



# FIRST INDIA

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**PAK REACTIVATED 72 TERROR PADS POST OP SINDOOR:** BSF Nearly seven months after suffering large-scale damage to its defence infrastructure during Operation Sindoor, Pakistan has once again activated over 70 terror launch pads near Jammu, the Border Security Force (BSF) said on Monday. **PK**

## OPPOSITION USING PARLIAMENT TO VENT OUT FRUSTRATION, NO PLACE FOR DRAMA: PM MODI

Discussion in Parliament on Vande Mataram's 150 years this week, PM likely to speak

PTI

New Delhi

Parliament is not a place for drama, it is a place for delivery, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday in a hard-hitting attack on the opposition and accused it of turning the House into a "warm up arena" for elections or as an outlet to vent out frustration after defeat.

Speaking to reporters outside Parliament ahead of the Winter session, he said the session must not become a stage for political theatrics but a platform for constructive and result-driven debate, and offered to give the opposition tips to bring positivity in politics.

The Monsoon session of Parliament was virtually washed out over opposition protests on Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar.

The opposition has also threatened to stall the Winter session of Parliament over the SIR exercise in nine states and three union territories, if

### FLIGHTS FACED GPS SPOOFING, GOVT CONFIRMS IN PARL

Incidents of Global Positioning System (GPS) data manipulation, or GPS spoofing, affecting flights were reported in the vicinity of the Delhi airport, and reports of spoofing and Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) interference are also being received from other Indian airports, Centre informed the Parliament.

the issue was not discussed in Parliament.

"For some time now, our Parliament is being used either as a warm up arena for elections or as an outlet for frustration after defeat," the prime minister said.

**Meanwhile, PM Modi spoke with the Sri Lankan President, Anura Kumara Dissanayake, over the phone and promised further support under Operation Sagar Bandhu.**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the media on the first day of the Winter Session of Parliament, in New Delhi on Monday. Union Ministers Kiren Rijiju, Jitendra Singh, Arjun Ram Meghwal and L Murugan are also seen. **PTI**

**We need to work with a sense of responsibility. Parliament is not a place for drama, it is a place for delivery. There are one or two parties that are unable to accept their defeat. From the statements I heard yesterday, it seems that the loss has deeply troubled them**  
**NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER**

### LOK SABHA: BILL ON MANIPUR GST PASSED AMID DIN IN HOUSE

Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned for the day on Monday amid unrelenting protests by opposition parties demanding a debate on the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls. Amid the uproar, a bill to implement amendments to the GST law in Manipur was passed after a brief discussion. The Bill was introduced earlier in the day by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to replace an ordinance on the issue. The state is under President's rule, hence Parliament is using its powers to pass the legislation.

### KHARGE MENTIONS DHANKHAR'S "SUDDEN" EXIT IN RS AMID CHAOS

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday mentioned the "unexpected and sudden exit" of former Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar as the Upper House welcomed his successor CP Radhakrishnan, triggering a brief uproar from the Treasury benches, saying it was not suited to the occasion. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, meanwhile, slammed the Leader of Opposition for mentioning Dhankhar's resignation on the "solemn occasion".

### 18TH BIHAR ASSEMBLY COMMENCES WITH SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS



The 18th Bihar Legislative Assembly commenced on Monday with newly elected members being administered the oath of office. They were sworn in by Pro-tem Speaker Narendra Narayan Yadav, who informed the House that members could take oath in Hindi, English, Urdu, Sanskrit or Maithili, and the process would begin with cabinet ministers. Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, who has been elected from Tarapur assembly seat, was the first to take the oath, followed by fellow Deputy CM Vijay Kumar Sinha, who has retained Lakhisarai for a fourth consecutive term. The election of the Speaker is scheduled on Tuesday.

### PM EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER KHALEDA ZIA'S HEALTH, EXTENDS "ALL POSSIBLE SUPPORT"

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday expressed concern over the health of former Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, extending India's support and wishing her a quick recovery. In a post on X, PM Modi wrote, "Deeply concerned to learn about the health of Begum Khaleda Zia, who has contributed to Bangladesh's public life for many years." "Our sincere prayers and best wishes for her speedy recovery. India stands ready to extend all possible support in whatever way we can," he added. Zia was admitted to the capital's Evercare Hospital on November 23 with a lung infection.

### IN BRIEF

**BJP National President JP Nadda turns 65 today**



**Air pollution crisis needs regular monitoring: SC**

The Supreme Court on Monday said the air pollution issue in the Delhi-NCR cannot be treated as a "customary" case to be listed only during the winter months, noting that it will be taken twice in a month to find solutions.

**PM-led panel to select CIC on Dec 10: Centre to Court**

The Centre on Monday informed the Supreme Court that PM Narendra Modi-led panel will meet on Dec 10 to select and recommend names for the post of Chief Information Commissioner and information commissioners.

**SC asks CBI for pan India probe into digital arrest**

The Supreme Court on Monday entrusted CBI to conduct a unified nationwide investigation into the rising cases of digital arrest scams and ordered state governments to accord their assent to the agency for investigation.

**GST collection for Nov stands at over ₹1.70L cr**

The total gross Goods and Services Tax, GST collections grew 0.7 per cent to over 1.70 lakh crore rupees last month as compared to November 2024. The total gross revenue was 1.69 lakh crore in the same month last year.

## INDIA ORDERS MANDATORY PRE-INSTALLATION OF SANCHAR SAATHI APP ON NEW SMARTPHONES

Policy sparks privacy concerns, expected pushback from Apple

Mohd Fahad

India's telecom ministry has directed smartphone makers to pre-install the government-run Sanchar Saathi cybersecurity app on all new devices sold in the country—a move that is already stirring debate across the tech industry. According to a report, the app must be embedded without the option for users to delete or disable it, raising significant questions about user autonomy, privacy, and compliance by global manufacturers.

