Quality Index (AQI) remained in the 'poor' category at 209.

Highlighting the physical toll of the heatwave, auto-rickshaw driver Santosh Hazra said, "Skin gets burnt during a heatwave; loo also affects health. There's ample availability of free water in Delhi but there's a shortage of shaded areas to rest."

Another auto driver, Prashant Kumar (24), complained of feeling

The India Meteorological **Department (IMD)** has issued a yellow alert for the city, forecasting a

heatwave to persist

drowsy during the hot season.

"I've been working for 8 years now, and summers have always been difficult, as it greatly affects health. We get tired quickly, which limits our working hours. Delhi pollution also impacts us; we can feel it even in summer."

However, the scorching heat doesn't only

bring physical hardships

but also financial distress. Sarabjeet Singh, 45, who runs a fruit cart near Red Fort, complained of heatwave impacting his income. "Due to the scorching heat, we get tired very easily. It impacts our income. Also, there are no customers

from 12 to 4 pm." On the other hand, 42-year-old Mohammad Haseem said the compounded effects of heat and humidity reduce work increase "There's low income because people don't step out. We also end up spending money on buying water and lemon juice."

Highlighting the environmental factors contributing to rising temperatures, environmentalist Bhavreen Kandhari told PTI, "The expansion of concrete landscapes at the expense of tree cover has intensified the urban heat island effect, aggravating temperature to extremes.'

Kandhari suggested that a comprehensive, long-term strategy is needed that includes the protection and expansion of tree cover to enhance biodiversity and sustainable urban planning to mitigate excessive concretisation.

7:30 pm IST, Eden Gardens, Kolkata

⊕ www.firstindia.co.in 🕻 firstindia.co.in/epapers/jaipur 🚳 thefirstindia 🌖 thefirstindia 🌚 thefirstindia



# RCB beat Mumbai Indians by 12 runs

In a high-octane clash at Wankhede, Royal Challengers Bengaluru edged out Mumbai Indians by 12 runs in  $\overline{a}$  nail-biting finish. Despite a late onslaught from Hardik Pandya and Tilak Varma, RCB held their nerve with brilliant death bowling from Josh Hazlewood and Krunal Pandya



Royal Challengers Bengaluru's captain Rajat Patidar plays a shot during an IPL match at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.

First India Bureau Mumbai

Royal Challengers Bengaluru held their nerves to beat Mumbai Indians by 12 runs in their IPL match here on Monday for their first victory at the Wankhede Stadium in 10 years.

Batting first, brisk half-centuries by skipper Rajat Patidar and Virat Kohli powered RCB to 221 for five.

In reply, MI were stopped at 209 for nine after Tilak Varma (56 off 29 balls) and captain Hardik Pandya (42 off 15) threatened to take the game away from RCB with an 89-run stand for the fifth quick.

However, Krunal Pandya (4/45) took three wickets in the final over to seal the issue in RCB's

Earlier, Patidar led from the front with 64 off 32 balls after Kohli helped himself to a 42ball 67. Coming in to bat



Royal Challengers Bengaluru's players celebrate the dismissal of Mumbai Indians' Ryan Rickelton during an IPL match between Mumbai Indians & RCB, at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.

in the 15th over, Jitesh Sharma smashed 40 off 19 balls to help RCB end on a blazing note.

**Virat Kohli becomes** first Indian to reach 13,000-run mark in T20s

Star India and Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) batter Virat Kohli completed 13,000 runs in T20 cricket on Monday, becoming only the fifth player and first Indian to do so.

Virat reached this milestone during his side's Indian Premier League (IPL) match against Mumbai Indians (MI) at Wankhede Stadium on Monday.

During the match, Virat was at his attacking best, showcasing his shotmaking against spin and pace alike. He scored 67 in just 42 balls, with eight fours and two sixes. His runs came at a strike rate of 159.52.

In the IPL 2025 so far, has made 13,050 runs at Virat has scored 164 runs

Mumbai Indians' Jasprit Bumrah tries to field the ball during an IPL

match between Mumbai Indians & Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

in four matches at an average of 54.66 and a strike rate of over 143, with two half-centuries and the best score of 67. He is the sixth-highest run-getter in the tournament so far.

Now in 403 T20s, Virat

an average of 41.56, with nine centuries and 99 fifties to his name. His best score is 122\*. The top run-getter in T20s is Chris Gayle, with 14,562 runs at an average of 36.22, strike rate of over 144, 22 centuries and 88 fifties. His best score is 175\*.

