



FIRST INDIA

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Rajasthan's own English Newspaper



श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी
माननीय प्रधानमंत्री



राजस्थान सरकार

एक वर्ष
परिणाम उत्कर्ष

श्री भजनलाल शर्मा
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री

राज्य स्तरीय समारोह

मुख्य अतिथि

श्री भजनलाल शर्मा

माननीय मुख्यमंत्री

विकास प्रदर्शनी का शुभारम्भ

15 दिसम्बर, 2024 | समय - दोपहर 12:30 बजे | स्थान- जवाहर कला केंद्र, जयपुर

सुरक्षा एवं जीवन रक्षा हेतु लोकार्पण

15 दिसम्बर, 2024 | दोपहर 01:30 बजे | स्थान- अमर जवान ज्योति, जनपथ, जयपुर

- 750 मोटरसाइकिल
- 150 कालिका पेट्रोलिंग यूनिट
- 22 पुलिस इंटरसेप्टर
- 101 लाइफ सपोर्ट एम्बुलेंस
- 25 पेट्रोलिंग पुलिस वाहन

अंत्योदय सेवा शिविर

15 दिसम्बर, 2024 | दोपहर 2:30 बजे | स्थान- पिंजरा पोल गौशाला, जयपुर

हस्तांतरण / वितरण

- 2.15 लाख श्रमिकों को 247 करोड़ रुपये
- 11 हजार स्ट्रीट वेंडर्स को ऋण
- 5 हजार आवासों हेतु प्रथम किशत
- 30 हजार दस्तकारों को ब्याज अनुदान
- 2 हजार दिव्यांगों को स्कूटी
- 10 हजार विशेष योग्यजन को उपकरण

शुभारम्भ

- मुख्यमंत्री विश्वकर्मा पेंशन योजना
- मुख्यमंत्री स्वनिधि योजना
- मुख्यमंत्री आयुष्मान बाल सम्बल योजना
- मुख्यमंत्री सद्भावना केन्द्र
- आयुष्मान आरोग्य शिविर
- रक्तदान शिविर

निभाई जिम्मेदारी - हर घर खुशहाली

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, राजस्थान



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ICY DAL VOYAGE!

Women row their boats through the partially frozen waters of the Dal Lake on a cold winter morning in Srinagar on Saturday. As the cold wave intensifies in the Kashmir Valley, temperatures plummeted several degrees below zero, with Srinagar recording a minimum temperature of minus 4.6 degrees Celsius, marking a chilling start to the day. **PTI**

IN BRIEF

Veteran BJP leader LK Advani admitted to Delhi Apollo Hospital
New Delhi: Veteran BJP leader LK Advani, 97,



on Saturday was admitted to ICU of Apollo Hospital in Delhi. The leader remains under observation and docs have confirmed that his condition is 'stable'.

Water tank collapses at Arunachal school, 3 students killed, 3 hurt

Naharlagun: At least 3 students were killed and three others sustained injuries when an overhead water tank collapsed at St Alphonsa School in Model Village, Naharlagun, on Saturday. The incident occurred while the students were playing at the school, according to Naharlagun Police.

OpenAI whistleblower Suchir Balaji found dead in San Francisco

San Francisco: An Indian-American OpenAI whistleblower, Suchir Balaji, who worked at OpenAI till August 2024, was found dead in his apartment in San Francisco. The cops have confirmed it to be a case of suicide. Elon Musk has also reacted to Balaji's death.

Martial law bid: South Korea Prez impeached after massive protest

Seoul: South Korea's Parliament voted Saturday to impeach President Yoon Suk Yeol over his short-lived martial law decree, a historic rebuke that was cheered by jubilant crowds who described outcome as another defiant moment in nation's resilient democratic journey.

Modi addresses special debate on 75th Anniversary of adoption of Constitution in LS, saying...

'Samvidhan Bharat Ki Ekta Hai'

- Nehru to Indira to Rajiv, Congress struck blows at Constitution, says Modi
- In over 2-hour-long speech, Modi repeatedly spoke about unity of nation

First India Bureau
New Delhi

Launching a fierce and no-holds-barred attack on the Congress's Nehru-Gandhi family, PM Narendra Modi on Saturday said four generations of the family — from India's first PM Jawaharlal Nehru to Rahul Gandhi — had committed the "sin" of denigrating and subverting Constitution. He also reiterated his commitment to move towards secular civil code. Replying to 2-day debate in Lok Sabha on the 'Glorious Journey of 75 Years of the Constitution of India', Modi said he

and his govt live by spirit of Constitution. In his over 2-hr-long address, Modi repeatedly spoke about unity of the nation.

During previous govt, we saw India being defamed before the world through headlines. We have seen those days. That is why, with mantra of unity and upholding the sense of Constitution, we fulfilled One Nation One Grid. That is why, today there is uninterrupted power supply in all corners of India," he said. Modi said Cong can never erase taint of Emergency, adding, the biggest 'jumla' used by 4 generations, is 'garibi hatao'.



Combo pictures of PM Narendra Modi speaking in the Lok Sabha on Constitution debate during ongoing Winter Session of Parliament, in New Delhi on Saturday.

PM NARENDRA MODI OUTLINES 11 SANKALPS FOR 'VIKSIT BHARAT'

1. Both governments and citizens will perform their duties diligently
2. The development of every region and society will be prioritised — "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas"
3. A zero-tolerance policy against corruption at all the levels
4. People must have pride in the law and its implementation
5. Moving away from a slavery mindset is necessary for us
6. Eradicating nepotism in politics
7. Honouring the Constitution
8. Ensuring reservations aren't based on religion & safeguarding them, rejecting religion-based quotas
9. Leading in women-led development initiatives in India
10. Focusing on the development of both states and the nation
11. Promoting the objective of "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat"

ONOE Bill will be presented in Parl on Monday



First India Bureau
New Delhi

Union Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal will introduce The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Amendment) Bill, 2024 in the Lok Sabha on Monday. The bill seeks to amend the Constitution to facilitate simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies, aligning elections for Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, and Puducherry Assemblies as well. The Union Cabinet, earlier this week, cleared constitutional amendment bill.

ADDRESSING MAHILA SAMMELAN IN UDAIPUR, CM SHARMA SAYS...

'One year of our government has been dedicated to welfare of women'

Ravi Sharma
Udaipur

CM STATED THAT MOTHERS ARE THE FIRST GURUS, SHAPING THEIR CHILD'S CULTURE, VALUES, AND CHARACTER FROM THE BEGINNING

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma said on Saturday that strong & respectable status of women is a symbol of an advanced, prosperous and strong society and nation. "Keeping this in mind, one year of our government has been dedicated to the respect, security and welfare of women. Last year, the people of the state gave us an opportunity to serve, in which half of the population of mothers and sisters had an important participation. It is also said in our scriptures that 'Yatra Naaryastu Pujyante Ramante Tatra Devata' i.e. where women are worshipped, there Gods reside. Swami Vivekananda also said that the welfare of the world is not possible without



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, Diya Kumari & Babulal Kharadi present cheque of ₹100 cr to SHGs during State-level 'Mahila Sammelan', on completion of 1 year of State Govt in Udaipur, Saturday. Also seen are Dr Manju Baghmar, Hemant Meena & Arvind Poswal.

improving the status of women," CM Sharma said while addressing the state level women's conference organised in Udaipur on Saturday. **P12**

Allu out from jail, vows to support victim's kin

First India Bureau
Hyderabad

Actor Allu Arjun, following his release from jail on Saturday, said he is a law-abiding citizen and will cooperate in probe into 'Pushpa 2' screening stampede in Hyderabad that killed a woman and seriously injured a child. "I want to thank all my fans. There is nothing to worry about. I would like to once again express my condolences to the family. It was an unfortunate incident. We are sorry for what happened," he said.



Actor Allu Arjun addresses the media on being released from jail in Hyderabad on Saturday.

Allu spent a night in Chanchalguda prison in connection with the death of woman in stampede on Dec 4 at Sandhya Theatre. He was not released despite HC granting him bail as authorities had not received bail copy of bail.



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HAPPY 57TH BIRTHDAY TO CM BHAJAN LAL SHARMA

Celebrating MAN OF THE MASSES!

TODAY IS A SPECIAL DAY AS WE ALL CELEBRATE CM BHAJAN LAL SHARMA'S BIRTHDAY AND THE COMPLETION OF 1 YEAR OF STATE GOVERNMENT, MARKING A YEAR OF PROGRESS FOR RAJASTHAN

Moni Sharma

On the occasion of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma's 57th birthday today, Rajasthan celebrates not just a leader, but a visionary who has dedicated himself to transforming Rajasthan. This special day marks not only his birthday but also the completion of one year of the BJP Government in Rajasthan. In just one year, CM Sharma's leadership has been marked by progressive reforms, a focus on development, and a deep commitment to empowering the people. His journey from a grassroots worker to the Chief Minister reflects his strong connection with the people of Rajasthan.

Known for his down-to-earth leadership style, Sharma remains accessible and relatable to all sections of society. He believes in collaborative governance, where teamwork is essential to achieve the shared goal of development. His leadership blends pragmatism with idealism, fostering trust and confidence among the people.

One of Sharma's key objectives is to position Rajasthan as a global tourism hub. His efforts to improve infrastructure and connectivity, including better roads and initiatives like "Rising Rajasthan," aim to attract global investment and tourism. His vision for "Viksit Rajasthan 2047" outlines a roadmap for a developed, modern state, with a strong focus on industries, education, and business growth.

Sharma has also revolutionized education in Rajasthan, ensuring that youth are equipped with the skills needed for future. His commitment to sports aims to propel Rajasthan to Olympic success, providing athletes with world-class facilities. Additionally, his focus on job creation has helped reduce unemployment and foster an environment conducive to industrial growth. The "Har Ghar Nal" initiative, aimed at providing clean water to every household, is transforming rural Rajasthan. His initiatives in healthcare, agriculture, and infrastructure further highlight his dedication to the welfare of the people. As he celebrates his birthday, CM Sharma's leadership is guiding Rajasthan towards a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable future.

**FIRST INDIA WISHES
HIM HAPPY BIRTHDAY &
CONTINUED SUCCESS**



HAPPY
Birthday

Rajasthan CM Bhajan Lal Sharma



How Relevant Are Environmental Summits?



Dr Vivek S Agrawal

The writer is specialist on Urban Health and Environment



ASSURANCES AT SUMMIT

Despite the assurances made at summits, they often fail to translate into actionable commitments. Without legal obligations for polluting nations to compensate for their environmental damage, significant progress remains elusive. These summits risk becoming mere formalities and opportunities for tourism. Firm actions, such as phasing out fossil fuels, limiting deforestation, and promoting responsible consumption, must be legally enforced to maintain global temperatures

Over past 5 years, increase in widespread wildfires has severely impacted biodiversity, presenting another critical survival challenge. These environmental summits are losing their significance, as senior leaders no longer prioritize attending. Previously, heads of state would participate, as seen at the Paris United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21), where nations committed to legally binding actions.

However, since 2017, when Donald Trump withdrew the United States from the Paris Agreement, high-level delegations have been less involved in decisive actions

Indeed, it's crucial that stakeholders consider transforming these summits from mere discussions or negotiations to direct, action-oriented events. By focusing on specific actions, a model can be created which can be adapted locally to meet various needs and requirements. If this shift doesn't happen soon, it's likely that these environmental summits will lose their relevance and fail to attract serious participants in the future

Every year a large number of environmental summits are being held to express concern and to find new ways to combat adverse impact of climate change on humanity and biodiversity at large. Unfortunately, even after such intensive and high level discussions and negotiations most of these summits, conclude with utter disappointment with a note of failure. Most of these summits can only boast of only commitments to meet next time for more conclusive discussions. In this series, the most noteworthy is Conference of Parties i.e. COP which is being held every year in some or other nation for the last 29 years. The recent one which concluded in Baku also did not yield desired outcome even though it was expected to reach at some legally binding agreements between the signatory nations. Similarly, Intergovernmental Negotiations on Legally Binding Plastic Treaty has also concluded with a failure note. Continuous series of failures and increasing number of conferences, summits, negotiations etc. on environment related issues raise eyebrows on their relevance and effectiveness in combating climate change.