**WHY SANCHAR SAATHI?** Officials say the decision aims to tackle a surge in cyber fraud, stolen phones, fake IMEI usage, and spoofed device across India's 1.2 billion users

### RESULTS SO FAR

PHONE RECOVERY

**700,000+**  
lost or stolen phones recovered since January

**50,000**  
devices recovered in October alone

**3.7 million**  
stolen devices blocked from networks

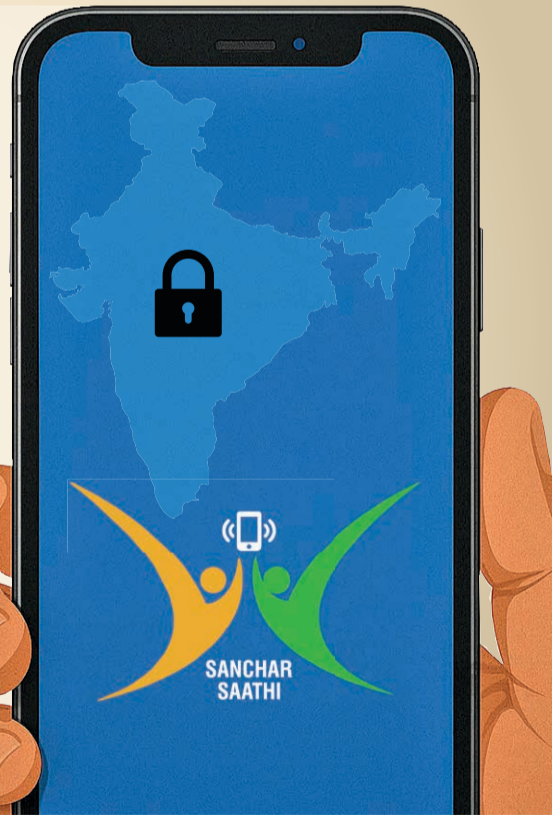
**30 million**  
fake or fraudulent mobile connections terminated

Officials call the app "essential for countering the serious endangerment posed by fake and cloned IMEIs," which are routinely used by scam networks and criminal groups.

### KEY CAPABILITIES OF THE SANCHAR SAATHI APP

- Verify IMEI numbers for device authentication
- Track and help recover lost devices
- Detect cloned or duplicate IMEIs
- Flag suspicious calls or messages
- Request immediate blocking of

Digital rights advocates warn that unconditional, undeletable pre-installs set a dangerous precedent. The government argues the opposite—that the app is crucial security shield.



## 8 locations raided as Red Fort blast probe takes NIA to Kashmir

Agencies  
Srinagar

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is conducting simultaneous raids in the Kashmir Valley as part of its investigation into the Red Fort explosion last month.

The central agency has confirmed that it has raided eight locations and conducted searches in a case registered in New Delhi.

Sources said that early Monday morning, NIA investigators conducted simultaneous searches across different parts of South Kashmir.

Separate teams of the central investigation agency raided the house of Dr Adeel Ahmad Rather in south Kashmir's Kulgam and Dr Muzamil Shakeel Ganai at Koil village of Pulwama.

The central agency also raided the home of cleric Mufti Irfan Ahmad Wagon in Shopian and Amir Rashid at Samboora village of Pulwama.

Sources said the searches are meant to "unravel the conspiracy" and to find any material or digital evidence linked to the investigation of the blast.

## Another BLO dies by suicide in UP; EC faces heat over dance video

First India Bureau  
New Delhi/Moradabad

Amid the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls across 12 states, during which over a dozen Booth-Level Officers (BLOs) have reportedly died by suicide, allegedly due to work pressure, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has sparked outrage with a social-media video.

The latest such suicide by a BLO was reported from UP's Moradabad on Monday.

**The clip from what the ECI said to be a part of "SIR Joyathon" has drawn sharp criticism, with many calling it tone-deaf and insensitive at a time when BLOs are under work stress**

Even as reports of BLOs killing themselves circulated, ECI shared a video of a dance instructor making a hall full of BLOs in Kerala groove to a rocking number, with "boggie-woogie" in the lyrics.

## CM LIKELY TO MEET SEVERAL SENIOR LEADERS IN DELHI TODAY

## CM Bhajan Lal's Delhi outreach accelerates central support for Raj development projects

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Rajasthan continues to benefit significantly from Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma's frequent visits to Delhi, including his scheduled meetings on Tuesday with several Union ministers.

These engagements have become an important part of the state's outreach strategy, particularly during the ongoing



File pic of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma.

Lok Sabha session, where the Chief Minister is expected to hold dis-

### CM NOD TO RENAMING OF NAGAR AREA IN DEEG TO BRAJ NAGAR

CM Sharma gave nod to renaming of Nagar area in Deeg to Braj Nagar. Efforts of Minister Jawahar Singh Bedham also counted in this regard. A notification of Braj Nagar was issued on Monday.

ussions with key central leaders in Parliament. The meetings are like-

ly to focus on evaluating the progress of existing government schemes as well as expediting major upcoming projects. Under the leadership and long-term vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Rajasthan has received strong central support across crucial sectors. These include water resources, renewable and conventional energy, metro and urban development, agriculture, refineries, and skill enhancement

grammes. Officials note that this consistent cooperation from the Centre has been made possible largely due to Chief Minister Sharma's proactive approach, regular coordination with ministries, and his efforts to align state development priorities with national objectives. His visits to Delhi and continuous dialogue with Union ministers have helped fast-track several proposals and ensure smoother execution.

# Ministers and leaders to hear BJP party workers' grievances thrice a week

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Deputy Chief Minister Prem Chand Bairwa on Monday said the BJP is a worker-driven organisation, and its cadres remain connected with people at the grassroots, enabling them to bring local issues to the party's hearing mechanism for quick resolution.

Bairwa, who addressed the media after the Kar-

yakarta Sunwai at the BJP state headquarters along with Energy Minister Heeralal Nagar and state vice president Mukesh Dadhich, said the initiative has been started on the directions of Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma to ensure the timely disposal of complaints raised by party workers.

Energy Minister Nagar said the government is working with major targets in the power sector,



Deputy Chief Minister Prem Chand Bairwa, Energy Minister Heeralal Nagar and others during a meeting at the BJP state headquarters on Monday.

## SCHEDULE FOR HEARING OF PARTY WORKERS

Hearings will take place 3 days a week

2 ministers & 2 party officials to attend

2 Dec: Rajyavardhan Rathore, Babulal Kharadi

3 Dec: Gajendra S Khimsar, Manju Baghmar

8 Dec: Dy CM Diya Kumari, Jhabar Singh Kharra

9 Dec: Dr Kirodi Lal Meena, Hiralal Nagar

10 Dec: Kanhaiyalal

Chaudhary, KK Vishnoi

15 Dec: Madan Dilawar, Gautam Kumar Dak

16 Dec: Joga Ram Patel, Sanjay Sharma

17 Dec: Suresh Rawat, Jawahar S Bedham

22 Dec: Avinash Gehlot, Vijay S Chaudhary

23 Dec: Sumit Godara, Hemant Meena

Party office bearers will be present on all dates

including issuing over 1.5 lakh agricultural electricity connections. He said connections will be released soon at GSS locations where adequate solar capacity is available to ensure optimum utilisation of solar power.

Nagar said that smart meters are being rapidly installed and monitored across the state, enabling timely online billing and reducing irregularities such as unwarranted sup-

ply disruptions.

BJP state vice president Mukesh Dadhich said the Karyakarta Sunwai will be held three days a week — Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday — at the party state headquarters.