## Israel strikes tents near Gaza hospitals

Deir al-Balah (Gaza Strip)

Israel struck tents outside two major hospitals in the Gaza Strip overnight, Killing at least two people, including a local reporter, and wounding another nine, including six reporters, medics said

on Monday. Twenty-eight other people were killed in separate strikes across the territory, according to hospitals. Israel has carried out waves of strikes across Gaza and ground forces have carved out new military zones since it ended its ceasefire with

Hamas last month. Israel has barred the import of food, fuel, medicine and humanitarian aid for well over a



Palestinians retrieve a body from the rubble of a building destroyed by an Israeli airstrike in Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip.

month as it seeks to pressure Hamas to accept changes to the truce agreement they reached in January. A strike on a media tent outside Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis at around 2 a.m. set the tent ablaze, killing Yousef al-Faqawi, a reporter for the Palestine Today news website, and another man, according to the hospital.

# No inflation, dollars coming back: Trump harps on tariffs in MAGA pitch

Washington

US President Donald Trump on Monday called on the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates and doubled down on his criticism of China and nations who have imposed tariffs on US imports.

"There is NO INFLA-TION," Trump wrote, while claiming that the US economy was pulling in "Billions of Dollars a week" from tariffs imposed on what he described as "abusing coun-

tries," particularly China. Trump claimed that inflation in the United States had been tamed, citing falling oil, food and interest rates and argued that the Federal Re-



FILE

serve, which he called "slow moving," should act promptly and cut rates in a lengthy post on his social media platform, Truth Social.

He accused Beijing of retaliating with a steep 34% hike in tariffs despite what he said was a prior warning. "They've made enough, for decades, taking advantage of the Good OL' USA!" Trump said, blaming previous American administrations for enabling what he described as un-

fair trade practices. Calling China "the biggest abuser of them all," the Republican also claimed Chinese markets were "crashing".

#### **EUROPEAN STOCKS UK'S FTSE 100 INDEX CLOSE 4.5% LOWER**

European stock markets plummeted at the start of trading Monday, with Frankfurt slumping as much as 10 percent as a global sell-off intensified on US President Trump's tariffs. Indices were in freefall, with Paris diving more than six percent, London sliding nearly six percent, losses of more than 5% in Amsterdam and Oslo, and Milan down over 3 %.

#### **DOWN MORE THAN 5%** Global stock mar-

kets have taken a dramatic hit amid mounting fears of a global recession, with the FTSE 100 (^FTSE) on track to finish at a one-year low. The sell-off that began on Thursday has intensified, wiping trillions of dollars from global share prices, after US president Donald Trump announced new

## TRUMP THREATENS MORE TARIFFS ON CHINA

President Donald Trump threatened additional tariffs on China on Monday, raising fresh concerns that his drive to rebalance the global economy could lead to a trade war. "If China does not withdraw its 34% increase above their already long term trading abuses by tomorrow, April 8th, 2025, the United States will impose ADDITIONAL Tariffs on China of 50%, effective April 9th," he wrote on Truth Social.

## 26/11 accused **Tahawwur Rana** to be extradited

**Agencies New York** 

The US Supreme Court on Monday denied 26/11 accused Tahawwur Rana's final legal appeal against extradition to India. Rana is wanted for his role in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks and faces trial under Indian law for orchestrating attacks on innocent civilians in Mumbai during the 2008 Mumbai 26/11 attacks.

Rana was arrested in the United States in 2009 for his involvement in terrorism-related activities, including a foiled plot to attack the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten. He was also convicted in the US for providing material support to Lashkar-e-Taiba.

## **PREZ ARRIVES IN PORTUGAL**

## Prez Murmu accorded Guard of Honour

Lisbon [Portugal]

resident Droupadi Murmu on Monday was received by Prez Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa of Portugal at the historic 'Praca do Imperio' in Lisbon. Murmu was accorded a ceremonial welcome with the Guard of Honour. In a post on X, Rashtrapati Bhavan stated, "President Droupadi Murmu was received by President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa of Portugal at the historic 'Praca do Imperio' in Lisbon. She was accorded a



President Droupadi Murmu upon her arrival in Portugal.

ceremonial welcome with Kundal, Ambassador of the Guard of Honour."

Sunday, Puneet Roy

India to Portugal, wel-Upon her arrival on comed Murmu at the airportIn a post on X, he

## INDIA, PORTUGAL TO **BOOST UN, GLOBAL TIES**

Lisbon: India and Portugal on Monday agreed to strengthen cooperation in the United Nations and other multilateral forums, as President Droupadi Murmu and her Portuguese counterpart Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa held talks here. Prez Murmu, who is on a two-day State Visit to Portugal, held a tete-a-tete with her counterpart followed by delegation-level talks.

said, "Honored to receive Rashtrapati Ji in Lisbon on her first State visit to



#### Three strikes of discord: Rajasthan Health department faces mounting internal turmoil

The state's health dept is currently embroiled in a series of bureaucratic conflicts. Disputes among officers, from top to bottom, show no sign of abating. Recently, two high-ranking bureaucrats clashed during a major departmental meeting, resulting in one officer leaving the meeting abruptly. Another well-known confrontation occurred between the Drug Commissioner and a senior officer in the commissioner's office, which escalated to a high-level complaint. Just when these conflicts seemed to settle, the RMSCL case has brought about the latest controversy, marking a "hat-trick" of disputes. The latest issue has led to the Managing Director issuing a charge sheet notice to the department's Executive Director.