At times, it brings to mind the strategic manoeuvring by the oil and aviation companies in the United States to derail expansion of railway services. These sustained campaigns managed to create a general environment of distrust about surface transport options, particularly the railways. At that time, the oil and aviation sector considered railroads as the most po-



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tent threat to their potential market growth. Hence, all possible efforts were made to create apathy amongst citizens towards Railroads like Amtrak services. Similarly, though United States is considered as the most developed country in the world but in terms of mass transport solutions, it stands far behind several countries in Europe and Asia. Here, it may be noted that Amtrak's carbon dioxide equivalent emissions per passenger were 0.116 kg per km. For comparison, this is similar to a car with two people, and about two thirds of the raw CO₂-equivalent emissions of a long-distance domestic flight.

Taking cue from this example the outcome of these environmental summits should also be analysed. The objectives and outcomes must be clearly and dispassionately measured against the expected deliverables. Another big question is their impact on sustainability.

In this context, it is

worth mentioning that every environmental summit attracts thousands of people as stakeholders to participate. In events like COP attendance is recorded as high as 100,000 in Dubai, 50,000 in Baku. Similarly, participants in any environmental summit or negotiation is usually around 2000 as the environment is a favourite subject to express concern towards mother earth.

Even if emissions and expenditure on account of travelling to these summits alone is considered, it is bound to be significant. Long distance aircrafts consume minimum 50 millilitres per person per mile of jet fuel and if aircraft of 182 to 200 passenger load capacity is considered, consumption goes as high as almost 7 times than the bigger widebody aircraft. Each litre of jet fuel emits almost 3 kilogram of CO₂ which is a greenhouse gas and a major contributor to global warming. Considering average 20,000 participants to COP which

has become synonym of Climate Change Tourism, participation is an increasing trend. Participation has increased tremendously over last 5 summits. It can be seen, emissions due to travel alone can be disproportionately higher than saving efforts discussed at the summit.

In terms of money not less than Rs 50,00,00,000 expenditure is only on travel to COP summits. Even if opportunity cost of stakeholders attending these conferences is overlooked, the amount spent on lodging, boarding and travel itself is good enough to correct environmental crisis in many small islands which face a severe climatic existential crisis. Large gatherings like COP also create disruptions into the daily life of local citizens for the period the event is being organised.

Thinking analytically COP for 29 years, Plastic Treaty for 3 years, Ocean and Small Island Conference for over 5 years and likewise many others similar environmental summits have created sensations, negativism and also distrust amongst stakeholders. It has also been noticed that summits are largely governed or ruled by developed and oil producing countries.

Developing, marginal, small island countries which face the maximum impact of climate change and environmental degradation, hardly have any voice on these platforms. Countries like India have spearheaded dialogue on initiatives like loss and damage fund, legal binding to reduce plastic production along with redefining single use plastic within local context.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL

IN-DEPTH

POLICE ACTED IN HASTE TO ARREST ACTOR ALLU ARJUN

The arrest of Telugu superstar Allu Arjun following a tragic stampede outside a cinema hall during the premiere of his much-anticipated film Pushpa 2: The Rule has taken a dramatic political turn. The stampede, which resulted in the death of a young woman and injuries to several others, is undeniably a grave incident. However, the politicisation of the tragedy reflects the growing trend of blending accountability with opportunism.

Political parties are quick to exploit the emotional resonance of such incidents, shifting focus from justice for the victims to scoring points against high profile accused. The blame game between parties over crowd management lapses exposes systemic failures that transcend cinema and celebrity culture. While accountability for public safety must include all stakeholders—actors, organisers, and authorities—Allu Arjun cannot be held solely accountable for the tragedy.

What is needed now is not sensationalism but a thorough, apolitical inquiry to prevent such disasters in the future. Public safety should not overshadow principles of justice.

JOE BIDEN ON SPREE TO GRANT PARDON



If President Joe Biden's decision to pardon his son, Hunter Biden, was not shocking enough, his granting clemency to a record number of 1,500 persons in a single day has left Americans wondering. Pardoning Hunter was a reminder of how morality and public trust can fall victim to the power dynamics of politics. This controversial pardon, coming just weeks before President Biden is set to leave office, has sparked widespread debate about the ethical boundaries of presidential authority.

Hunter Biden, long embroiled in legal troubles ranging from tax evasion to alleged foreign business misconduct, has faced intense public scrutiny. Throughout his presidency, Joe Biden maintained a principled stance, vowing not to use his powers to shield his son from accountability. The sudden issuance of a pardon undermines that assurance and raises questions about the credibility of his earlier commitments.

Presidential pardons in the US, while constitutional, are not above moral scrutiny. They are meant to serve justice and mercy, not familial loyalty. By exercising this power for his son, President Biden risks eroding the sanctity of the office and reinforcing perceptions of political privilege. It set a troubling precedent where personal considerations overshadow broader ethical obligations.

This decision is likely to further polarise an already divided American people on political lines. Critics argue that it deepens public cynicism about fairness and accountability in governance. Supporters may claim it reflects a father's compassion, but the presidency is not a private affair. The latest round of pardons is, perhaps, to prove his impartiality towards commoners. President Biden chose a path fraught with damage to his legacy.



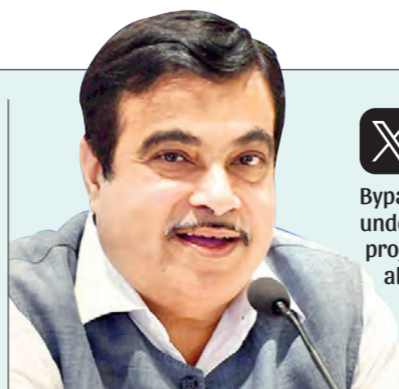
If President Joe Biden's decision to pardon his son, Hunter Biden, was not shocking enough, his granting clemency to a record number of 1,500 persons in a single day has left Americans wondering

TOP TWEETS



Today, we mark the 100th birth anniversary of the legendary Raj Kapoor, a visionary filmmaker, actor and the eternal showman! His genius transcended generations, leaving an indelible mark on Indian and global cinema.

Narendra Modi @narendramodi



In Goa, we have sanctioned Rs 747 crore for the 4-laning of a 7.24 km stretch from the end of Madgaon Bypass to Cuncolim on NH-66, to be executed under the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM). The project includes a 4.45 km six-lane flyover to alleviate congestion in urban areas.

Nitin Gadkari @nitin_gadkari

SPIRITUAL SPEAK

Do not overrate what you have received, nor envy others. He who envies others does not obtain peace of mind.

BUDDHA



जन्मदिन की बधाई सा!

टांटिया समूह, श्रीगंगानगर

ऊर्जावान, यशस्वी एवं विकास के अग्रदूत

श्री भजनलाल शर्मा जी

(माननीय मुख्यमंत्री-राजस्थान सरकार)

को आज (15 दिसंबर) उनके जन्मदिन पर

हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं प्रेषित करता है।

हम माननीय मुख्यमंत्री के स्वस्थ, सफल और

दीर्घायु जीवन की कामना करते हैं।



विकसित होता राजस्थान



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Sriganganagar, (Rajasthan, India)

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AN UNLIKELY BOND AT RANTHAMBORE

Arrowhead and Riddhi share meal despite territorial strife

Nirmal Tiwari
Sawai Madhopur

The wildlife of Ranthambore is filled with incredible stories of tigers that have captivated wildlife enthusiasts, tourists, and researchers alike. On the morning of December 13, yet another extraordinary event unfolded, leaving even the most seasoned tiger experts astonished. Yes, tigress T-84, Arrowhead, and her daughter T-124, Riddhi, were spotted sharing a meal together, setting aside their territorial rivalry. Let's delve into the heartwarming story of these fierce yet maternal tigresses.

In the lifecycle of tigers, cubs typically stay with their mother for about two years. After this, their first battles for territorial dominance often occur with their own mother, siblings, or other family members. The stronger tiger takes control of their birth territory, while the weaker one is forced to leave and



A file photograph of Arrowhead with her daughters Riddhi and Siddhi.

carve out a new territory. Before diving into the extraordinary event of 13th December, let's take a look at the lineage of tigress T-84 Arrowhead and her daughter T-124 Riddhi, along with the battles they've fought over territories. Tigress T-19 Krishna, born to T-16 Machli – the tigress who brought Ranthambore global fame – gave birth to T-84 Arrowhead. When Krishna turned

two, her first clash was with her own mother, Machli. Later, Arrowhead, born to Krishna, fought her mother to claim Zone 2 of Ranthambore.

In December 2018, Arrowhead gave birth to two cubs, T-124 Riddhi and T-125 Siddhi. In October 2020, Arrowhead and Riddhi faced off in their first territorial battle, marking the beginning of Riddhi's journey of sepa-

ration from her mother. Defeated, Riddhi moved to Zone 3, establishing her territory, while Arrowhead remained in the Nal Ghati area of Zone 2. Over time,

Interestingly, Riddhi and Arrowhead's three cubs are now beginning the process of separating from their mothers. Their shared meal amidst this transition is a remarkable example of the tigers' extraordinary behaviour.

CUB AT NH'GARH BIO PARK TURNS TWO MONTHS OLD

The lioness Tara's little daughter has turned two months old. Born on 14th October at Nahargarh Biological Park, the cub was shifted to neonatal care due to her mother's aggressive nature. DCF Jagdish Gupta personally monitors the cub's progress on a daily basis. Dr. Arvind Mathur and his team worked tirelessly round the clock to give the tiny cub a new lease on life. The female cub has now gained over 3 kilograms in weight. In neonatal care, she can be seen playfully moving around with a lioness dummy. Once she is about six months old, the cub will be shifted to the kraal. This isn't the first time Dr. Mathur and his team have previously rescued and nurtured Ranthambore tigress Rani's cubs, Bheem and Skandhi, giving them a new life.

Runway Ready
Flights from new Kolana Airport to start by New YearFirst India Bureau
Dausa

The long-standing dream of an airport in Kolana is now set to become a reality. Work on the aircraft landing facility is progressing at a rapid pace, with plans for accommodating a 300-seater aircraft. For now, flights of 50-seater aircraft are expected to commence this month following the completion of runway markings.

The runway measures 3,120 meters in length and 60 meters in width, placing Kolana Airport's airstrip among the major ones in the country. Of the approved Rs 169 crore budget, Rs 143 crore has already been utilized, while an addi-

For the fiscal year 2025-26, a demand of ₹95.4 crore has been raised for electricity and land expansion projects

Rs 88.85 cr has been requested for further expansion and development. An apron will also be constructed at Kolana Airport to facilitate the parking of large aircraft. Preparations are underway to include the airport in the UDAAN scheme at a war footing. The prospect of flight operations beginning with the New Year has generated a wave of excitement. The Kolana Airport is poised to become a milestone in the development of the Khanpur constituency.

Employee unions demand action after assault on Kishangarh Renwal's VDO

First India Bureau
Jaipur

A case has emerged from Kishangarh Renwal, Jaipur, involving the assault of a female officer. VDO Manju Aloria was slapped on Friday, triggering strong outrage among employee unions. Mahavir Sharma, the President of the Rajasthan Gram Vikas Adhikari Sangh, condemned the incident and demanded strict punishment for the accused. He said that a memorandum would be submitted to the District Collector and SP on Monday. The incident occurred at a Pan-chayat office when the accused came to update information in the Jan Aadhar system. A heated argument ensued over the update, during which the young man slapped the female VDO. The accused is also alleged to have torn official documents and attendance registers. After a case was registered, the police apprehended the accused, and the investigation is being conducted by Jobner Dy SP Priyanka Vaishnav.