Two ministers will attend the hearings, and complaints received after registration will be forwarded to the ministers concerned for action as per the rules.

During surveillance, it was found that accused was gathering sensitive data linked to Indian army

# Punjab man held for spying for Pakistan



First India Bureau  
Jaipur/ Sri Ganganagar

CID Intelligence, Jaipur unit, has arrested a Punjab resident for allegedly supplying sensitive military information to Pakistani intelligence handlers. According to officials, the agency had been monitoring suspected espionage activities linked to Pakistani intelligence networks, which led to the identification of a suspect operating through social media channels.

Police said the accused was in contact with operatives of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI). He was allegedly collecting confidential information related to the Indian Army and strategic locations across Rajasthan, Punjab, and Gujarat, and transmitting the data to his Pakistani handlers.

Director General of Police (Intelligence) Prafulla Kumar stated that on 27 November, intelligence inputs indicated that Singh had been seen near the Sadhuvali military facility in Sri Ganganagar. Following the alert, a Border Intelligence Team detained him for questioning. Initial examination of his mobile phone reportedly confirmed ongoing



The accused, identified as Prakash Singh, aka Badal and a resident of Firozpur, Punjab.

## ACB TRAPS TWO FOREST GUARDS TAKING ₹80,000 BRIBE IN UDAIPUR

Jaipur: The ACB Durgapur unit, on Monday, arrested Forest Guards Mahesh Kumar Meena and Vijesh Ahari, Katarwas Forest Range, Kherwara, Udaipur, red-handed while accepting a bribe of ₹80,000 from the complainant. Director General of Police, ACB, Govind Gupta said that the accused demanded a bribe in lieu of releasing the complainant's two vehicles carrying eucalyptus and silk cotton wood, which had been seized by the Forest Department Naka Katarwas. After verification of the complaint, a trap operation was conducted, and Meena and Ahari were arrested. The interrogation and proceedings against the accused are ongoing under the supervision of Smita Srivastava, Additional Director General of Police, ACB. A case under relevant Sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act will be registered, and further investigation is underway.



Forest Guards Mahesh Kumar Meena and Vijesh Ahari in the custody of ACB officials on Monday.

## JAIPUR: FAKE CURRENCY RACKET BUSTED, DELHI RESIDENT ARRESTED

A team has arrested a suspected member of a fake currency racket in Jaipur. The action was carried out by the Vidyadhar Nagar police station, which detained Delhi resident Vishal Rawat. According to the police, approximately 5,600 rupees in counterfeit notes of 100 and 200 denominations were recovered from the suspect. The operation began after Sub-Inspector Shobha received a tip-off from an informer, indicating that counterfeit notes were being supplied near a cemetery in the locality. Following the, the police team reached the spot and apprehended Rawat and seized the fake currency.

## GAU SEVA DAL FOILS CATTLE SMUGGLING ATTEMPT, 27 COWS RESCUED IN TONK

Tonk: The Niwai Gau Seva Dal foiled a cattle smuggling attempt and rescued 27 cows crammed into a canter. The smugglers opened fire at the Gau Seva Dal when they tried to chase and stop them. On receiving information about cow smuggling, Baroni police station officer Brijendra Singh and his team reached the spot. With the help of the police, the canter was intercepted and stopped near Barthal Tiraha. Led by BJP Yuva Morcha District President Narendra Jaisinghpura, dozens of cow protectors including Rahul Jaiswal, Lokesh Saini, Rahul Chaudhary, Khushiram and others, chased the vehicle. The rescued cows were taken to a shelter. Meanwhile, police have arrested a man and recovered a country-made pistol. The probe is on.

contact with foreign and Pakistani WhatsApp numbers.

Investigators claim that he had been in touch with ISI operatives since the period of "Operation

Sindoor." Authorities allege that he supplied details regarding army vehicle movement, military establishments, border infrastructure, bridges, railway lines, newly con-

## JAIPUR: WANTED MAN ARRESTED AT AIRPORT

Jaipur: A wanted man was detained at Jaipur Airport after authorities identified him upon arrival. The immigration officials intercepted a passenger named Aman-deep Singh Shergill who is reportedly a resident of Jalandhar in Punjab. Shergill was travelling from Kuala Lumpur and landed at Jaipur Airport on an AirAsia flight.

structed sites, and other strategically sensitive information. Due to the gravity of the case, Singh was transferred to the Central Investigation Centre for questioning.

## LOHAWAT: CLASS 8 GIRL ALLEGES HARASSMENT

Lohawat: A class 8 girl studying in a government school in Lohawat, Phalodi, was allegedly molested by two students from the same school. In her complaint, she said that she was molested by students. The victim even accused the two of assaulting her paternal uncle when he tried to intervene. She said that they insulted him and threatened to run a vehicle over him. Police have registered a case.

## TEACHER ACCUSED OF HARASSING STUDENTS

Baran: A teacher of a government Nursing College in Mangrol, Baran, has been arrested for sending text messages to 2-3 students asking them to befriend him. The police swung into action after First India reported the matter and have registered a complaint against the accused teacher. Action was taken under direction of SP Abhishek Andasu and supervision of ASP Rajesh Chaudhary.

## ITAT ACCOUNTANT MEMBER ARRESTED BY CBI; SENT TO JUDICIAL CUSTODY

Jaipur: The CBI, which recently uncovered alleged bribery linked to influencing Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) decisions, continued its search for individuals involved in the case for the seventh consecutive day on Monday. Despite ongoing efforts, the agency has not yet apprehended additional suspects believed to be connected to the network. Among those arrested, Jaipur Bench's Accountant Member of ITAT, Kamlesh Jayant Bhai Rathore, was produced before the Special Court for CBI cases, where the court ordered that he be sent to judicial custody. Further action and interrogation are expected as the investigation progresses.



## Supporters hopeful 'saheb' may get minister post after stepping down as BJP Gen Secy

A BJP general secretary has stepped down from the party's organisation, but he has taken the exit very positively. He congratulated all the new office-bearers who have become part of the new team under State BJP President Madan Rathore, meeting some in person and calling others on the phone. He did all of this on the very day he bid farewell to the organisation. Now, his supporters are hopeful that "saheb" will soon become a minister!

## Shower of hoardings for new BJP Gen Secy

A newly appointed BJP general secretary was left surprised when he saw dozens of hoardings displayed on the route from Jaipur to Ajmer. His supporters had planned the entire display, with former ABVP and Youth Wing leaders from Ajmer putting up a shower of hoardings. This move has triggered a fresh debate in Ajmer's political circles. The young general secretary hails from Kekri.