#### No rift in sight: Govind Singh Dotasra and Jully travel together amid party speculation

Once again, Rajasthan Congress leaders Govind Singh Dotasra and Jully have been seen together, signaling unity within party ranks. The duo traveled on the same flight from Jaipur to Udaipur and jointly participated in a Congress workers' convention in Kherwara. Following the Kherwara event, both leaders proceeded to Ahmedabad to attend the Congress session. Their joint appearances come amid past speculation of a rift between the two during the legislative session — rumors both leaders had firmly denied at the time.

#### **BJP** ministers head to Delhi for clarity

For Cong leaders, Delhi has never been too far, & now BJP state leaders are also making frequent trips to the capital. Recently, half a dozen ministers from the Cabinet visited Delhi. These visits are being seen in connection with future promotions and selfpreservation. The ministers have met their respective mentors in the NCR.

#### Rajasthan Speaker meets all ministers Rajasthan Assembly

Speaker Devanani has set a remarkable record in his tenure. He has met with almost all the legislators and has had one-on-one conversations with all the ministers from the ruling party. His meetings with the ruling party legislators during the winter session have political significance.

## **OFIRST INDIA**

# 2ND FRONT

**##** THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Every day is a new chance, believe in yourself and grasp it. Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



# CM: INDIAN CULTURAL PRACTICES PROMOTE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

'Mission Madhuhari', India's first dedicated programme for Type-1 diabetes care has been started as a pilot project in 12 district and sub-district hospitals across Jaipur, Nagaur, Udaipur & Jodhpur, says CM

Jaipur On World Health Day, during a state-level event at Rajasthan International Centre, CM Bhajan Lal Sharma launched the Niramay Rajasthan campaign and various health schemes. He highlighted PM Modi's transformative schemes like Avushman Bharat and PMJAY. Sharma introduced the Mukhyamantri Ayushman Adarsh Gram Panchayat Yojana, offering Rs 11 lakh incentives for panchayats achieving 100% health targets. He also launched Mission Liver Smile to combat

The CM also announced 29 Breastfeeding Units, lauded 3,355 TB-free panchayats, & said recruitment for 24,000 health posts is done, with 26,000 more underway. A record Rs 27,660 cr budget was allocated. He also honoured TB-free districts, released a digital book, and dedicated 117 True-Not machines via IOCL.

.....

fatty liver disease and the

Eat Right Rajasthan

campaign.



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma launches the 'Eat Right Rajasthan' Abhiyan during the state-level event held to mark the World Health Day at RIC in Jaipur on Monday, GS Khimsar, Gayatri Rathore, Dr Shiv Kumar Sarin, Ambrish Kumar, Soledad Herrero and others were present.

CM HEARS GRIEVANCES DURING JANSUNWAI, ORDERS SWIFT RELIEF

#### CM SHARMA KICKS OFF TWO-DAY VISIT TO HANUMANGARH, SRI GANGANAGAR TODAY

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma begins a two-day visit to Hanumangarh and Sri Ganganagar districts from April 8. He will review budget announcements related to Water Resources, Energy, & other depts, launch mustard procurement at MSP, and interact with farmers. In Hanumangarh, he will inspect the Lakhuvali Head, Ghaggar Diversion Channel, & Ghaggar River, where Rs 325 cr flood protection works have been announced. On April 9, he will attend a program at the New Grain Market in Sri Ganganagar to launch procurement and meet farmers. He will also visit the Shivpur Head & Super Thermal Power Station in Suratgarh. Earlier, he will inspect Harike Head in Punjab and conduct an aerial survey of major canal heads, including the Indira Gandhi Canal. The state budget includes Rs 23 cr for a SCADA system and Rs 200 cr for securing Rajasthan's water share from the Firozpur Feeder.



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma flags off 22 Ram Raths (Mobile Medical Units) and 10 new 108 ambulances during the state-level event at RIC on Monday. The Hans Foundation's Programme Director Sandeep Sinha and Regional Manager Yash Paul informed that 12 mobile medical units will operate in Karauli and 10 in Jaisalmer. Each 'Ram Rath' includes a doctor, nurse, lab technician, pharmacist, social security officer, and driver. Operating 22 days a month, these units will deliver healthcare in remote areas beyond PHCs and CHCs.

## India, Uzbekistan share timeless bonds, says Birla



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla with Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of Uzbekistan, during the 150th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Tashkent.