Jpr excise dept cracks down on restaurant serving alcohol illegally

During the raid, 2 bottles of English liquor & 61 bottles of beer were seized

Vinod Singh Chouhan
Jaipur

In Jaipur city, the Excise Department conducted an operation at a restaurant in Malviya Nagar. The BOB Restaurant, located on Girdhar Marg, was found serving alcohol without a license. The excise officials had received a tip-off regarding the unauthorised serving of alcohol.

Following instructions from Excise Commissioner Shivprasad Nakate, strict action was taken. Excise Inspector Rajendra Ranawat, along with Shift In-charge Mamta Shardul, raided the restaurant.

A case has been registered against the restaurant owner.



FILE

RAJ LIQUOR LICENSE HOLDERS WRITE TO CM

The liquor licensees of the state have raised several demands with the state government. The Rajasthan Liquor Contractors Union, led by State President Pankaj Dhankhar, has written a letter to Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma outlining a 15-point charter of demands. These include extending the operating hours of liquor shops until 11 PM, ending police intervention at liquor stores, eliminating old penalties on liquor licensees, and increasing the commission for licensees by 20%, informed Dhankhar.

CRIME ROUNDUP

First India Bureau
Jhunjhunu

A jeweller in Mukundgarh has received threatening calls from the Lawrence Gang and the 007 Gang. The businessman has filed a case at the Mukundgarh police station in Jhunjhunu district, mentioning in the report that he first received a call from the 007 Gang, followed by one from the Lawrence Gang. Both threats demanded a ransom of Rs 5 lakh. The 007 Gang also sent an SBI account number through message. Mukundgarh police are conducting a serious investigation into the matter, trying to ascertain whether the calls are actually from the named gangs or if other miscreants are using their names to threaten the jeweller.



DHOLPUR POLICE FREE 29 BOVINES AND ARREST 3 SMUGGLERS

Dholpur: Action was taken against cattle smugglers involved in illegal transportation. Police rescued 29 cattle being transported in a canter truck and a pickup vehicle. The operation was conducted by the Sadar police station during a blockade on NH 44. Three cattle smugglers were arrested at the scene. The operation was led by Sadar Station Officer Ramnaresh.

ROBBERS LOOT ₹12 LAKH CASH AND JEWELLERY FROM WOMAN

Srimadhapur: A robbery was reported at gunpoint in Nathusar, where three masked men on motorcycles held a woman hostage and carried out the crime. The robbers entered the house after noticing that the woman was alone. They looted ₹12 lakh in cash along with gold and silver jewellery worth several lakhs. The victim of the robbery has been identified as Sampat Devi Bhargava. Police officer Umesh Gupta and Station House Officer Jai Singh Basera inspected the scene.

SOG BUSTS CYBER FRAUD GANG; SEIZES ₹13 LAKH, 27 MOBILES

In a major operation led by ADG ATS-SOG VK Singh, the Special Operations Group team has busted a cyber fraud gang involved in duping people through digital scams. The operation resulted in the arrest of 15 notorious members of the gang. The authorities seized Rs 13 lakh in cash, 27 mobile phones, 43 debit cards, 16 SIM cards, and three vehicles from the suspects. The arrested individuals are now being interrogated for further information.

Lawyers ineffective in JDA cases to be replaced, says JDC

JDC Anandhi also reviewed progress of residential and other schemes

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Under guidance of Minister for Urban Development and Housing Jhabar Singh Kharra, a review meeting of all departments of Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Infrastructure and Planning (JVI-PRA) was held on Saturday at JDA Manthan Hall, chaired by JDA Commissioner, Anandhi.

During the meeting, instructions were given to promptly resolve pending cases related to DTS, contact portals, Lokayukta cases, Human Rights Commission cases, and pending assembly questions, with a focus on qualitative resolution. It was also directed to reduce the pendency of all



types of online cases registered at the Citizen Service Centre, and to expedite the resolution of BPCLP, BP, building plans, and 90A cases.

JDC directed swift resolution of court cases and continuous monitoring of related cases to clear the pendency. Lawyers who were not effectively advocating JDA's cases in court were instructed to be replaced, to ensure favorable decisions for JDA. All zonal commissioners were given instructions to prepare and present effective and qualitative responses to pending cases in court.

RAJ BAR ASSOCIATIONS' ELECTIONS

Shandilya, Sharma, Pareek take top posts

Kamalkant Vyas
Jaipur

In the Rajasthan High Court Bar Association's annual elections, Mahendra Shandilya has been elected as the new president. This is his third term as the president of the association. Babulal Sharma and Vandana Sharma have been appointed as VPs, while Ramit Pareek has been elected as the general secretary.

Saurabh Dubey has been appointed as joint



secretary, and Govind Sharma has become the treasurer. Sunita Meena has been named the cultural secretary. In the annual elections of the Jaipur Bar Association, Sandeep Luhadiya was

the new President. Luhadiya secured the position of President of the Jaipur Bar Association.

The two Vice President positions were won by Ramesh Chandra Sharma and Bina Kumari. Manish Gagrani Maheshwari emerged victorious as the General Secretary. Krishna Sharma won the post of Joint Secretary, while Yojana Sharma was elected as the Treasurer. Ankit Kapoor secured the position of Cultural Secretary, and Akash Kapoor won as Deputy Treasurer.

LEGAL FRATERNITY TO CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENTS DURING GATHERING AT RAS CLUB TODAY

The State Advocates Association (Trust) will host a gathering on Sunday at the RAS Club at 5 PM. Minister of state for Home Jawahar Singh Bedham will be the chief guest in the event, while High Court Justices Anil Kumar Upman, Deepak Maheshwari, Banwari Lal Sharma, and the Chairman of the Bar Council of Rajasthan, Bhupnesh Sharma, will feature as the special guests. IPS officers Malini Agarwal, Ajaypal Lamba, Kunwar Rashtrideep, Sharad Chaudhary, and Aditya Kakde will also be attending this event as special guests. Senior Advocate RB Mathur will preside over the event, and Advocates Gaurav Acharya, Vinaykant Saxena, and others will also participate. Lawyers who have made significant contributions in the legal field will be honored during this event. Singer Sanjay Raizada and Kambeliya dance artists will present colorful performances.

Eight RPS officers to be promoted as IPS soon

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Eight RPS officers will be promoted to IPS. After the seniority issue of RPS officer Lokesh Sonwal was resolved, the board meeting will be held in Delhi on December 18.

Previously, after receiving relief in his old case, Lokesh Sonwal had formally requested the UPSC to determine the seniority of RPS officers. In turn, the UPSC board meeting in these regards is scheduled for December 18. The Home Department had sent the

seniority determination of Lokesh Sonwal to the DOP, following which the UPSC confirmed the date for the board meeting to take further action. With the seniority issue settled for RPS officer Lokesh Sonwal, the path is now clear for eight other officers of the state police service to be promoted to IPS, which had been pending due to Sonwal's case for quite some time.

There is a strong possibility that, although delayed, they will receive their promotions within this month.

Dr Manju hailed as 'Brand Ambassador' for women in State

Sunil Sihag
Sri Ganganagar

During an event, Collector Dr Manju received praise from Pralhad Rai Tak, the Chairman of the Matikala Board. Tak referred to Dr. Manju as a "brand ambassador" for women and encouraged all women to set a target for their daughters to pursue higher education. He emphasized that by achieving good education, they could become officers like Collector Dr Manju. The statement was met with applause from the large number of people.

'Rising Raj initiative: ₹35 L cr MoUs being implemented'

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Senior BJP leader and programme convener Rajendra Rathore said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, the BJP govt in Rajasthan has delivered exceptional results in its first year. This has resulted in transformational decisions that have changed the state's destiny and landscape. He expressed confidence that in the next five years, Rajasthan will emerge as a \$350 billion economy, contributing significant-



Rajendra Rathore addressing a press conference in Jaipur on Saturday. Also seen are Arun Chaturvedi & Pramod Vashisht.

ly to India's growth. He added that under the Rising Rajasthan initiative, MoUs worth over Rs 35 lakh crore are being actively implemented by

the state govt. Rathore announced that on December 17, a historic partnership between Raj and MP will be established in the

presence of PM Modi at an event in Dadia, Jaipur. The event will witness participation from BJP workers representing 52,000 booths across the state and beneficiaries of central and state govt schemes.

Former BJP state president Dr. Arun Chaturvedi said that the BJP govt in Raj is accountable to the people and has made significant efforts to fulfill the promises made during the elections. He noted that in just one year, meaningful steps have been taken on 65% of the commitments.

YOUTH FESTIVAL PLUS 2024!

The second phase of the much-anticipated Youth Festival Plus 2024, organised by First India Plus Entertainment, an OTT platform, commenced on Saturday at Jaipur's iconic Diggi Palace. Pawan Arora, CEO & Managing Editor of First India News, hailed the event as a platform to empower youth and celebrate their boundless creativity. The festival's highlight was the Fashion Show Competition, with IIS University, Jaipur winning ₹21,000, followed by Kamla Poddar Institute NY School of Fashion (₹15,000) and Khyati



SMILES & MELODIES!

Artists Ritesh, Ashwath and Keshav captivated the audience with their mesmerising musical performance, while Pawan Arora, accompanied by Pranjal Jain, Shantanu Varshneya, Shweta Mishra Awasthi, Vishal Mathur, Ashish Aman, Hemant Sharma, Swati Malik, Sanjeev, Kedar and Divya, pose with cheerful smiles at Orange Chowk, Diggi Palace on Saturday.

MUKESH KIRADOO

School of Design, Gujarat (₹11,000). Alongside captivating musical performances and vibrant

stalls, activities like dance shows, art exhibits & food festival enthralled attendees. **MORE ON PGS 14-15**

CP Joshi backs 'One Nation, One Election'

Yogesh Sharma
Jaipur



Chittorgarh MP CP Joshi said, "In the years 1952, 1957, 1962, and 1967, elections were held based on the 'One Nation, One Election' principle."



Joshi said that the people of the country are demanding that just as 'One Nation, One Tax' and 'One Nation, One Ration' were implemented, similarly, 'One Nation, One Election' should be introduced.