## State exec of Cong OBC dept announced

Big news from the Rajasthan Congress OBC Department as the state executive of the department has been announced. The list includes 23 vice presidents, 38 general secretaries, and 48 state secretaries. The seven divisional presidents have also been declared. Along with the state executive, the district presidents of the department have been appointed as well.

## When will this State Guest House once again welcome guests with its full grandeur?

Jaipur's historic heritage property, Khasa Kothi State Guest House, is still awaiting the return of its old charm. Out of 36 rooms, only 11 remain operational with guests still visiting, while the remaining 25 were earlier allotted to the Haridev Joshi University of Journalism for a monthly rent of ₹15 lakh. The university vacated these rooms on 1 June, and since then, that portion has remained closed. The shutdown has caused severe revenue loss and negatively affected operations. Once the preferred choice for national and international dignitaries, the guest house is now losing its royal sheen.

## Outreach Programme

# Kirodi writes assurance on woman's hand during Jan sunwai

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Rajasthan Agriculture Minister Dr Kirodi Lal Meena met local residents on Airport Road on Monday and listened to their grievances during a public hearing. He directed officials to ensure the prompt resolution of issues raised by the people and said that solving public problems remains the foremost mission of his life.

A unique moment drew attention when Dr Meena wrote an assurance directly on a woman's hand, promising that "no one will obstruct the work of the gaushala". The daily public hearing on Airport Road continues to attract large crowds, with hundreds of citizens turning up to speak with the him. Dr Meena sits here for two hours every day to personally hear public concerns.



Dr Meena wrote an assurance directly on a woman's hand, promising that "no one will obstruct the work of gaushala".

## 'ENSURE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY OF UREA'

Agriculture Commissioner Chinmayi Gopal held an important meeting with senior officials of fertiliser supply companies to ensure the adequate and uninterrupted availability of urea across the state. Abhay Kumar Sharma, Director (Operations), Ministry of Fertilisers, joined the meeting via video conference.

## Dausa: 2 sisters climb water tank over land dispute

First India Bureau  
Dausa

Two sisters climbed a drinking water tank in Sikari's Garh village in Dausa over a land dispute on Monday. On getting information, Tehsildar Ramkhiladi Meena, Si-

kandra police, Ranoli outpost in-charge Chhote Lal also reached the spot with his police force and tried to persuade the two to come down, but nothing worked.

In the past, too, the young women had climbed on the tank over

a land dispute. They are residents of Korda Khurd village of Sikan-dra police station. Later, SDM Navneet Kumar had to intervene to convince the two sisters to get down. Now, the administration is trying to resolve its dispute.

## Army Lt dies by suicide

First India Bureau  
Sri Ganganagar

A major incident has been reported from Suratgarh in Sri Ganganagar district, where an Army Lieutenant has died by suicide. Lieutenant Lakshmi Narayan, a

resident of Dhaku village in Mathura district, was posted with the 287 Medium Regiment at Suratgarh Cantonment. He was found after he had taken his own life in a rest house. The body has been placed in the military hospital.

## Protests over APO order against Doctor in Udaipur

First India Bureau  
Udaipur

Tension escalated in Udaipur after residents staged a large protest against the APO (Awaiting Posting Orders) issued to a doctor alleged to have recorded a reel during a medical procedure. The demonstration took place outside the Badgaon Satellite Hospital, where a significant number of villagers gathered, demanding that the order be withdrawn immediately.

Protesters raised slogans asserting that the administrative action was unjust and urged authorities to revoke it without delay. Many villagers grew emotional during the demonstration, with some reportedly breaking down and pleading with the doctor not to leave the post. Doctor Ashok Sharma, the individual at the centre of the controversy, also joined the protest.

## BSF RAISING DAY

# Nation remembers courage of brave soldiers

First India Bureau  
Jaisalmer

The country celebrated the BSF Raising Day on Monday to honour the forces guarding the border area. December 1 marks the inception of the force in 1965.

This is the day when we salute the forces on the border. The spirit of BSF soldiers deployed on the western border of Rajasthan is once again being talked about. Even during the scorching summer heat, the soldiers re-



This year marks a significant milestone as the BSF proudly celebrates the Diamond Jubilee of its raising, commemorating six decades of unwavering commitment since 1st December 1965.



lently brave the odd weather and keep a 24-hour vigilance.

Areas bordering Pakistan are on high alert and soldiers keep a close eye

on every movement. The BSF Camel Battalion is still the most trusted force

**Rajasthan Frontier foiled some major smuggling and infiltration attempts in the last year. The BSF plays a crucial role in securing Jaisalmer's 472-km border with Pakistan. Several successful interceptions have been recorded in recent days**

in the desert. BSF keeps a close watch on cross-border drone movements.

Several school vans seized, challans issued

# Judicial teams crack down on unsafe school transport in city

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Judicial officers took to the streets on Monday to conduct a reality check of school vehicles under the directives of the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority (RSLSA).

Secretaries of the District Legal Services Authority carried out surprise inspections across Jaipur city. The inspections were led by Deependra Mathur, Secretary of District Legal Services Authority I, and Pallavi Sharma, Secretary of District Legal Services



RSLSA has instructed all district authorities to inspect school vehicles at least three times a year, with annual reports due by 10 April, 10 August, and 10 December. Monthly inspection reports must be submitted by the 15th of each month.

Authority II.

From 7 a.m., the judges, along with mobile magistrates, RTO officials, and the traffic po-

lice team, conducted on-the-spot inspections of buses, vans, and autos transporting children to schools. Vehicles violat-



ing rules were fined, and some were seized. Operations were carried out in Bani Park and Shipra Path areas starting at 7 a.m.

Under RSLSA directives, the District Legal Services Authority inspected vehicles on 21 different points, yet no vehicle fully complied with all regulations. Except for one or two, most vehicles lacked first-aid kits. GPS devices were absent in all vehicles, preventing schools from tracking them. Vans and autos had no emergency exits. Regulations also require an attendant alongside the driver for assisting children, but most vehicles operated solely under the driver's supervision.

# SC dismisses Dhariwal's SLP, grants protection

Further proceedings will now depend on the outcome of the protest petition

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed the Special Leave Petition (SLP) filed by former Rajasthan minister Shanti Dhariwal in the single lease allotment case. However, the court granted interim protection from arrest, directing that no coercive action be taken against Dhariwal until the protest petition pending before the ACB Court in Jaipur is decided. The order was issued by a division bench comprising

## MINOR RAPE SURVIVOR MOVES SC AGAINST ASARAM'S BAIL; ANOTHER HEARING STALLED

A minor survivor in the sexual assault case against Asaram has approached the Supreme Court, seeking cancellation of the bail granted to him. The petition challenges the Rajasthan High Court's order which granted Asaram six months' bail, arguing that the relief was granted on grounds that were neither justified nor legally sustainable. The survivor has also opposed the Gujarat High Court bail order, stating that it was granted on the same basis as the Rajasthan ruling. Meanwhile, a related development took place in Jodhpur, where a scheduled hearing on Asaram's appeal against his conviction could not proceed.