First India Bureau Tashkent

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said India and Uzbekistan share timeless ties of history and heritage. In his meeting with Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in Tashkent during the 150th Assem-

bly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Birla emphasized the need to expand bilateral cooperation into emerging fields like digital tech, AI, renewable and nuclear energy. Highlighting India's

ancient democratic traditions, he said India continues to uphold democratic values and social inclusion. Citing the "Nari Shakti Vandan Act" as the first law passed in the new Parliament building, he said it

Birla and the Indian delegation paid floral tributes at the bust of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur

reaffirmed India's com-

Shastri in Tashkent

mitment to women's representation.

Birla said values like Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and Sarvajan Hitaya are rooted in Indian culture and Constitution. He noted Parliament's role in socio-economic reforms. Highlighting the India-Uzbekistan Strategic Partnership, the LS Speaker cited growing ties in trade, defence, and education, urged deeper parliamentary exchanges, and welcomed rising interest in Indian culture

and education.

#### 'Jansunwai' at Chief Minister's Residence in Jaipur on Monday. patient and space allocation for disabled street vendors.

CM Bhajan Lal

Sharma held a

residence on Monday, lis-

tening to public grievances

and issuing on-the-spot

Municipal Corporation,

PHED, PWD, & Medi-

cal Services, instructing

officials to visit sites for

a financially distressed

effective resolution. Sharma

directed free treatment for

directives. He addressed

complaints related to JDA,

public hearing at his

and follow-up reports. The He gave special attention to CM also unveiled postissues raised by women, elers for upcoming religious derly, and differently-abled and social events. Elected citizens, urging swift action representatives and the

general public were present. The initiative reflected the government's commitment to accessible and responsive governance.

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma addresses people's concerns during a

## **Devnani in Coa**





Speaker of Rajasthan Assembly Vasudev Devnani visited the Goa Assembly during his two-day visit to the state. Speaker of Goa Assembly Ramesh Tarwadkar showed him around the Assembly premises and briefed him about its activities and functioning. Devnani expressed heartfelt gratitude to Tarwadkar for the warm welcome and respect extended to him. Devnani also presented Tarwadkar with Raj Assembly diary, & a copy of the book, One Year of Innovations in Rajasthan 🚣 Gopendra Nath Bhatt

## Jodh: Shekhawat inaugurates renovated eye ward

Rajeev Gaur

Jodhpur

Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inaugurated the renovated 'Lalchand Surana-Sardar Devi Surana Memorial Eye Ward'at Mathura Das Mathur Hospital, Jodhpur, supported by social worker Dr. Akshay Surana. Built by Mahaveer International Sun City Public Charitable Trust, the facility was designed by architect Ravi Nupur Jain. Trust President Dilip Surana and Secretary Suresh Chhajed were present. Lauding the effort, Shekhawat said such community initiatives inspire others. Rajendra Gehlot, Atul Bhansali, Naresh Surana

& others were present.



GS Shekhawat inaugurates the renovated eye ward at Mathuradas Mathur Hospital in Jodhpur on Monday. Rajendra Gehlot, Atul Bhansali, Dr BS Jodha, Vikas Rajpurohit and Naresh Surana were also present on the occasion.



he said the scheme, earlier limited to China border, now Districts like Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Ganganagar will benefit. The Centre is also promoting border tourism actively. Shekhawat said all proposals from Rajasthan, including Khatushyam Ji and Tanot Mata Temple, have been approved, affirming Centre's full support for new tourism hubs under the 'Iconic Destinations' initiative.

ed Vibrant Villages Programme. During his visit to Barmer,

**GS SHEKHAWAT: BORDER VILLAGES WILL NOW** 

Union Minister GS Shekhawat said border villages

in Rajasthan will now witness accelerated develop-

ment without special permissions under the expand-

WITNESS ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT



Union Minister for Tourism & Culture, GS Shekhawat pays tribute to senior BJP leader and social worker Thakur Hindu Singh at his residence in Chohtan Tehsil in Barmer district on Monday. He also paid tributes to late Viradh Kanwar, wife of Thakur Chhatar Singh, who also passed away recently. Kailash Choudhary, Mahant Pratap Puri Maharaj, Hamir Singh Bhayal, Aduram Meghwal and Anantaram Vishnoi accompanied

Shekhawat during his visit.

## A BUSY DAY FOR DIYA

## 'Grand development works should be carried out at Khatu Shyam Ji'

Nirmal Tiwari & Jitendra Madhani

Jaipur

eputy CM Diya Kumari Monday structed officials to expedite development works at the Khatu Shyam Ji Temple in Sikar under the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme. In a review meeting, she directed them to hold an on-site meeting at the temple to closely monitor progress. The Centre has sanctioned Rs 87 crore for the temple's development, giving a significant push to religious tourism in the region.