BUILD STRONG




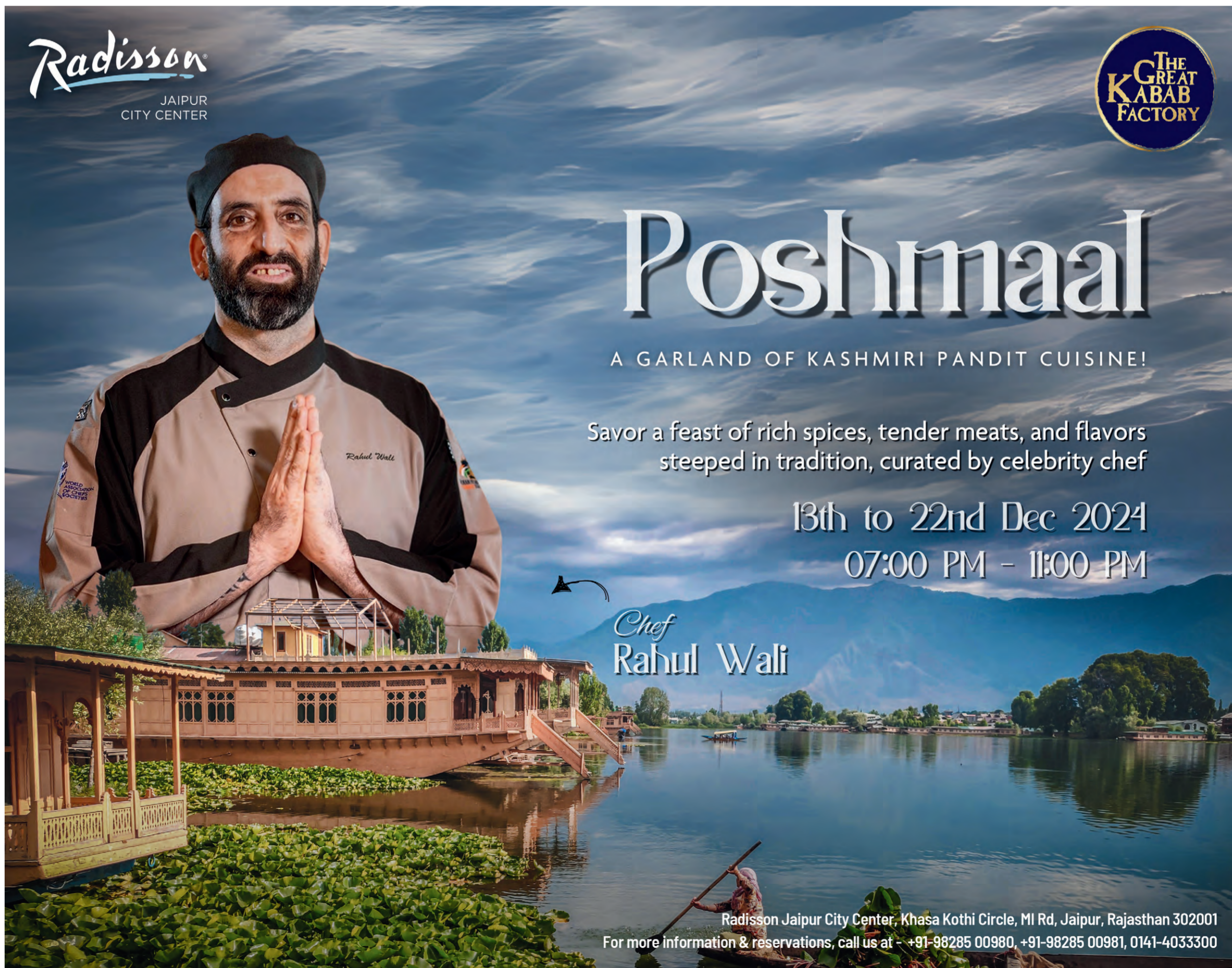
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PM Modi pays tributes to Raj Kapoor on 100th birth anniversary

Agencies
New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to legendary Bollywood actor and filmmaker Raj Kapoor on his 100th birth anniversary on Saturday, recognising his profound impact on Indian cinema and his global legacy. In a post on X, the Prime Minister described Kapoor as a "visionary filmmaker, actor, and the eternal showman" whose work continues to inspire generations of filmmakers and actors.

100th birth anniversary of the legendary Raj Kapoor, a visionary filmmaker, actor, and the eternal showman! His genius transcended generations, leaving an indelible mark on Indian and global cinema," Modi wrote on X. The Prime Minister also reflected on Kapoor's early passion for cinema and his tireless efforts to establish himself as a "pioneering storyteller." Kapoor's films, which blended artistry, emotion, and social commentary, captured the aspirations and struggles of ordinary people. "His films were a blend of artistry, emotion, and even social commentary. They reflected the aspirations and struggles of common citizens," Modi added.

Modi highlighted how Kapoor's iconic characters, unforgettable melodies, and social themes continue to resonate with audiences across the globe. "The iconic characters and unforgettable melodies of Raj Kapoor films continue to resonate with audiences worldwide. People admire how his works highlight diverse themes with ease and excellence. The music of his films is also extremely popular," the Prime Minister noted.



The iconic characters and unforgettable melodies of Raj Kapoor films continue to resonate with audiences worldwide. People admire how his works highlight diverse themes with ease and excellence.

NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

You are cutting thumb of the youth of this country: Rahul

ANI
New Delhi

Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Saturday attacked the central government and said that the government is "cutting off" the thumb of youths by "handing over" various sectors to the industrialist. During a discussion on the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of India, Lok Sabha LoP mentioned his last speech in which he described the Mahabharata and called themselves the defenders of the idea of the Constitution.



Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi with Congress MPs K.C. Venugopal and Gaurav Gogoi in the House.

He narrates the story of Eklavya and alleges that by bringing in lateral entry into government jobs they are chopping off the thumb of youth

"I described, in my first speech, the idea of a battle taking place, I described the Mahabharata, described Kurukshetra. There is a battle taking place today in India. On this side (Opposition side) are the defenders of the idea of the Constitution. From each state we have one, if you ask us Tamil Nadu - we will tell you Periyar, if you ask us Karnataka - we will say Basavanna, if you ask us Maharashtra - we will say Phule ji, Ambedkar ji, if you ask us Gujarat - we will say Mahatma

Gandhi. You praise these people hesitatingly because you have to. But the truth is that you want India to be run the way it used to be run earlier," Rahul Gandhi said in Lok Sabha. He narrates the story of Eklavya and alleges that by bringing in lateral entry into government jobs they are chopping off the thumb of youth, backward class people, poor. "This is Abhayamudra. Confidence, strength and fearlessness come through skill, through thumb. These people are against this. The manner in which Dronacharya cut off the thumb of Eklavya, you are busy cutting off the thumb of the entire nation," the LoP said.



PM UPHELD SPIRIT OF CONSTITUTION, SAYS KIREN RIJJU



Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju on Saturday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi upheld the spirit of the Constitution, by giving the mantra of Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Prayas. Initiating the debate on the Constitution on the second day, Kiren Rijju said, "India not only provides legal protection to minorities but also has provisions for affirmative action."

BJP LEADERS MOCK RAHUL GANDHI'S SPEECH IN LOK SABHA FOR HIS 'TAPASYA' REMARK

Leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Friday mocked the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi for some of the comments in the Congress leader's speech. BJP spokesperson and MP Sambit Patra and the party's IT department head Amit Malviya posted bits of the video of Gandhi's speech on X to mock him. They criticised Gandhi for saying that "tapasya" is meant to "generate heat in the body" during his speech.

PRIYANKA GANDHI SLAMS GOVT FOR NOT PROVIDING RELIEF PACKAGE TO WAYANAD

Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday accused the Centre of denying assistance to landslides-affected people of Wayanad due to politics and asserted that there should be no discrimination in times of natural disasters. Her remarks came after MPs from Kerala, including Wayanad MP Priyanka Gandhi, staged a protest in Parliament premises on Saturday.



Dec 19: Shah to chair security meet on J&K

ANI
New Delhi

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is likely to chair a high-level security meeting in the national capital on December 19, official sources said on Saturday.

The officials, privy to the development, told ANI that the meeting will primarily focus on critical security issues, with a special emphasis on the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha will also attend the meeting, which aims to review strategies to ensure peace and stability in Jammu and Kashmir.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Union Home Secretary Govind



Union Home Minister Amit Shah

chaired a similar high-level review meeting on security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir here in the national capital on June 16.

The meeting is significant in terms of Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Central government's committed to set an example by cracking down on terrorists through innovative means.

In the previous meeting, the Home Minister had directed security agencies to replicate the successes achieved in Kashmir valley through an area domination plan and zero terror plan in the Jammu division.

Shah had also directed all security agencies in earlier meetings to work in a mission mode and ensure quick response in a coordinated manner.

Mohan, Director, of Intelligence Bureau Tapan Deka, Senior Army Officers including Chief of Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi, Director General of CAPFs, Chief Secretary, DGP of Jammu and Kashmir and other senior officers are expected to attend the meeting which is being arranged almost five months after Shah

People of Delhi have faith in Kejriwal, they do not need anyone else: Sisodia

PTI
Katra

Senior Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Manish Sisodia on Saturday expressed confidence of former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal returning to power in the national capital after the assembly elections, saying "the people of Delhi have faith in Kejriwal and they do not need anyone else". On his return from the

Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, the former deputy chief minister of Delhi slammed the BJP over Delhi's "deteriorating law and order situation". "The Aam Aadmi Party has fought all the elections without any alliance with the Congress, whether it was in 2013, 2015 or 2019 and we will fight the upcoming election alone as well," Sisodia, who had reached the shrine atop Trikuta hills in Reasi district on Friday.

Congress must earn its place as INDIA bloc leader: Omar

PTI
Srinagar

Acknowledging growing discontent among INDIA bloc partners with the Congress, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has asked the party to justify its leadership role in the alliance instead of taking it for granted.

Abdullah, while recognising the Congress' significant position as a pan-India party and the largest opposition in Parliament, emphasised that leadership "has to be earned" and cannot be taken for granted. He also suggested that the party should raise the issue of restoration of statehood in Jammu and Kashmir.

"By virtue of being the single largest party in Parliament, and also having the leader of opposition in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, the fact that they have a pan-India footprint, which no other party can lay claim to, they are natural sort of leaders of an opposition movement," Abdullah told PTI in his first interview after becoming the chief minister in October. Still, Abdullah praised Sonia Gandhi, describing her as a leader of unparalleled stature

Bhagwat visits Kanaka Durga Temple in AP

ANI
Vijayawada

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat visited the Kanaka Durga Temple in Andhra Pradesh's Vijayawada on Saturday. Andhra Pradesh endowments minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy received the RSS chief. Ramanarayana Reddy said that it was an honour for him to receive Bhagwat, adding that protection of Hindu sentiments is part of his responsibility. "RSS chief Mohan



Bhagwat visited the Kanaka Durga Temple. It is an honour for me to receive him...Hinduism and the protection of Hindu sentiments are part of my responsibility," Ramanarayana Reddy told ANI.

IF NO SCRUTINY...

'Degeneration of institutions, individuals assured'

PTI
New Delhi

Institutions and individuals will degenerate if there is no scrutiny, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Saturday underscoring the importance of expression and dialogue for a democracy to thrive. "... audit, self-audit is very important. The surest way to bring about degeneration of an individual or an institution, (is to) keep it or the gentleman or gentle lady

from scrutiny. You are beyond scrutiny, your degeneration is assured. And therefore, self-audit, an audit beyond self, is essential," he said.

Dhankhar, who faces a no-trust notice from the opposition parties for allegedly being partisan in his role as chairman of Parliament's upper house Rajya Sabha, was speaking at the 50th Foundation Day programme of Indian Post & Telecommunication Accounts and Finance Service (IP&TAFS) here. Communications min-



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and Union Minister of Communications Jyotiraditya M. Scindia during the 50th foundation day function of Indian Post & Telecommunications Accounts and Finance Services, in New Delhi on Saturday.

ister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia was also present at the event. As many as 60 MPs from Congress and other

opposition parties earlier this week submitted the notice, the first such move in the country's history.

SYSTEMIC SOLUTION TO STUBBLE BURNING NEEDED: DHANKHAR

Vice-President, Dhankhar called for finding a systemic solution to stubble burning and said that it should not be left to individuals. Speaking at the National Energy Conservation Day Function 2024, Dhankhar said, "The National Capital suffers every year due to burning stubble. We must get into innovation mode and find a systemic solution."



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Centre revises air pollution control plan for Delhi-NCR, tightens curbs

- STRICTER GRAP 3 MEASURES ENFORCED FOR DELHI-NCR POLLUTION
- DIESEL VEHICLES BANNED IN DELHI, NCR UNDER NEW RESTRICTIONS
- SCHOOLS TO SHIFT TO HYBRID LEARNING UNDER GRAP STAGE 3



Agencies
New Delhi

The Centre has revised its air pollution control plan for Delhi-NCR to tackle the worsening air quality during the winter months. The new measures include mandatory hybrid learning for schools on days with severe pollution and restrictions on inter-state buses, with exceptions for electric, CNG, and BS-VI diesel vehicles.