Justice J.K. Maheshwari and Justice Vijay Bishnoi. During the hearing, senior advocate Kapil Sibal appeared on behalf of Shanti Dhariwal. For intervener Ashok Pathak, arguments were presented by senior advocate Kunwar Sultan

Singh along with advocates Ajit Kumar Sharma and Aditya Vikram Singh. With the directive, further proceedings will now depend on the outcome of the protest petition currently under consideration in the ACB Court, Jaipur.

# Khimsar calls for awareness on HIV/AIDS at World AIDS day event

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

On the occasion of World AIDS Day, the Rajasthan State AIDS Control Society organized a state-level event in the capital. The program was attended by Health Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar as the chief guest, who emphasized that health is the most crucial aspect of human life, and every individual has the right to remain healthy, regardless of whether they are living with HIV/AIDS. He highlighted that govt,



Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar, Health Secy Gayatri Rathore & Director (AIDS) Sushil Kumar Parmar during the event at Harishchandra Mathur State Institute in Jaipur on Monday.

community organizations, voluntary bodies, and NGOs across the world are working together to protect the rights of people living

with HIV/AIDS, enabling them to live a normal life within society. Khimsar stressed the need to dispel myths surrounding HIV/AIDS.

# NCW pushes for stronger role of women leaders

First India Bureau  
Jodhpur

Citing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, National Commission for Women chairperson **Vijaya Rahatkar** said that women's leadership is essential for national development and their presence in decision-making bodies must increase.

Rahatkar, who was in Jodhpur, said women already have 50 per cent reservation in panchayats and are performing effec-

tively at the grassroots. She said that the NCW is conducting programmes to connect elected women representatives with parliamentary processes with support from Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, under which selected representatives are invited to the Central Hall of Parliament.

During her visit, she met DCP P D Nitya at the Circuit House and discussed various issues related to women's safety and empowerment.



# Seeking Blessings on B'day



On the occasion of his birthday, cabinet minister Jogaram Patel along with his wife, offered prayers at the revered Gabbar Mataji temple in Gujarat on Monday.

# Pilot pays tribute to late Ravindra Saini

First India Bureau  
Shahpura

Congress general secretary Sachin Pilot on Sunday visited Shahpura to offer condolences to former municipal chairman **Badri Prasad Saini**' son who died in a road accident recently.

Sachin Pilot reached Saini's residence and paid floral tributes to the deceased, Ravindra Saini. Pilot met the grieving family members and consoled them, praying for peace to the departed soul. Shahpura MLA



Sachin Pilot offering prayers to late Ravindra Saini son of former municipal chairman Badri Prasad Saini.

Manish Yadav, Lok Sabha candidate Anil Chopra and former MLA Indraj Singh Gurjar were also present during the visit.

# Social worker Pramod Bhasin passes away, family donates body for medical research

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Prominent social worker Pramod Bhasin passed away late Sunday night at Rajasthan Hospital after a prolonged battle with cancer. In accordance with his wishes, his body was donated for medical study and research. The donation was made to ESI Medical College.

During the donation process, family members planted fruit-bearing saplings as a tribute. Several public figures and social activists were present



(L) Pramod Bhasin. (R) Bhasin's wife Mridul Bhasin and Family members donated his body to ESI medical college on Monday. MFJCF Chairperson Rajiv Arora is also seen.

during the final journey, including Congress leader and MFJCF Chairperson Rajiv Arora, Mohan Foundation convener Bhavna Jagwani, Dr. Narendra Joshi, Vijay

Poonia, and others. A condolence meeting has been scheduled for 3 December at Mahaveer School from 4 pm to 5 pm. Tributes poured in following the news of his



death. Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot expressed condolences and said Bhasin had made "remarkable contributions" in the field of road safety.

# Ex-Cong candidate, 2 others held for forgery

First India Bureau  
Kota

Former Congress candidate Pramod Sharma and two associates were arrested on Monday for allegedly forging documents to claim ownership of a valuable land parcel in Jhalawar. Sharma was detained from his home after forensic reports confirmed the submitted ownership document was fabricated. Police said he attempted to escape by removing an air-conditioner from a window but was caught. The case,

filed by Mahesh Daga in March 2024, alleges Sharma tried to illegally claim a 540 sq ft plot near Ghadiya Mahadev Temple. Investigation revealed the land was originally purchased in 2001 by Neelam Singhal, who later sold portions to different buyers. Sharma, Lalit Vaishnav and Mahendra Singh Naruka allegedly colluded to create false documents. After arrest, Sharma reported health issues and was hospitalised, while his aides were sent to police custody.

## FI YOUTH ICON

# Folk Heritage to Literary Identity – Child Poet Manish Kumar Sen

## "A VOICE OF SOIL, MOTHER, AND MOTHERLAND"

First India Bureau  
Jhalawar

The winner of Youth Icon of the Month competition for November, organized by First India News, was announced on Monday, Dec 1. The honour has been awarded to child poet **Manish Kumar Sen**, a resident of Sarda village in Jhalawar district, who has created a distinct identity through folk culture, songs & literary dedication.

**A LEGACY ROOTED IN FOLK CULTURE**  
His deep love for folk art

and folk songs came to him as a legacy from his grandmother, Dhapu Bai Sen. She was a living repository of traditional folk songs. Preserving her memories, Manish Kumar Sen has compiled folk songs so that the new generation can stay connected to their roots and rural culture.

**A JOURNEY OF DETERMINATION TOWARDS LITERATURE**  
Born on November 24, 1999, Manish Kumar Sen began writing poetry from the eighth grade itself. His early writings reflected strong impres-



Child poet Manish Kumar Sen.

sions of corruption, current affairs, and heroic and inspirational themes. Over time, his pen matured and began focusing on romance, social concerns, and the preservation of traditional culture.

Young talents like **Manish Kumar Sen** are the true heritage of our folk culture. His writing carries both the fragrance of the soil and the direction of the future. Giving a platform to such youth is the true purpose of responsible media.

**PAWAN ARORA,**  
CEO AND MANAGING EDITOR  
OF FIRST INDIA NEWS

His major works include poems such as 'Father', 'Radhe-Krishna', 'Rakhi Song', and 'Girls Moving Away From the Soil', which have been published in various magazines and journals and

have received wide appreciation from readers.