Diya Kumari chairs a review meeting of Tourism Department at Paryatan Bhawan in Jaipur on Monday. Ravi Jain, Sushma Arora and others were also present.

She also emphasised preservation of Shekhawati's historic havelis, famed for their cultural &

architectural richness. Calling for top-quality renovation at Albert Hall, she stressed that the work should enhance the structure's historic value in line with proposed plans.

She reviewed the war museum plan, calling for sensitive execution and backing its potential to boost border tourism.

## VIDYADHAR NAGAR'S ALL-ROUND GROWTH MY PRIORITY: DIY

Deputy CM Diya Kumari visited her Vidyadhar Nagar constituency on Monday to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for development projects worth 18.87 crore. The projects, funded through the Municipal Corporation, JDA, PWD, and MLA Fund, include CC roads, asphalt paving, footpaths, interlocking tiles, highmast lights, and community centre upgrades in Wards 27 and 35. Speaking at the event, Diya Kumari said, "Vidyadhar Nagar's all-round development is my top priority. We are commit-



Diya Kumari lays the foundation stone and inaugurates various development works worth ₹8.87 crore in Ward Number 27 and Ward Number 35 in Vidhyadhar Nagar area in Jaipur on Monday, Prem Devi Sharma and others were also present

ted to improving road infrastructure, easing traffic, tackling waterlogging, and enhancing education and healthcare facilities." Local leaders including

Prem Devi Sharma and residents attended the event and welcomed the government's focus on improving civic amenities in the constituency.



Diya Kumari tries her hand at shooting during the First Late Malsingh Shekhawat Memorial Shooting Championship organised by Rudra Sports Shooting Academy in the Vidhyadhar Nagar in Jaipur on Monday and encouraged the young shooters.



Diya Kumari attends the 'Holi Sneh Milan Samaroh' and discussion on the 'State Budget 2025-26' organised by the Jhotwara Industrial Area Manufacturers Association in the Vidhyadhar Nagar.



# Your Page 10

## WHAT'S NEXT?



Papa Yaar: Step into laughter, love, and nostalgia with Zakir Khan's new show Papa Yaar, blending wit, emotion, and poetic charm to explore every Indian son's unspoken bond with his father

♠ When: April 21, 7:00 PM

**(1)** FIRST INDIA

Where: Deep Smriti Auditorium, Jaipur



Gaurav Gupta Live: This dentist won't just fix your smile—he'll make you laugh out loud! Known as Being Baniya, with 50M+ YouTube views and Amazon Prime's hit "Market Down Hai"-don't miss him out!

When: April 26, 7:30 PM

• Where: Maharana Pratap Auditorium, Jaipur.



#### Cinema Francophonie 2025: Cinema

Francophonie 2025 will light up Jaipur with seven Afro-French films, celebrating storytelling from Africa and France. From satire to animation, each screening promises cinematic brilliance with English subtitles.

• When: April 7 to April 18, 7:00 PM onwards

Where: Mini Audi-2, Rajasthan International Centre (RIC), Jaipur

## BIRTHDAY FORECAST!



Allu Arjun **ARIES APRIL 8** 

Aries, a group you've neglected or a long-paused project may demand your attention today. It's a good time to fulfill past commitments and tie up loose ends. While these responsibilities may keep you busy, don't forget to take care of yourselfyour well-being and peace of mind come

**Lucky Number: 3** 

**Lucky Colour: Grey** 



NEW DELHI - Air India Express, Indigo, Air India, Alliance Air

MUMBAI - Akasa Air, Air India Express, Indigo, Air India, Alliance Air

CHANDIGARH - Air India Express, Indigo, Air India,

BENGALURU - Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air,

CHENNAI- Air India Express, Indigo, Air India

AHMEDABAD- Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, Indigo, Spicejet

KOLKATA - Indigo, Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air

HYDERABAD - Air India, Air India Express, Indigo

**DEHRADUN**- Air India, Alliance Air, Spicejet, Indigo **DUBAI** - Indigo, Air India Express, Air India, Spicejet



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A Call to PARENTS **Rekindling Our Bond with Children** 

oday, when I look at the current state of some of our children, my heart feels heavy with concern. As parents, we often believe that by enrolling our children in expensive schools or treating them to lavish outings, we are fulfilling our responsibilities. But are we truly giving them what matters most—a strong character, a healthy routine, and a meaningful In the race of modern life, we've overlooked the importance of nurturing their person-

alities. We've forgotten the beauty of bedtime stories from grandparents, the warmth of shared moments, and the guidance that comes from real human connection. Caught in the chaos of daily routines, many parents find it difficult to reconnect with their children on an emotional level.