Under the updated Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), stricter restrictions will be enforced based on the air quality index (AQI), which categorises pollution into four stages. For Stage II (Very Poor), inter-state buses will face entry bans unless they meet environmental standards. Stage III will see further restrictions, including the banning of BS-IV diesel vehicles, except

those carrying essential goods. Schools in Delhi and surrounding districts will shift to hybrid learning for younger students, with higher classes also switching to hybrid mode if the AQI hits Stage IV levels. The revised plan mandates hybrid learning for schools on days with severe pollution, restricts non-electric and non-CNG inter state buses, and imposes limits on diesel vehicles.

Under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), Stage III restrictions include banning BS-IV diesel vehicles and staggering public office timings. These steps aim to improve air quality and protect public health during Delhi's challenging winter pollution season. Additionally, public offices in Delhi-NCR may have staggered timings to reduce exposure.

IIT REPORT FLAGS FLOOD, DROUGHT RISK IN 11 BIHAR, KERALA, ODISHA DISTRICTS

At least 11 districts, including Patna, Alappuzha and Kendrapara, are at a "very high" risk for both floods and droughts, necessitating immediate intervention, according to a climate risk assessment report compiled by two IITs. The report was released by the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Guwahati and Mandi, in collaboration with the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), Bengaluru. According to the report titled "District-Level Climate Risk Assessment for India: Mapping Flood and Drought Risks Using IPCC Framework", vulnerable regions include Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, Odisha, and Jammu and Kashmir.

'DILLI CHALO' MARCH



Security personnel use water cannons to disperse farmers agitating at Shambhu border, in Patiala district of Punjab on Saturday. PTI

Tear gas, water cannon used against farmers

Agencies
Patiala

Farmers have paused their walk to Delhi after Haryana Police used tear gas and water cannons to disperse them at the Haryana-Punjab border today. At least 10 farmers were injured today. A group of 101 farmers resumed their 'Delhi chalo' foot march at noon, pressing the government for the fulfillment of their demands, including a legal guarantee for the Minimum Support Price (MSP).



An injured farmer being carried after security personnel fired tear gas shells to disperse agitating farmers at Shambhu border.

Congress leader and wrestler, Bajrang Punia, joined the farmers at the Shambhu border. "On one hand the government is saying that we are not stopping the farmers, but on the other hand, they are using tear gas and other things. It is being treated as if it is the Pakistan border. When leaders go to Delhi to protest, do they take permission?" he said.

It is the third attempt by the protesting farmers to march towards the national capital since December 6. They were earlier not allowed to proceed by security personnel in Haryana on December 6 and

December 8. Ahead of their planned march today, the Haryana government suspended mobile internet and bulk SMS services in 12 villages of Ambala till December 17.

Pak-based terrorist among 7 charged in two terror cases

PTI
Jammu

Seven people, including a Pakistan-based terrorist, were chargesheeted by police in two separate militancy-related cases in the Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir, a senior police officer said on Saturday.

The officer said all the accused have "covertly or overtly" supported the terrorist groups by providing them food and other logistic things

Safder Ali, Mubashar Hussain and Sajad Ahmad of the Tanta-Kahara area -- who have been charged under multiple sections of law including several provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, SSP said.

In the second case, Mehta said four other individuals were charge sheeted in another FIR lodged at Bharderwah Police Station.

The accused include Mohd Rafi and a terrorist Mohd Amin Bhat alias Khubaib who is currently operating from Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir, he said, adding the charges were framed under various sections of law including the UAPA and Indian Arms Act.

The first case, registered early this year at Gandoh Police Station involves three accused --

RG Kar Hospital case protest



Activists participate in a protest against CBI officials for being unable to produce charge sheet against former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital Sandip Ghosh and former Officer in Charge of Tala Police station Abhijit Mondal, in Kolkata on Saturday.

RBI raises collateral-free agri loan limit to ₹2L to aid farmers

Agriculture experts see this as a crucial step in improving credit accessibility and promoting economic growth

Agencies
New Delhi

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the collateral-free loan limit for farmers from Rs 1.6 lakh to Rs 2 lakh, effective January 1, 2025. This decision is designed to provide better financial support to small and marginal farmers facing increasing input costs.

The new directive mandates that banks across the country waive

collateral and margin requirements for loans up to Rs 2 lakh per borrower for agricultural and allied activities.

The agriculture ministry stated that the decision is a response to increasing input costs and aims to enhance credit accessibility for farmers.

"This measure will significantly benefit over 86 per cent of farmers who are small and marginal landholders," the



The new announcement will be effective from January 1, 2025.

statement added.

Banks have been directed to implement the

new guidelines promptly and ensure widespread awareness about the up-

dated loan provisions. This move is designed to streamline access to Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loans, making it easier for farmers to obtain financial support.

It also complements the government's Modified Interest Subvention Scheme, which offers loans up to Rs 3 lakh at a favourable 4 per cent effective interest rate.

The initiative is regarded as a key step in fostering financial inclu-

sion within the agricultural sector, offering farmers much-needed flexibility to invest in their operations, enhance productivity, and ultimately improve their livelihoods.

By addressing inflationary pressures on farming input costs, this measure seeks to ease the financial burden on small and marginal farmers, who comprise a significant portion of India's farming community.

INSPIRING NATIONAL INITIATIVE

Mandaviya set to launch 'Fit India Cycling Tuesdays'

PTI
New Delhi

Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya will flag off the 'Fit India Cycling Tuesdays' initiative on December 17 at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium here

The 'Fit India Cycling Tuesdays' initiative will spread to over 100 venues across India on December 17, with simultaneous events happening across the Sports Authority of India regional centres.

The initiative will be continued in the form of cycling events taking place every Tuesday across the nation following the launch.

Veteran Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor also threw his weight behind the initiative on his social media platforms to encourage nationwide participation in the upcoming cycling event.

"Get fit, go green! Join Fit India Cycling Tuesdays starting December 17th and be part of a nationwide movement that's good for you and



Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya wrote on X, "Let's unite and take part in this inspiring national initiative".

even better for the planet. Let's ride together for fitness, for India, and for a

cleaner tomorrow. Main toh shuru kar raha hoon, aap kab join karenge?

Register now on the Fit India Portal and let's cycle to keep ourselves and the environment fit!" Kapoor posted on his social media handles.

In response on 'X', sports minister wrote: "Great to see you also supporting the Fit India movement! Let's unite and take part in this inspiring national initiative."

"Ride not just for your fitness but for the well-being of our nation and our planet. Together, let's embrace harness the power of cycling for a

healthier and sustainable future."

Commonwealth Games (CWG) gold medalist boxer Nitu Ghanghas also shared an Instagram post, emphasising the event's potential to combat pollution and create a brighter future.

Fit India champion Manas Saha and kettlebell sports athlete Anshu Taravath have also voiced their support, highlighting the dual benefits of fitness and environmental sustainability.

Now, six Delhi schools get hoax bomb threat

This is the third incident this week

Agencies
New Delhi

At least six schools including DPS RK Puram received bomb threats on Saturday, which were later declared hoaxes.

Police sources said the email was sent around 1.47 am. Cops were alerted around 6.30 am, and the bomb squad, along with canine squads, rushed to six schools located in South, South West Delhi, and other areas. Thorough checks



were conducted, and nothing was found. The threats were declared hoaxes.

The incident came a day after 30 schools received bomb threats on Friday, and a similar incident was reported on December 9 when 44 schools received threats.

In US People from Punjab, Guj, AP form majority of undocumented Indians

18,000 Indians at risk of being deported under Trump's watch

First India Bureau
New Delhi

As the US prepares for President-elect Donald Trump to take office next month, nearly 18,000 undocumented Indians have been identified for deportation, according to recent data from the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The list includes 17,940 Indians among the 1.445 million individuals with final orders of removal.

Undocumented Indians in the US face significant hurdles in legalizing their status. Many are entangled in lengthy legal processes, with case hearings scheduled years into the future. ICE reports reveal that over the past three financial years, an average of 90,000 Indians were apprehended while attempting to cross US borders illegally. Local immigration experts suggest that a significant



President-elect Donald Trump is set to take office next month, and his administration is already intensifying efforts to enforce stricter immigration policies.

ICE's list of 208 nations with undocumented immigrants in the US. While Honduras leads the list with 261,000 undocumented individuals, followed by Guatemala with 253,000, India is among the few Asian countries on the list, alongside China, which has 37,908 undocumented nationals in the US.

ICE has categorized India as "uncooperative," citing delays in coordination by Indian authorities in verifying citizenship and issuing travel documents. This lack of cooperation complicates the deportation process. ICE expects countries to confirm citizenship, conduct interviews, and facilitate the return of their nationals via commercial or charter flights.

India is one of 15 nations classified as uncooperative, alongside countries like Pakistan, China, Iran, and Venezuela.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

- US President-elect Donald Trump has asked the administration to tell the public about the mysterious drones that were spotted in New Jersey or shoot them down

- The unusual thing seen in the skies of New Jersey and around the country has become the town's new buzz, and now the President-elect has also commented on it

- Taking his Truth Social account, Trump said, "Mystery Drone sightings all over the Country. Can this really be happening without our government's knowledge. I don't think so! Let the public know, and now. Otherwise, shoot them down!!! DJT"

- Apple, Google told by US to remove TikTok from app stores

TECH LEADERS CONTINUE OUTREACH TO TRUMP

West Palm Beach: Donald Trump hosted Apple CEO Tim Cook for an evening dinner at the president-elect's Mar-a-Lago resort. Cook is the latest in a string of big tech leaders - including OpenAI's Sam Altman, Meta's Mark Zuckerberg and Amazon's Jeff Bezos - who have sought to improve their standing with the incoming president after choppy relations with him during his first term.

portion of these individuals hail from Punjab, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh, states with high migration trends. India ranks 13th on



Palestinians inspect the site of an Israeli strike on a school sheltering displaced people, amid the Israel-Hamas conflict, in Gaza City on Saturday.

More than 15 killed in Israeli Gaza strikes

Agencies
Cairo

At least 18 Palestinians were killed in Israeli airstrikes in Gaza on Saturday, medics said, while the Israeli military said it targeted gunmen operating from shelters and aid storages. At least 10 people were killed in an airstrike near the municipality building in Deir Al-Balah in the central Gaza Strip where people gathered to receive aid.

Casualties were being carried by foot, on rickshaws and private cars from the site of the attack to the hospital, medics said. The strike killed the head of the Hamas-run administrative committee in central Gaza, a Hamas source said. The Israeli military was looking into the report, a spokesperson said. Earlier, Israeli aircraft struck militants and weapon caches near an aid warehouse.

"HEARD SOUNDS OF ROCKETS, BULLETS EVERY DAY": INDIAN RESCUED FROM SYRIA



New Delhi: Four Indians evacuated from Syria arrived at Delhi airport. Indian nationals have expressed happiness on reaching India and praised Indian embassy for their efforts in bringing them back home. This action of the embassy comes as part of India's ongoing efforts to protect its citizens caught in the violence in Syria. Speaking to reporters after reaching Delhi airport, the Indian national said, "I went there 15-20 days ago. We did not know this would happen. The Indian Embassy evacuated us. First we took us to Lebanon and then Goa and today we have reached Delhi. We are happy that we have reached our country. The Indian Embassy helped us a lot. They brought us in a bus from Syria to Lebanon as flights are not operating in Syria." Another Indian national said that the situation there was very critical and that every day they had heard the sounds of rockets and bullets.

India demands probe after 3 Indian students murdered in Canada

First India Bureau
New Delhi

India described the recent murder of three Indian students in Canada as "terrible tragedies" and said its high commission in Ottawa has taken up the matter of safety of Indians with the Canadian authorities.

The safety, security and welfare of Indian nationals in Canada remains of utmost importance to us, external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

New Delhi has demanded a thorough investigation into the killing of the three Indians.