## NATIONAL AND STATE-LEVEL RECOGNITION

For his literary contributions, he has been honoured with several prestigious awards, including Shiva Honour 2025, Purnodaya Hind Kavya Gaurav Award 2024, Kavyashree Award 2021, Sahitya Ratna, Devanagari Honour, Munshi Premchand Katha Sahitya Award, Lekhni Ratna Award, and Navras Writer Award, among many others. In addition, he has secured first positions in inter-collegiate and state-level poetry recitation competitions, bringing pride to the Jhalawar.

## INSPIRATION THAT LIVES THROUGH WORDS

"Folk songs and poetry are not just words, they are the voice of our identity and our soul." This thought makes him not just a poet, but a true messenger of culture. An inspiring initiative by First India Through its Youth Icon of the Month initiative, First India honours young individuals aged 18 to 35 every month who have created a positive impact in society through their talent and efforts. The selected icon receives an electric scooter, a special studio interview, and nationwide recognition.

1st INDIA NEWS, 1st INDIA, 1st INDIA+ PRESENT

**YOUTH ICON OF THE MONTH**

Don't miss your chance! If you are from Rajasthan and aged 18-35, this is your opportunity to become the next Youth Icon of the Month! Step up, shine, and make your mark!

SCAN OR CLICK FOR REGISTRATION

# BENJAMIN NETANYAHU: CHARGES AND PARDON



## IN-DEPTH

### WHAT'S DELAYING ELEVATION OF ASIM MUNIR?

**T**he unusual delay in issuing the notification appointing Asim Munir as the first Chief of Defence Forces is being read as more than a procedural pause. The post, created through the 27th Constitutional Amendment and replacing the CJC-SC, was to be filled immediately after the earlier structure lapsed on November 27. Yet the crucial November 29 deadline — when Munir's original three-year term as army chief ended — passed without formalising his elevation.

The Pakistan Defence Minister insists the process has begun and will be completed once Sharif returns from abroad, though no timeline has been offered. That ambiguity has fuelled speculation that Sharif is signalling quiet resistance.

Whether intentional or not, the delay projects a degree of civilian assertiveness in a system where such gestures are rare. But it also deepens unease: within the military, over the gap between operational authority and constitutional mandate, and in Islamabad, where the absence of clarity risks turning a technical transition into a fresh civil-military flashpoint.

### GOVT TO GET TOUGH ON SIN GOODS



**R**aising the cess on sin goods such as tobacco and pan masala has been proposed with strong public-health logic and as compensation for the GST cess which is to end soon. These products impose a well-documented burden on the healthcare system, from chronic respiratory illnesses to cancers that drain public resources and reduce economic productivity. When the state seeks levers that can genuinely curb consumption, taxation has consistently proved one of the most effective tools. Higher prices deter initiation among younger users and nudge habitual consumers toward cutting down or seeking support to quit.

Pan masala presents an additional civic challenge that further strengthens the case for a steep upward revision in cess. Its widespread use is inseparable from the persistent problem of public spitting. Urban spaces across the country continue to bear the stains and stench left behind by users who treat roads, stairways, transport hubs and government buildings as their preferred dumping grounds. This behaviour accelerates the deterioration of public infrastructure, increases municipal cleaning costs and contributes to the spread of infections. In densely populated localities, the hygienic impact can be especially serious, particularly during outbreaks when surface contamination becomes a vector of disease.

A higher cess can help in two ways: by curbing demand through higher costs and generating revenue for public-health interventions, cleanliness drives, and urban maintenance. Taxation alone won't suffice; stronger enforcement, hygiene campaigns, and broader cessation support must accompany fiscal measures.

**Taxation has consistently proved an effective tool to curb consumption, discouraging initiation among young users and nudging habitual consumers to reduce use or seek support to quit**

**I**sraeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has requested a pardon in his long-running corruption trial — a move that has set off alarm bells among his critics that he's trying to circumvent the rule of law.

In a video message, Netanyahu says Israel's current "security and political" situation makes it impossible for him to appear in court several times a week. His request for a pardon from Israel's president is just the latest twist in a case that has dragged on for years. It could have significant implications for Israel's legal system — and Netanyahu's political future, with elections due next year.

#### WHAT CHARGES DOES HE FACE?

Netanyahu is indisputably the most important political figure of modern Israeli politics. He was first elected prime minister in 1996 and is now in his sixth term.

He has been indicted on charges of bribery, fraud and breach of trust, related to investigations that date back to 2016. There are three cases now known by numbers — Case 1,000, Case 2,000 and Case 4,000. The trial began in 2020.

In Case 1,000, Netanyahu is alleged to have received some US\$200,000 (A\$305,000) worth of gifts, including cigars and champagne, from Hollywood producer Arnon Milchan and Australian billionaire James Packer.

Case 2,000 is related to alleged meetings Netanyahu had with Arnon Mozes, the publisher of the prominent Yediot Ahronot newspaper. Prosecutors say Mozes offered Netan-



**Media reports have suggested Netanyahu wants to move up the elections from November to June in the hopes he'll be able to secure deals to normalise relations with both Saudi Arabia and Indonesia by then. This fits a pattern of him trying to use foreign policy gains to offset his domestic problems**

yahu favourable coverage in exchange for restrictions being imposed on one of his rival newspapers.

And the final case, Case 4,000 is related to a communications conglomerate, Bezeq. The attorney-general alleges another reciprocal agreement: Netanyahu would be portrayed positively on the online platform, it's alleged, in exchange for him supporting regulatory changes that would benefit Bezeq's controlling shareholder.

Netanyahu has consistently denied any wrongdoing in the cases, saying he's a victim of a "witch hunt". In 2021, he characterised the charges as "fabricated and ludicrous". When he took the stand in 2024, he said: These investigations were born of sin. There was no offence, so they found an offence.

Experts have pointed out that a pardon can only be given once someone's been convicted of a crime. But Netanyahu is not offering to admit any responsibility or guilt in the case, and he likely never will. He's simply asking for a pardon, so that he can get on with his job.

#### INDEPENDENCE OF ISRAEL'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Since the trial began in

his cabinet were pushing it.

Massive protests happened on a regular basis throughout Israel in response to this move. Critics saw this as a frontal attack on the basic foundations of the Israeli legal system.

The request for a pardon is now part of this wider story, even though the two issues are not formally linked. Netanyahu's opponents say it's yet another indication of him and his coalition having a fundamentally different conception of the rule of law.

#### NETANYAHU'S POLITICAL SURVIVAL

This is all about Netanyahu's personal and political survival. He was re-elected leader of the Likud Party this month and he has declared his intention to run again for prime minister in next year's elections — and that he expects to win.

The Israeli Basic Law suggests Netanyahu couldn't run if he's been convicted of a serious offence, though it's not clear if he would actually be blocked at this point.