Today, our children's minds often turn to television or mobile screens for comfort. They begin to emulate cartoon characters, absorbing aggression and violence rather than values and empathy. What happened to educational programs? Where did mean-

Between office deadlines and household responsibilities, we've lost the harmony we once shared with our children. When they consume junk food or reach for sugary drinks, we must ask ourselves: Are we, in some way, responsible?

Why are our children slowly losing their sense of

belonging and emotional closeness? It's said that a child's brain is 100% active at birth, but with age, that capacity can decline if not nurtured. Interestingly, studies show that today's children are more technically capable than we ever were—they simply need the right direction. If we guide their daily routines with love and intention and help shape their values and personalities, we can not only create a brighter future for them but also contribute to the progress of our nation.

Unfortunately, a blame game continues—schools often hold parents responsible, while parents feel the schools are falling short. In this cycle, accountability is lost. What we need is a shift in perspective. We must rise above daily stress, set aside self-interest, and reconnect with our children—with love, patience, and understanding.

Manjari

Sharma

**Advocate** 

Let us remind them that we are always there for them, in every moment and emotion.

Only when we begin to understand and respect our children's feelings can we truly call ourselves responsible parents and guardians?

A poem I once read in a school magazine deeply moved me:

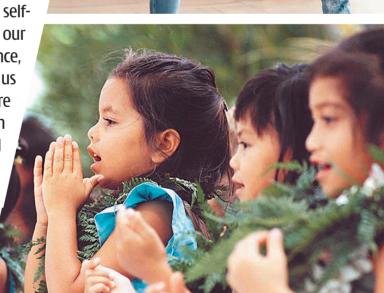
"Parents don't have time today. But one day, the child may say, 'Papa, should I come with you?' And he may reply, 'I would have loved to take you along, my dear—but now, I don't have

("माता-पिता के पास आज समय नहीं है लेकिन "एक दिन जब बोले पापा क्या चलू मैं संग तुम्हारे प्यारे पापा लेकर तो चलता पर क्या करूं मैं समय नहीं है")

The time we deny our children today may be the very time they deny us tomorrow. Let us not wait for regret. With the united efforts of parents, teachers and moral education, we can help our children shape not only their future but also the future of our society. Let us start today—by laying the foundation of empathy, presence & understanding.

A blame game continues-schools often hold parents responsible, while parents feel the schools are falling short. In this cycle, accountability is lost. What we need is a shift in perspective. We must rise above daily stress, set aside selfinterest, and reconnect with our children—with love, patience,

and understanding. Let us remind them that we are always there for them, in every moment and emotion





Police

Fire 101

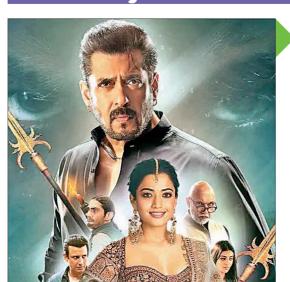
Ambulance 102/108 Child Helpline 1098

Help in Suffering 2760012

Do you want to add your establishment here? Email your details to cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

## |AIPUR WATCHING TODAY?

https://in.bookmyshow.com/

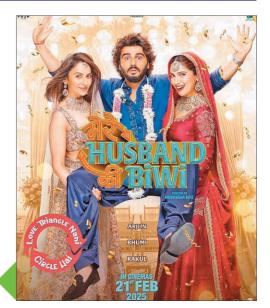


**Movie: Sikandar Director:** AR Murugadoss Cast & Crew: Salman Khan, Rashmika Mandanna, Kajal Aggarwal, Sathyaraj, Anjini Dhawan, Sharman Joshi



Scan or click nere to book your movie tickets

Movie: Mere Husband Ki Biwi **Director:** Mudassar Aziz Cast & Crew: Arjun Kapoor, Bhumi Pednekar & Rakul Preet Singh









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# Prabhu Jai

#### Ramesh Sharma & **Mukesh Sharma**

cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

he 25th three-day anniversary celebrations of Shree Cement Sankat ny, carried the Ramayana Mochan Hanuman Mandir commenced on Monday with a grand Kalash Yatra. The spiritually charged atmosphere saw active participation from

led with great devotion,

the Bangur family and the

entire Shree family.

featuring women of the Shree family carrying heads while singing bhajans, accompanied by the vibrant beats of Jia Band from Jaipur. Prashant Bangur, Vice Chairman of the compaon his head as a mark of reverence during the yatra, while Acharyas from South India and Pushkar performed rituals in the temple premises prior to the procession.

A key highlight of the The Kalash Yatra was day was a motivational Present on the occaaddress by Swami Go-

#### **Shree Cement Sankatmochan Celebrations**

Mangal Kalash on their vind Dev Ji Giri Maha- Emeritus BG Bangur, wife of Hon'ble Vice raj. Speaking before noon to a rapped audience, the saint emphasised the importance of religion and values through an insightful discourse. He emotionally narrated the divine birth of Lord Hanuman, mohan Rathi, Senior underlining the virtues of devotion and penance and left the audience moved with his powerful bhajan "Veer Hanumana Ati Balwana."