"In the last week or so we have had unfortunate tragedies. Three Indian students have been murdered. We are saddened at these terrible tragedies that have struck our nationals in Canada," Jaiswal said.

"We extend our deepest condolences to the grieving families. Our High Commission and Consulates in Toronto and Vancouver are extending all possible help," he said.



Randhir Jaiswal

GOVT URGES INDIANS TO EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION IN CANADA

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said,

"We have also issued an advisory for our nationals and Indian students to exercise extreme caution and remain vigilant in the way of deteriorating security environment in Canada as a result of the growing incidents of hate crimes". He added, "There are approximately over 450,000 (4.5 lakh) Indian students in Canada. Of all the Indian students studying abroad, Canada makes up the majority of it. Apart from that, the Indian community in Canada is also very huge. We had issued an advisory a while back for Indians in Canada, warning them of the dire situation there".

Sri Lankan Prez Dissanayake to visit India from Dec 15-17

PTI
Colombo

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake will undertake a three-day visit to India from Sunday, his first overseas visit after assuming office. During his visit, Dissanayake will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Droupadi Murmu.

He will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath and Deputy Minister of Finance Anil Jayantha Fernando.

Dissanayake's visit to India is expected to further bolster the multifaceted and mutually beneficial bilateral ties, the Ministry of External Affairs said. Issues relating to maritime security cooperation are likely to figure in talks during Dissanayake's visit, it said.



For Mahakumbh Mela



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with Non-Executive Director of Reliance Industries Limited, Anant M. Ambani during a meeting, in Mumbai on Saturday.

BJP govt took effective action against paper leaks: Rathore

First India Bureau
Gangapur City

Minister-in-Charge Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore visited Gangapur City to participate in events marking the completion of one year of the state government on Saturday. Addressing a press conference, Minister Rathore remarked that under the previous Congress gov-

ernment, "paper leaks had turned into an industry." He said that the BJP government has taken effective action against paper leaks and cheating syndicates. Commenting on the existence of the new districts, the minister said, "Governance is often easier to manage at a smaller level, but the decision on the existence of districts will be made by the Cabinet Committee."

TO STRENGTHEN MARITIME TIES

Navy Chief Dinesh Tripathi to visit Indonesia

First India Bureau
New Delhi

Adm Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of Naval Staff (CNS), is on a four day official visit to Indonesia from Dec 15 to 18. This visit is part of ongoing efforts to further consolidate bilateral defence relations between India and Indonesia, in line with the deepening Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, with a focus on enhancing Naval Cooperation.

During the visit, the CNS is scheduled to en-

gage in bilateral discussions with top level Indonesian Government and defence officials including Lt Gen Sjafrie Sjamsuddin (retd), Defence Minister of Indonesia, General Agus Subiyanto, Commander of Indonesian Armed Forces and Admiral Muhammad Ali, Chief of Staff of Indonesian Navy. The discussions are expected to cover a broad spectrum of defence cooperation areas, particularly maritime security, joint training initiatives, and exploring avenues for further strengthening the opera-



Chief of Navy Staff Adm Dinesh K Tripathi

tional collaboration between the two navies.

The visit underscores the strong maritime relations between the two countries conforming to

The visit from Dec 15 to 18 underscores the strong maritime relations between the two countries conforming to the shared vision of India-Indonesia Maritime Cooperation in the Indo Pacific

the shared vision of India-Indonesia Maritime Cooperation in the Indo Pacific. The existing maritime cooperation between the two Navies

encompasses a range of activities, including joint exercises, port visits, and training initiatives aimed at building capacity. Currently, the 43rd India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol is underway (10-18 Dec) along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL).

Adm Dinesh K Tripathi's engagements in Indonesia are expected to further strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two navies, ensuring enhanced collaboration in areas of mutual interest.



1,000 interviews and counting for challenge

RPSC Member Colonel Kesari Singh has issued an open challenge, which is currently going viral on social media through a poster. Since his appointment, Colonel Kesari Singh has conducted 1,000 interviews. Regarding these interviews, he has openly challenged the impartiality and quality of the process. He stated, "If any selected candidate fails to meet the skill and quality standards set by the government, I am ready to resign from my position."

Raj: Justice Garg conducts inspection

Justice Manoj Kumar Garg of the Rajasthan High Court conducted an inspection of the Bal Shobha Griha registered by the Child Rights Department. He reviewed the facilities and arrangements provided for the children and inspired them through storytelling. Justice Garg emphasized the importance of hard work and perseverance, stating, "One should never shy away from hard work and struggle. It is through dedication and effort that we can build a bright future and become better individuals."

Following a kid's death, 73 open wells & borewells covered in Dausa dist

Dausa: Following the Kalikhad incident, the Dausa administration has become vigilant, with the district administration taking

the lead in the issue. A major campaign has been launched to cover open wells and borewells across the district. Today, 73 open wells and borewells

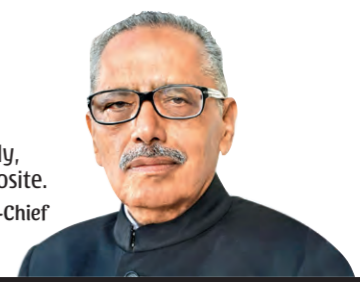
were covered. District Collector Devendra Kumar has been continuously working on this campaign, and dedicating efforts to ensure its success.

FIRST INDIA 2ND FRONT

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Give & Forget and Take & Remember - this is the mantra for a balanced happy life but unfortunately, the majority of humanity today practises the opposite.

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



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Mirch Masala

FIRST INDIA SUNDAY SPECIAL

By Tridib Raman
The author is a journalist and political commentator and views expressed are his personal

ELON MUSK'S SATELLITE PHONE READY TO ENTER INDIA

World's richest entrepreneur Elon Musk is preparing to expand his influence in India by launching his satellite phone service by the end of January. Recently, Musk played a key role in ensuring Donald Trump's victory in the recent U.S. Presidential elections. Clearly, pleasing Musk would be a move to bring a smile to Trump's face, whether intentionally or unintentionally. Musk's company, Starlink, is fully prepared to enter India. Initially, Musk will focus on the communication and electric vehicle sectors. Notably, just last week, Musk launched 23 new LEO satellites from Florida via his SpaceX



company to begin satellite-based services in India. The most important aspect is that 13 of these 23 satellites have "Direct to Cell" capability, which allows them to connect directly with mobile phones without the need for special equipment or mobile towers. This means that even in remote areas of India without mobile towers, users can stay connected using these satellite phones, making calls or accessing internet services. Recently, Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia announced that his ministry is ready to grant Starlink an internet service license on a first-come, first-served basis in India.

WHO WILL TAKE OVER JDU AFTER NITISH?

There is ongoing speculation about who will succeed Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and take over the leadership of JDU. Concerns about Nitish's health have also arisen. Two names are being discussed as his potential successors: Sanjay Jha, the party's acting national president, and Rajiv Ranjan aka Lalan Singh, a minister in the Modi government. Sanjay Jha has very good relations with the BJP's top leadership. As party president, he is frequently touring the state ahead of the upcoming Bihar elections and is working to strengthen the JDU organization. However, a faction within JDU is worried that if Sanjay Jha has his way in ticket distribution, he might implement a plan from the BJP, which wants JDU to give tickets to BJP leaders capable of winning the majority of seats. This could eventually make the merger of JDU with BJP easier. The most surprising aspect is that allegedly, Lalan Singh is fully supporting Jha's highly ambitious plan from behind the scenes.

HEMANT SOREN'S TRUST IN CONGRESS

Though Hemant Soren may not trust the other alliance partners, he wants to keep Congress satisfied, even if it is at a low price. Talking about the recent Jharkhand assembly elections, Soren had been sceptical about Congress's leadership from the start. He had given Congress 30 seats to contest in bulk, but reports from the field showed that more than half of Congress's candidates were not investing their own money or resources. Sources suggest that immediately after this, Soren directly spoke to Rahul Gandhi, requesting more electoral funds for his candidates and the organization of major events for prominent leaders. However, Congress leadership believed that their candidates could manage the elections on their own. Therefore, when funds did not arrive from Delhi, it is said that Soren personally helped Congress candidates, financially supported them, and held at least two rallies in their respective areas. This is when Congress won 16 seats in Jharkhand. Although Soren rejected Congress's demand for the deputy chief minister's post, he satisfied Congress by giving them four ministerial positions. Therefore, it is not surprising that Congress legislators in Jharkhand have such trust in Soren.

INCREASING TRUST IN MAMATA WITHIN OPPOSITION ALLIANCE

It seems that Congress, which faced defeat in Haryana and Maharashtra, has also lost the trust of its alliance partners. Now, the allies of Congress-led I.N.D.I. Alliance are looking to Rahul Gandhi to break this new deadlock. Everyone knows that the masterminds behind this new cycle are the top industrialists whom Rahul has constantly criticized from Parliament to the streets. Now, some political parties are actively working to show Rahul's Congress the door from the I.N.D.I.A. These leaders are advocating to transfer the leadership the I.N.D.I.A. from Kharge to Mamata. Leaders like Lalu Yadav, Sharad Pawar, and Akhilesh Yadav are all in favour of making Mamata Banerjee the leader of the alliance. Even leaders like Jagan Mohan Reddy, who has now distanced himself from BJP, are inadvertently taking steps in Mamata's favour. Surprisingly, in Andhra's politics, Chandrababu Naidu, the bitter rival of Jagan's TDM, is also counted among Mamata's supporters. Though Naidu currently supports gov, he has hinted that if Mamata takes charge, he may consider switching sides.

A COLOURFUL CONTEST BETWEEN BJP AND AAP FOR BATTLE IN DELHI

This time, in Delhi, it is a do-or-die battle between the BJP and AAP. In the midst of this, AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal has sought advice from astrologers. Acting on the advice of one of his trusted astrologers, Kejriwal has changed the colour of his party's election symbol, the broom, from white to black. Following the saying "Buri nazar wale tera muh kala", all of AAP's campaign materials now feature a black broom instead of a white one. However, the party has not provided any explanation for this change. Meanwhile, the BJP has also geared up for its victory in Delhi this time.

Raj govt to enhance safety with modern buses & live passenger tracking: Bairwa

Lokesh Vaishnav
Pushkar

The Bhajan Lal govt is fully committed to realizing dream of a developed Rajasthan, and demands of the Roadways employees will be fulfilled soon. This assurance was given by the Deputy CM & Transport Minister, Prem Chand Bairwa, during his visit to



Dy CM Dr Prem Chand Bairwa in Pushkar on Saturday.

Pushkar on Saturday. Bairwa was attending the 16th Triennial State Convention of the Ra-

jasthan Transport Corporation Employee Union. Bairwa stated that the government is sensitive to the interests of employees and passengers. He added that now, passengers will be able to track the live location of their elderly, differently-abled, women, and children family members. Modern buses are being included in the fleet to improve safety.

CM Sharma and other ministers at Mahila Sammelan in Udaipur

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma highlights women empowerment initiatives

Ravi Sharma
Udaipur

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma launched several initiatives for women's empowerment and welfare in Udaipur on Saturday. He announced 500 Kalika Patrolling Units for women's safety, approved 250 units in the first phase, and launched the RSRTC Panic Button project. Under the 'Lado Protsahan Yojana,' Rs 2,500 was transferred to one lakh beneficiaries, and LPG subsidies were rolled out. The CM increased Anganwadi workers' honorariums, initiated milk distribution under the Amrit Aahar Yojana, and approved new Anganwadi centres.

Electric cooking systems, revolving funds for SHGs, and loans through Mahila Nidhi Bank were also distributed. Scooters and cycles were provided to girl students, and welfare kits were distributed to specially-abled beneficiaries. Deputy CM Diya Kumari and other ministers commended these efforts, emphasizing the state's commitment to women's progress and empowerment.