Media reports have suggested Netanyahu wants to move up the elections from November to June in the hopes he'll be able to secure deals to normalise relations with both Saudi Arabia and Indonesia by then. This fits a pattern of him trying to use foreign policy gains to offset his domestic problems.

With elections coming, he's now trying every possible manoeuvre to improve his position — and the pardon is just one of them. It's likely the only option he has now to make the case go away because the trial has gone on for so long and at some point the court will have to make a decision.

SOURCE: THE CONVERSATION

## JUDICIAL SHAKEUP

Netanyahu's supporters don't seem to have a problem with his request for a pardon, but it is shining a light on broader questions around the independence of the Israeli legal system.

In early 2023, the Netanyahu government put forth plans to overhaul the judicial system, which critics said would weaken the Supreme Court and Israel's system of checks and balances. Netanyahu wasn't involved in the effort because the attorney-general said it would be a conflict of interest due to his corruption trial, but other ministers in his cabinet were pushing it.



### TOP TWEETS

**X** Warm wishes to the people of Nagaland on their Statehood Day. The state's vibrant cultural legacy, spirit of resilience and enduring contribution to India's collective progress stand as a source of pride for the nation. May the years ahead open new doors of opportunity, growth and well-being for the people of Nagaland.

Rajnath Singh @rajnathsingh



**X** My heartfelt greetings to the brave personnel of @BSF\_India and their families on their Raising Day. Their alertness on the borders, their sacrifices, and their sense of duty give our nation the confidence to move forward peacefully. We remain deeply grateful to our BSF jawans for their dedication in safeguarding our motherland.

Jagat Prakash Nadda @JPNadda

### SPIRITUAL SPEAK

*It is better to die fighting than to live as one vanquished*

**BUDDHA**



# SOLID घर

★ सिर्फ ★

# BANGUR

## CEMENT



## USE FOR SOLID CONCRETE

## PM Modi greets on BSF Raising Day; lauds its unwavering resolve

**ANI**  
New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday greeted Border Security Force personnel on their 61st Raising Day, praising their unwavering resolve and professionalism in guarding India's borders under difficult conditions.

He said the BSF embodies exemplary duty and serves in some of the

toughest terrains, while also displaying a strong humanitarian spirit. Modi extended his best wishes to the force in their continued service to the nation.

BSF Raising Day, observed annually on December 1, commemorates the force's establishment in 1965. Earlier, Union Home Minister Amit Shah also conveyed greetings to BSF personnel and their families. He



BSF's bravery, professionalism, and humanitarian spirit celebrated on its 61st Raising Day.

### SHAH GREETBS BSF ON ITS 61ST RAISING DAY

➔ New Delhi: The Border Security Force (BSF) has always upheld the honour of the nation and shielded the well-being of the citizens with Himalayan resolve and steely valour, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday. Extending greetings to the force, that guards borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh, on its raising day, the Union minister of home affairs in a post on 'X' said, "Warm greetings to BSF personnel and their families on their Raising Day." "A force synonymous with fiery patriotism, the @BSF\_India as always upheld the honour of the nation and shielded the well-being of the citizens with Himalayan resolve and steely valour," he said in the post.

described the BSF as a force symbolising fiery patriotism, known for upholding national honour and protecting citizens with steadfast courage.

Shah lauded the supreme sacrifices made by BSF bravehearts, saying their patriotic spirit will inspire future generations. He emphasized that the nation remains deeply indebted to their dedication, resilience, and constant vigilance.

## REVENUE OR RISK Cess on tobacco aims to boost health, security funds Sitharaman introduces two bills in Lok Sabha on Tobacco Cess

**Agencies**  
New Delhi

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday introduced two key bills in the Lok Sabha as the Winter Session commenced, aiming to levy a cess on tobacco products and their manufacturing processes. The Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and the Health Security and National Security Cess Bill, 2025, were presented after a brief adjournment.

Sitharaman said the bills aim to boost resources for national security and public health by taxing machinery or processes used in producing specified goods. Opposition MPs raised concerns: AITC's Sougata Roy argued the bills focus on revenue rather than tobacco health risks and criticized non-sharing of cess with states.

DMK's DM Kathir



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

### CONGRESS MP RENUKA CHAUDHARY: REAL DOGS SIT INSIDE PARLIAMENT HOUSE

➔ New Delhi: Congress MP Renuka Chaudhary sparked controversy by bringing a stray dog to Parliament on Winter Session's first day, ignoring protests from fellow MPs. She claimed the "real dogs" are in Parliament. Chaudhary said she found the puppy that morning after a scooter-car collision, rescued it for safety, transported it in her vehicle, and the dog left after she had reached Parliament.



Anand warned of potential financial burdens on citizens. The government

has listed 13 bills many yet to undergo Standing Committee scrutiny.

### OVER 2.04 LAKH PVT COMPANIES CLOSED DOWN IN LAST 5 YEARS: GOVT

➔ New Delhi: The government on Monday said 2,04,268 private companies have closed down during the last five years. These companies have been shut down on account of amalgamation, conversion, dissolution and struck off from the records under the Companies Act, 2013. According to data provided in a written reply by Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Harsh Malhotra to Lok Sabha, 20,365 private companies were closed down in 2024-25 while the count was at 21,181 and 83,452 in 2023-24 and 2022-23, respectively. The number of shuttered private companies stood at 64,054 in 2021-22 and 15,216 in 2020-21. To a query on whether employees of the closed down private companies have been rehabilitated, the minister said there is no proposal before government.

### KHARGE URGES RS CHAIRMAN TO UPHOLD IMPARTIALITY

➔ LoP Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday welcomed Vice President CP Radhakrishnan as Rajya Sabha Chairman, urging him to uphold impartiality. Addressing House, Kharge cited Ex-Vice President Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, recalling his assertion that the Chair must belong to no party and treat all members with fairness. He emphasized Chairman's responsibility to ensure smooth proceedings and protect democratic values. Kharge warned that democracy risks becoming tyrannical if opposition voices cannot freely criticize govt policies.



## 8 terrorists killed, 5 pushed back by forces

**PTI**  
Srinagar

There was no terrorist infiltration into Kashmir across the Line of Control (LoC) during the current year, with eight infiltrators killed by the security forces while five others were pushed back -- foiling four intrusion attempts by terror operatives, a senior BSF officer said on Monday.



Srinagar: BSF Kashmir IG Ashok Yadav addresses 61st Raising Day press conference at Humhama headquarters, Monday.

"The BSF along with the Army ensured effective and impactful domination of the LoC, which led to neutralisation of all the infiltration attempts this year from the Kashmir Valley. The force has also contributed immensely in keeping a strong security grid in the hinterland, including during the Shri Amarnath Yatra 2025," Inspector General, Border Security Force (BSF), Ashok Yadav told reporters on the 61st Raising Day of the force.