Swami Govind Dev Ji Giri Maharaj

Maharaj delivered an inspiring

Chairman Hari Mohan Bangur, Vice Chairman Prashant Bangur, Managing Director Neeraj Akhoury, Presidents Sanjay Mehta and Shailesh Ambastha, Joint Presidents Arvind Khicha and Man-Vice President Niraj Kumar Bansal, and several other dignitaries including Virat Bangur, Vidush Bangur, Rajkamal Bangur and Ranu Bangur.

Special guests includsion were Chairman ed Dr Sudesh Dhankhar,

President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Divisional Commissioner Mahesh Sharma, and Mandasuda MLA Virendra Singh Kanawat.

Today, the second day of the celebration, the Lord will be anointed and worshipped in the garbhagriha of the temple in the presence of South Indian and Pushkar Acharyas. Four generations of the Bangur family, officials and guests are expected to participate.

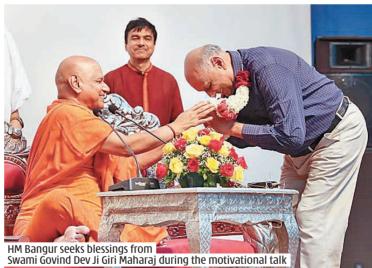














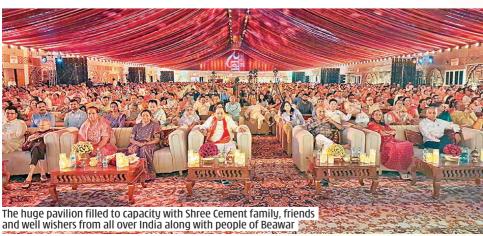








Dr Sudesh Dhankar performs Aarti. Also seen are BG Bangur, Prashant & Ranu Bangur









#### WHAT'S HAPPENING!

**(f)** FIRST INDIA

City First



A Holi Eid and Ramnavami Sneh Milan were joyfully celebrated under Vikalp Natya Sangathan on Monday. Theatre artists exchanged greetings, and renowned educationist Prof Mohanlal Goyal was felicitated with a shawl and turban. Recently honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award in Punjab, Prof Goyal's significant contributions to DAV schools and social reform plays were lauded. Vikalp's Patrons, including Mukunddev Agarwal and Farooq Afridi, praised his work. The event also featured poetry and song recitations by Neeraj Goswami, Sushila Sheel, and others.



BJP Minority Morcha State General Secretary Jayved Qureshi hosted an Eid and Holi Milan in Jaipur on his birthday, promoting social harmony and unity. He thanked PM Narendra Modi and central leadership for the Waqf amendment bill, urging the Muslim community to support it in the national interest. Qureshi emphasized the need for inclusive participation and stronger community ties. BJP leaders Ajaypal Singh, Jasbir Singh, Hanif Khan, Akram Khan, and other dignitaries attended, appreciating Qureshi's efforts for communal unity and national progress.



Madhav Vidyapeeth was inaugurated in a grand ceremony by Dr Sudha Yadav (Member, BJP Parliamentary Board), alongside Education Minister Madan Dilawar, UDH Minister Jhabar Singh Khara, and BJP Spokesperson Ramlal Sharma. The event featured lamp lighting, Saraswati Vandana, and cultural performances. Dr Yadav called it a "temple of values," while Dilawar emphasized the importance of higher education. Thousands attended, including dignitaries like Chhuttan Yadav and Dr Yogesh Yadav. The school aims to offer quality education in rural areas.



Miss India Glam 2025 Runner-up Dr Ravina Ahuja launched her new venture, Wciec Rajasthan MBBS Abroad Consultancy, in Triveni Nagar, Jaipur recently. The event saw the presence of Pawan Tank, Director of Miss and Mrs India Glam, Prashant Poddar, Director of Mandakini Saree, and Miss India Glam Rajasthan 2025, Sushmita Puri. The consultancy aims to guide NEET UG aspirants in exploring overseas medical education options, marking Dr Ahuja's dedication to empowering future medical professionals.



Neeta Boochra, Nidhie Data, Vinnie Kakkar, Bela Badhalia with FLO members FICCI Ladies Organisation Jaipur Chapter organised a press conference under Chairperson Dr Rimmi Shekhawat's leadership on Monday. The event began with a welcome note by former national president Neeta Boochra. Dr Rimmi, a gold medalist dental professional, unveiled the theme "Heritage, Health & Harmony" for the year 2025-26. She announced key initiatives including a 365-day mobile cancer screening van, skill training for rural women, and

FLO Kawach - a national aid policy. Her team was also introduced, promising a grassroots impact through wellness, sustainability, and women-led SUNIL SHARMA entrepreneurship across Rajasthan.