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, Dy CM Diya Kumari, Ministers Babu Lal Kharadi, Hemant Meena, Manju Baghmar and MLAs Udaial Dangi and Shrichand Kriplani during the launch of 'Lado Protsahan Yojana' at Gandhi Ground in Udaipur on Saturday.



While returning from the Mahila Sammelan, CM Bhajan Lal Sharma had a discussion with Babu Lal Kharadi and Shrichand Kriplani while sipping tea at the Rajwadi tea stall located on Bhuwana Road in Udaipur on Saturday.

CM, ANIL AGARWAL TO LAY FOUNDATION STONE IN DEEG

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma will visit Poonchari Ka Lotha on Sunday to celebrate his birthday. He will lay the foundation stone for development projects, offer prayers at Shri Nathji Temple, and address a public meeting. The visit begins at 8:15 AM with strong security arrangements in place. Hindustan Zinc, under Anil Agarwal's leadership, has contributed Rs 250 crore through CSR for these initiatives, boosting region's development. Minister in charge Suresh Rawat reviewed the preps.

Ravi Katara

CM SHARMA TO LAUNCH 3 JDA HOUSING SCHEMES & E-SIGN SERVICE TODAY

Jaipur: Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma will launch three major JDA schemes on Sunday. The launch will include Atal Vihar on Kalwar Road, Govind Vihar in Govindpura Ropada, and Patel Vihar in Khori Ropada.

Together, these schemes will offer approximately 756 plots. Applications for these JDA schemes will need to be submitted online. CM Sharma will also launch the e-sign service for name transfers. With this service, applicants will no

longer need to visit JDA for submitting online applications or collecting name transfer documents. The name transfer certificate will be made available directly on the JDA portal and will feature an e-signed name transfer document.

Dy CM orders action against officials for poor road quality

Nirmal Tiwari
Udaipur/Rajsamand

Deputy CM Diya Kumari is serious about the quality of roads in the state and is continuously ensuring that there is no negligence in construction works. On Friday, Diya Kumari visited Nathdwara, and before attending the state-level Women's Conference in Udaipur on Saturday, she conducted a surprise inspection of roads. Accompanying her were Kumbhalgarh MLA Surendra Rathore, ADM Raksha Parik, PWD Adtl Chief Engineer Ashok Kumar Sharma, Superintending Engineer Magni Ram Raigar, and others.

The Deputy CM inspected the Gunjol-Ku-



Dy CM Diya Kumari inspecting the exhibition of PWD dept at State level celebration of Raj govt's first anniv in Udaipur on Saturday.

choli road in Nathdwara sub-division area and expressed strong dissatisfaction with the substandard construction work, reprimanding the officials. At the site in front of the Govt Girls' Senior Secondary School in Kucholi, the Deputy CM called for the Udaipur XEN Quality Control office's testing

machine and checked the road's quality on the spot. Due to deficiencies found in road, she ordered the APO of Junior Engineer Jitesh Vyas and Assistant Engineer Namit Mishra. Additionally, she directed the issuance of a 17CC notice to Executive Engineer Bhanuprakash Mathur.

Courtesy Meet!



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra greeted Govind Mohan, Union Home Secretary at his office in Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi during a courtesy meeting on Saturday. Dr Chandra also presented him with a copy of the special compilation of 100 First India edits on 'Modi hai to Mumkin hai: Untold stories of PM Narendra Modi' during the meeting.

AHEAD OF PM MODI'S VISIT...

Gehlot questions secrecy of PKC-ERCP MoU

Naresh Sharma
Jaipur

Ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit, former chief minister Ashok Gehlot made a statement regarding the PKC-ERCP scheme.

He said, "Doesn't the public have the right to know about the agreement?" He expressed surprise that there have been continuous demands from the CM regarding the status of the agreement, but the Chief Minister has not commented on it. Gehlot



Ashok Gehlot interacting with media on Saturday.

said, "It is being said that the secret agreement does not include provisions for irrigation." He added, "This is the first time I am hearing



Former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot meets Governor Haribhau Bagade at the Raj Bhawan in Jaipur on Saturday. This was Gehlot's courtesy call on the Governor Bagade.

that government agreements are being kept secret." Commenting on PM Modi's visit, Gehlot further said, "Delays have been deliberately

made in the refinery project," and "Deliberate delays are also being made in the ERCP." Gehlot suggested that those in power want to

credit the previous government for the work. He concluded by saying, "We have never stopped work that serves the public interest."



YOUTH FESTIVAL PLUS 2024!

The much-anticipated Youth Festival Plus 2024, presented by the First India Plus Entertainment, an OTT platform, kicked off its second phase at Diggi Palace on Saturday. **P14-15**

REGAL RADIANCE

Heritage Door, presented by Bharat24 and First India News, will celebrate Rajasthan's art and culture today, December 15, at Hawa Mahal. City First highlights ANUTHHI by Nishant and Preeti, showcasing their regal "JAAN" collection!

Bharat24: Vision of New India and First India News are set to present an extraordinary cultural extravaganza, "Heritage Door," today at the iconic Hawa Mahal in Jaipur. This grand event seeks to honour Rajasthan's vibrant art, culture and heritage while creating a bridge between traditional artistry and modern creativity.

Meticulously curated by an expert team, including Sonali Khandelwal, Shivali Gupta and Priya Dewan, the event is set to leave an indelible mark. Under the creative direction of Show Director Abhimanyu



Mitali Dusad

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Singh Tomar and the strategic oversight of Marketing & Outreach Head Jennifer, every detail has been carefully planned to ensure a seamless production. Adding a touch of

Celebrating Rajasthan's Rich Heritage at Heritage Door

brilliance, the Founders of Tvisha Jewlz, Himanshu and Nikita Khunteta, bring their exceptional craftsmanship to the forefront. Known for their exquisite designs, Tvisha Jewlz will infuse the event with the sparkle of timeless jewellery that complements the cultural ethos of Rajasthan.

Among the designers showcasing their creations is ANUTHHI by Nishant and Preeti, a brand celebrated for blending Indian tradition with modern

aesthetics. Founded in 2010 by Nishant and Preeti Tak, ANUTHHI will unveil their latest collection, "JAAN" – The Indian Baraat. This collection captures the evolving essence of Indian weddings, marrying royal grandeur with modern sophistication. Featuring classic silhouettes, premium fabrics and intricate detailing, the collection offers breathtaking lehengas, elegant sarees, Indowestern outfits and festive ensembles that epitomize Ra-

jasthan's artistic legacy.

Tvisha Jewlz, synonymous with regal opulence and meticulous artistry, will complement ANUTHHI's showcase with jewellery that narrates its own story of heritage and elegance. Each piece reflects the soul of Rajasthan, combining the beauty of traditional craftsmanship with contemporary designs.

Heritage Door is not merely an event; it's a vibrant celebration of Rajasthan's cultural essence. It promises to enchant audiences with its artistic splendour, setting new benchmarks in the fusion of heritage and modernity while bringing the state's glorious traditions to a global stage.



A Spectacular Celebration at Youth Festival Plus 2024

Unleashing YOUTH POWER



Suhani Jain, Lakshita Singh Rathore and Bhumi Ramchandani

The much-anticipated Youth Festival Plus 2024, presented by the First India Plus Entertainment, an OTT platform, kicked off its second phase at the iconic Diggi Palace in Jaipur on Saturday. Spanning two days, December 14 and 15, this vibrant festival aims to empower the youth, nurture their creativity and provide a platform to showcase their exceptional talent. Speaking at the event, Pawan Arora, CEO & Managing Editor of First India News, expressed, "The Youth Festival Plus 2024 is a celebration of creativity, talent and the boundless energy of our youth. At First India News, we believe in empowering young minds by providing them with platforms to showcase their potential and drive innovation. This festival is not just an event; it's a movement to inspire the next generation to dream big and achieve greater heights. Through the dynamic activities, from fashion shows to music and art, we aim to nurture their aspirations and create opportunities that resonate with their ambitions."

The event began with electrifying dance performances, setting a high-energy tone. Ayush Mishra captivated the audience with a tribute to Michael Jackson, while Girish Tiwari's group stunned with an extraordinary Bachata Salsa performance. Following this, a heartwarming Kids' Fashion Show saw children aged 4-12 walk the ramp alongside their mothers, celebrating familial bonds and creativity.

The highlight of the festival was the Fashion Show Competition, featuring participants from renowned universities. 'IIS University, Jaipur' emerged as the first-place winner, receiving a prize of ₹21,000 for their outstanding performance. 'Kamla Poddar Institute, New York School of Fashion NIF Global' secured the second position, earning ₹15,000, while 'Khyati School of Design (Gujarat)' claimed the third spot with a prize of ₹11,000.

The esteemed panel of judges included Rahuf Mansoori, Dr Sulekha Ojha, Deepika Purohit and Manvendra Singh Shekhawat. In addition to the fashion show, the festival hosts a diverse array of activities including Music Concerts, Dance Shows, Art Galleries, Food Festival, Experience Center among others.

The participating institutions in-

Divya Kanwalia

cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

cluded Vivekananda Global University, NIF (New York Institute of Fashion), Kamla Poddar Institute, Kanoria PG Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Arch College of Design and Business, Poddar International College, IIS University, Poomima University, Khyati School of Design (Gujarat) and National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad.

This festival offers students from over 10 prestigious educational institutions in Rajasthan an unparalleled opportunity to showcase their talent. Adding to the event's grandeur, Padmanabh Singh of the erstwhile royal family of Jaipur, serves as the Brand Ambassador, while Paralympian Avani Lekhara, the celebrated Youth Icon, inspires attendees with her remarkable achievements. Youth Festival Plus 2024 continues to be a testament to the vibrant spirit of the youth and their limitless potential.



The event came alive with a stunning traditional Rajasthani cultural performance



Pawan Arora appreciates the artistry of the handmade products displayed at the stall, as Neeta & Gargi among others look upon



Anshika Dubey, Devansh, Diya Pal, Sristi Nayak & Naina wowed the audience with their unique costumes and makeup



Creative spirits soared as people engaged in painting activities at the event



Dr Neera delighted Aastha and Moariv with her signature pastries at the event



Jigyasa Chittora and Rashi Sharma were caught savouring the joy of shopping



Keshav mesmerized the audience with his soulful singing



Mukta, Juhi, Nikita, Neeta, Gargi and Apoorva indulged in a delightful shopping experience



Girish Tiwari and his VLDC team showcased an energetic Bachata dance performance



A delightful kids fashion show captivated everyone with its charm and cuteness



Advit Awasthi



Nishtha & Garima posed gracefully



IIS University students dazzled the audience with a stunning ramp walk



Poomima University students stole the spotlight on the ramp with their breathtaking collection