The PC Maheshwari Memorial Golf Tournament (Monthly Medal - II) concluded with a grand prize distribution at Rambagh Golf Club on Monday. Rishiraj Singh won the Pro-Gross title and Girraj Singh Khadka was runner-up. Deepkaran S Thakkar and Nitesh Bandawala jointly claimed the Amateur Gross title. Awards were presented across various handicap categories. Present were Maheshwari's family, Secretary Samridh Sharma and Tournament Convenor Dr Himanshu Sharma. Vrinda Saini won Best Lady Golfer, while Ahaan Shah and Abhyuday Rawat excelled in special skill categories.



# Community

**City First** 

cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

he 17th mass marriage ceremony organised by the All India Namdev Tank Kshatriya Mahasabha concluded on a grand note at Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati Bhawan, where 15 couples were united in matrimony on Sunday. The newlyweds also pledged an eighth vow—to plant and nurture a tree alongside the traditional seven rounds. The event saw a vibrant Kalash Yatra and buggy procession, with enthusiastic participation from women of the community.

Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and MP Rajendra Gehlot blessed the couples and lauded the ini-



Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar congratulating the newlyweds

tiative, linking it to the auspicious occasion of Ram Navami. BJP leader Naresh Surana also extended good wishes. Bhamashahs and ac-



as he addressed the gathering



tive youth were honoured for their contributions.

Guests and community members arrived from across India, including Sikar,

Ajmer, Ahmedabad, Chennai, and Aurangabad. The event was spearheaded by Devkishan and Sunita Negi, with General Secretary

Devraj Saran and Mahasabha President Ramkishore Apoorva playing key roles. A grand community feast followed the ceremony.

## WEDDED BLISS!







A grand wedding celebration of Pooja (Priya), daughter of Kavita Devi Bagda and Satyanarayan Bagda, with Rakesh, son of Gulab Devi and Omprakash Mehta, was joyously held on Sunday at Satyam Paradise, Lakhani, Jaipur. The vibrant ceremony was attended by family members, relatives, friends, and distinguished guests who gathered to shower their blessings and extend heartfelt wishes to the couple for a lifetime of love, happiness, and togetherness. SUNIL SHARMA



In a unique initiative during a Bagda Brahmin community wedding at Ratalya Village, Gram Panchayat Jagnnathpura, 101 saplings were gifted to guests and the groom's procession. Civil Lines MLA Gopal Sharma and BJP leader Alok Pareek inspired attendees to take an oath for environmental protection. Groom Ravi Sharma and bride Maya planted saplings in memory of their union. The campaign, led by Dinesh Bagda, emphasized gifting plants instead of dowry to promote greenery and environmental consciousness.



Under the Nettheatre series, Ajmer-based singer Hardik Tharuka enchanted the audience in the "Colours of Ghazal" program with soulful renditions of ghazals by Nazir Kaiser, Habib Jamal, and Rajasthani Maand. He was accompanied by Dheeraj Chauhan on tabla and Ankesh Khatana on guitar. Program coordinator Naval Dangi and art Patron Manish Aggarwal honoured the artists. Manoj Swami handled the camera, Jitendra Sharma did the music composition and Renu Sanadhya, Jeevitesh Sharma, Ankit Sharma decorated the stage.



The 8th Photo Walk and Photo Art Exhibition, organised by DH Captures, was inaugurated by former Art and Culture Minister Dr BD Kalla at Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur. The exhibition concluded on Sunday. Artist Pooja Agnihotri aimed to connect art lovers with everyday moments through photography. The showcase featured captivating glimpses of Jaipur's heritage, wildlife, food, and culture, captured through the lenses of passionate photographers.



Jaipur's star marathon runner Vishnu Tak has been selected for the London Book of World Records. Known for his exceptional endurance and dedication, Vishnu has consistently participated in marathons for the past 7-8 years, earning multiple world records. His unique skills and inspiring personality caught the attention of the London Book of World Records team, securing his place in their upcoming edition. Vishnu Tak continues to make Jaipur proud on the global stage with his passion for running.

## FASHION FESTIVAL



The two-day Rajasthan Fashion Festival 2025 began on Monday at Fort Jashn, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur and concluded today, with celebrating glamour, talent and social impact. Organised by Vanshika Arts Education and Welfare Society, the event features Miss & Mrs. Pride of Rajasthan Season 3, Rajasthan Pride Awards, and a touching ramp walk by cancer survivors styled by Alok Agarwal. Guests included ex-Mayor Jyoti Khandelwal and Mrs. India International Deepti Saini. As we went to print, the winners were yet to be announced.

-MORE IN CITY FIRST TOMORROW