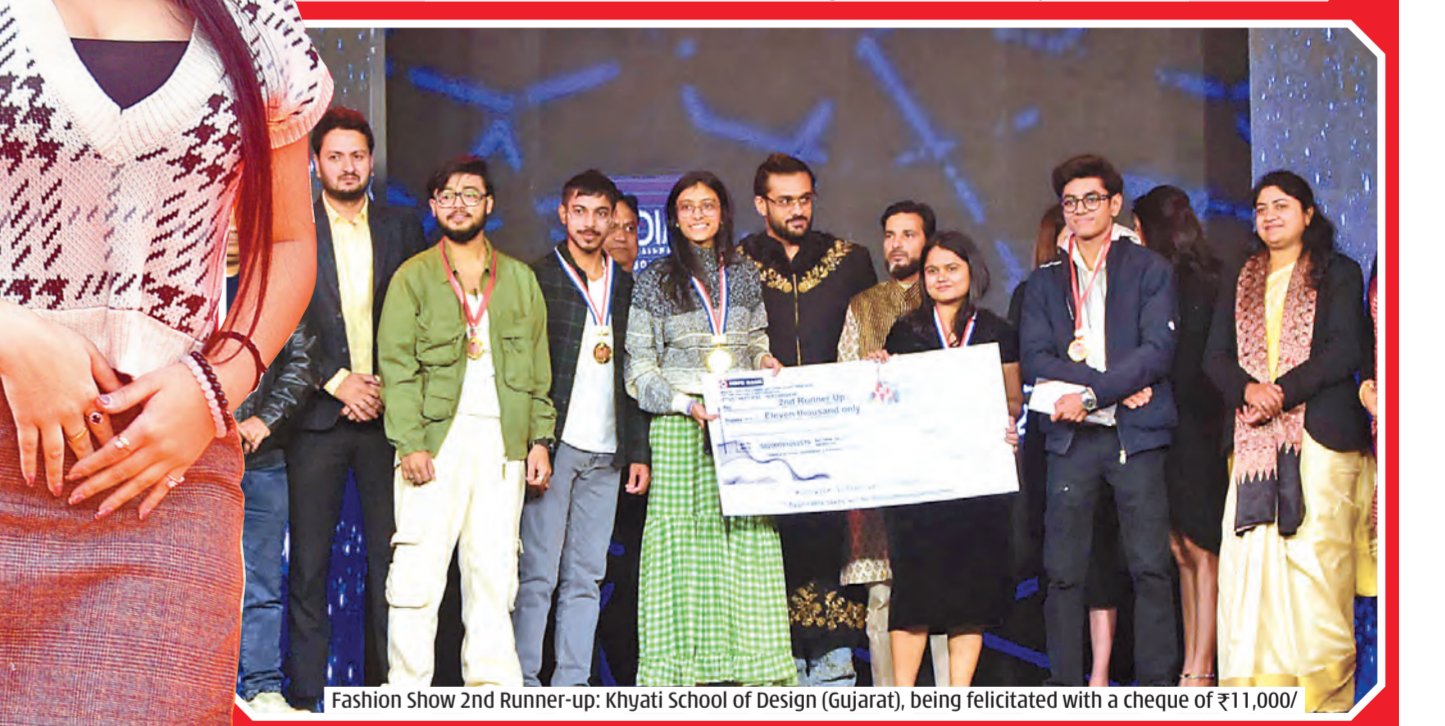
Pawan Arora with Swati Malik, Shweta Mishra Awasthi & baby Advit Awasthi, Indu Rathore, Ashok Raj Singh, Ashish Aman, Rohit Gaur, Divya Kanwalia, Pooja Kanwalia, Shivangi Singh Rao, Kareena Sharma, Manish Dixit, Hemant Sharma, Ghanshyam Karoi, Sanjeev, Jagat Singh, Gaurav and Uday Singh



Fashion Show winners: IIS University Jaipur being felicitated with a cheque of ₹21,000/-



New York School of Fashion NIF-Global, being felicitated with a cheque of ₹15,000/-



Fashion Show 2nd Runner-up: Khyati School of Design (Gujarat), being felicitated with a cheque of ₹11,000/-



Jury members: (l-r) Dr Sulekha Ojha, Manvendra Singh Shekhawat & Dr Deepika Purohit

CULTURAL EXTRAVAGANZA



Purva Naresh and Srinivas Basetti engaging in an insightful discussion during Rang Samvad



A still from the play "30 Days in September"

The 13th Jayaragam Festival, organised by the Three M Dot Bands Theatre Family Society, Department of Art and Culture and Jawahar Kala Kendra, is in full swing on Saturday. The fourth day, the drama 'Sakal Janihe Nath' was staged under the direction of Srinivas Beesetty, featuring a humorous satire on Lord Krishna and Sudama. A Rang Samvad discussion on "Influence of Childhood in Today's Stories" took place with Purva Naresh & Srinivas Beesetty. Other plays included '30 Days in September' directed by Ruchi Bhargava Narula, highlighting child abuse, and 'Karna', directed by Kulwinder Bakshi Singh, which explored the Mahabharata hero's life.

LONGEVITY INSIGHTS!



(L-R) Dr Vikas Swarankar, Dr ML Swarankar, Dr Nir Barzalai & Dr Rajeev Gupta

The Dr KD Gupta Memorial Centenary Oration was held at Mahatma Gandhi University of Medical Sciences and Technology on Saturday. The lecture was delivered by Prof Nir Barzalai, Director of the Institute for Aging Research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, USA. He discussed strategies for healthy ageing and longevity, emphasizing physical and mental health and promoting a balanced lifestyle. Dr ML Swarankar, Dr Vikas Chandra Swarankar, Dr Achal Gulati, Dr Rajeev Gupta, Dr Sanjeev Gupta and others.

Dr Nir Barzalai

Tribute to Raj Kapoor

100th Birth Anniversary



Surenra and Vedhi Vijayvargiya



Mahant Deepak Goswami, Piyush Pawar, Puneet Karnawat, Kalicharan Saraf, Pradeep Jain & Neelam Jain during the lamp lighting ceremony

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The city's chilly winter evening came alive with timeless melodies from Raj Kapoor's iconic films during the grand musical event, "Awaara Hoon." Organised by Rotary Club Jaipur Crown and Rotary Club Jaipur Udaan, this musical tribute marked the 100th birth anniversary of Bollywood's legendary Showman on Saturday. The event kicked off, with a 30-hour musical marathon, running through to the evening of December 15 at the historic



Mayor Puneet Karnawat, MLA Kalicharan Saraf & Vishal Gupta

Albert Hall. Songs like "Awaara Hoon," "Jeena Yahan Marna Yahan," and "Sajan Re Jhooth Mat Bolo" filled the air, evoking nostalgia for Raj Kapoor's cinematic journey.

The celebration saw the presence of notable guests, including MP Manju Sharma, MLA Kalicharan Saraf, Deputy Mayor Puneet Karnawat, and Rotary District Governor Rakhi Gupta. Event Chairman Vishal Gupta and Director Vinod Garg honoured the distinguished guests.

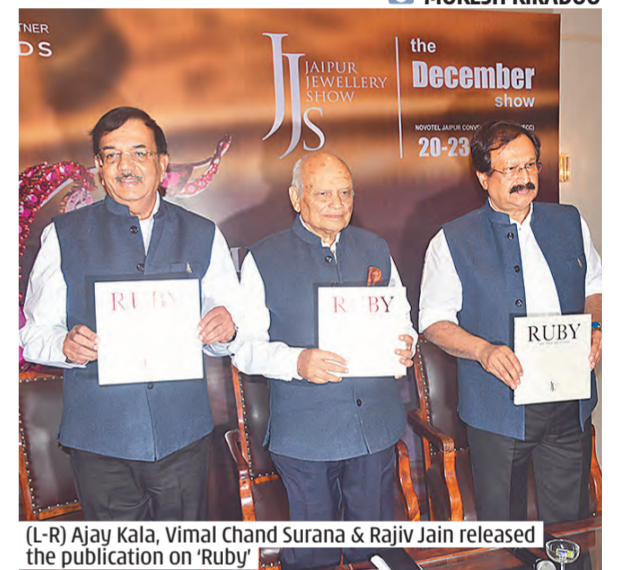
The event featured a mesmerizing performance by Piyush Panwar, an Indian Idol finalist, and witnessed over 250 musicians from cities like Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Gwalior, and Delhi. The event was attended by more than 3,000 Rotarians and music lovers from the city.

GRAND GEM EXTRAVAGANZA

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A press conference was held on Saturday at Clarks Amer, Jaipur, to announce the 22nd edition of the Jaipur Jewellery Show (JJS), themed "Rubies... Rare, Royal, and Revered." The show will be inaugurated on December 20 at JECC, Sitapura, and will run until December 23.

With 1,200+ booths and 50,000 visitors, JJS will showcase gemstones, jewellery, and machinery, featuring international participants from Bangkok and Hong Kong. Highlights include the



(L-R) Ajay Kala, Vimal Chand Surana & Rajiv Jain released the publication on 'Ruby'

JJS-IJ Design Awards by Actress, Vaani Kapoor, the Pink Club Pavilion, and the Jaipur Jewellery Design Festival (JJDF). Sustainability efforts include PET bottle crushers, while visitors can enjoy gala dinners and seamless services.



Members of the Organising Committee of the Jaipur Jewellery Show

IN THE CITY!



Malviya Nagar MLA Kalicharan Saraf distributed 145 bicycles, provided free by the state government, to female students in government schools across the constituency on Saturday. The bicycles were handed out in three schools: Gandhi Nagar Girls School (75), Bai Ji Ki Kothi (45) and Panchvati Circle School (25), for class IX students. Saraf was warmly welcomed by school principals Sumitra Dudi, Kamala Singh and Nirmala Sharma. The event was attended by several dignitaries, including former Chairperson of the Women's Commission Suman Sharma and Jaipur City Vice President Brahma Kumar Saini.

MUKESH KIRADOO

The National Institute of Ayurveda, Zorawar Singh Gate, conducted "Desh Ka Prakriti Parikshan Abhiyan" on Friday, testing over 12,000 individuals in 20+ institutions across Jaipur and nearby districts. Vice Chancellor Prof Sanjeev Sharma emphasized understanding Vata, Pitta and Kapha for good health. This campaign, running until December 25, aims to raise awareness about the body constitution and health. So far, over 70,000 tests have been completed, with plans to expand the initiative further.



Dr Nikhil Bansal, OP Bansal, Dr Anil Gupta and others

The 'Punyasetu' mobile app was launched under the leadership of Dr Nikhil Bansal at Hotel Radisson Blue, Tonk Road, Jaipur on Friday, aiming to unite followers of Sanatan Dharma on a single platform. The app allows users to visit temples virtually, participate in live aartis, learn puja rituals, and consult religious experts. Chief Guest Acharya Swami Somendra Maharaj hailed it as a revolutionary step to merge tradition with technology. The launch event was attended by notable figures, including Shriram Pujari, Pankaj Ojha, Prof Vinod Shastri and Yoga Guru Dhaka Ram.



Dr Devendra Pathak, National Business Head of Bharat24, paid a courtesy visit to Ajay Kala, Joint Secretary of Jaipur Jewellery Show, at the latter's office in Jaipur, on Friday. During the meeting, Dr Pathak presented a special compilation of 100 First India edits titled 'Modi Hai to Mumkin Hai: Untold Stories of PM Modi'.



The "Health & Wellness" program organised by the Jain International Trade Organization (JITO) Jaipur Ladies Wing concluded successfully on Saturday, at the Rajasthan International Center. Over 200 members attended the session, which featured motivational speaker Himmesh Mahan and ACE Health Coach Gunjan Taneja. They shared insights on achieving life balance, mental health, fitness, and wealth creation. The event, led by JITO Jaipur Chairperson Saloni Jain, aimed to enhance members' health and financial well-being. The session ended with participant interactions and high tea.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!



The grand opening of Glitz and Glam, a luxurious salon and clothing brand store, took place on Saturday in Jaipur. Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty inaugurated the event, accompanied by city designers like Pooja Ranawat's husband, Kawaljit Ranawat, and other prominent figures. Owner Pooja Ranawat, also a fashion designer and entrepreneur, highlighted that the salon would offer beauty treatments and stylish couture under one roof. Shilpa Shetty praised the venture, calling it a significant addition to Jaipur's fashion industry and expressed that it would redefine success in the fashion world.

The 3rd edition of RCWS Stomping Fest was announced with a poster launch at Jaipur Club on Friday. Attended by RCWS Director Sanyogita Rathore, First India Presenter Vartika Jain, AIWPA President Jagdish Holkar, and Club Secretary Vishal Kausahl, the event promises an unforgettable experience on February 1, 2025. Highlights include grape stomping, live music, flair shows, culinary competitions, and workshops for kids.