Yadav said, the BSF in coordination with Army, neutralised eight terrorists while five others

### OVER 10,000 BANGLADESHIS HELD WHILE ATTEMPTING ILLEGAL BORDER CROSSINGS: BSF

➔ Kolkata: The BSF's Eastern Command on Monday said it apprehended 10,263 Bangladeshis over the past year while they were attempting to infiltrate or exfiltrate through the border, underscoring heightened vigilance along the sensitive Indo-Bangla frontier, a paramilitary force said in a statement. The force said the scale of detentions reflected intensified anti-infiltration measures, particularly during the unrest in Bangladesh, when BSF troops "burnt their midnight oil" to prevent illegal migrants from entering India. "BSF has apprehended 10,263 Bangladeshi nationals on the Indo-Bangladesh border while attempting to infiltrate/exfiltrate into Indian territory.

were pushed back. "Our G-unit is keeping a close watch on all the 69 active launching pads along the LoC, where around 100-120 terrorists have been waiting to infiltrate. Simultaneously, various training camps of terrorists are also under scrutiny of our intelligence wing," he said.

## ED issues show-cause notice to Kerala CM

**Agencies**  
New Delhi

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has slapped Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan with a show-cause notice in connection with alleged Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) violations linked to the masala bond issued by the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB).

Former Finance Minister T.M. Thomas Isaac and KIIFB Chief Executive Officer K.M. Abraham have also received



Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan

show-cause notices from the ED.

The ED said it has issued show-cause notices for the contravention of FEMA provisions and master direction of the RBI "by the KIIFB and its authorities" amounting to Rs 466.91 crore.

## CM Yogi prioritises zero-tolerance policing

**Dr Ahtesham Siddiqui**  
Lucknow

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has urged IPS trainees of the 2023 and 2024 batches to adopt "communication, sensitivity, and positivity" as guiding principles to become effective, citizen-centric police officers. During a formal interaction with 23 trainees on Monday, he highlighted that Uttar Pradesh's size and diversity present unique policing challenges. He encouraged trainees to treat their training as a golden opportunity to learn, observe,



CM Yogi Adityanath addresses 2023-24 IPS trainees, emphasising communication, positivity & policing skills.

and build a strong professional foundation.

Adityanath emphasized district-level training to develop skills for addressing real-life issues swiftly and satisfactorily,

noting that first responders earn public trust through promptness, conduct, and priorities. He urged trainees to understand police station operations, administration, in-

vestigation, duty management, and local disputes, calling the station the "backbone of policing".

CM Yogi underscored the importance of coordination between the police station, circle, and police line, and advised dignified, responsible engagement with public representatives. He highlighted vigilance against crimes targeting women, cybercrime, and illegal drugs, urging officers to master digital forensics and technology. He reminded trainees that integrity, discipline, and a humane outlook are their greatest strengths.

## Kerala Raj Bhavan officially renamed as Lok Bhavan

**Agencies**  
Thiruvananthapuram

The Raj Bhavan in Kerala was officially renamed Lok Bhavan on Monday, following a directive from the Union Home Ministry to rename Raj Bhavans and Raj Niwas across India to Lok Bhavan and Lok Niwas, respectively.

The Raj Bhavans located in Dehradun and Nainital will also be now known as Lok Bhavan. The notification for the name change was issued on Monday. The process

for this change had been underway for the past few days.

Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar called renaming Raj Bhavan to Lok Bhavan a shift from colonial to democratic mindset.

First proposed in 2022, the initiative reflects Raj Bhavan Kerala's public engagement through lectures and community outreach. The Governor appealed to the people of Kerala to wholeheartedly support this initiative and uphold the spirit of Lok Bhavan.

## FLIGHT FIASCO

## Indigo flight chaos: Pilot missing overnight

**Shashikant Sharma**  
New Delhi

A bizarre incident occurred on an Indigo flight from Delhi to Chandigarh last night. The flight, which was scheduled to depart at 9:50 pm, failed to take off despite boarding more than 300 passengers, including Himachal's Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri, Himachal Congress chief Rajni Patil, and MLA Ashish Butel. When the flight didn't



FILE

take off even after two hours, passengers began to protest. A pilot announced that the flight couldn't take off due to the absence of a co-pilot. This led to chaos,

and passengers vented their ire at the airline staff. The Deputy CM and MLA Ashish Butel had a heated argument with the staff, insisting they had to attend a cru-

After a two-hour delay, passengers protested when a pilot announced the flight couldn't depart due to a missing co-pilot, causing chaos, with travelers expressing their frustration at airline staff

cial event in Shimla. The airline scrambled to find a replacement pilot, eventually waking up a pilot from his home in Faridabad and sending a car to bring him to Del-

hi's Terminal 1. The flight finally took off at 4 am and landed in Chandigarh.

Passengers are demanding a thorough investigation, alleging that the incident would have gone unnoticed if VIPs weren't on board.

Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri has also demanded a formal inquiry and strict action against Indigo airlines. The airline has assured a proper investigation, stating they prioritize passenger safety and overall comfort.

## FI TOON



SHEKHAR

# AN UNMATCHED LEGACY: THE 1989 BATCH THAT PRODUCED 22 CHIEF SECRETARIES

Among the storied batches of Indian Administrative Service, none stand taller than the Class of 1989. With 22 Chief Secretaries produced in a single generation, and six still steering governance of key states and one serving as Election Commissioner with the Election Commission of India, this cadre's legacy offers an enduring reminder that strong institutions are shaped by strong leaders!

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

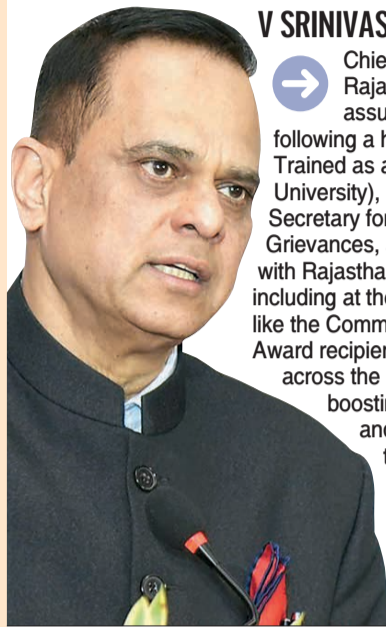
In the long annals of India's civil service, few IAS cohorts have made as decisive an impact as the 1989 batch. With an extraordinary 22 officers rising to the post of Chief Secretary, the highest position in state administration, the batch has set a benchmark unlikely to be matched. Fifteen of these officers have already completed their tenures, while seven continue to serve. Among them, Haryana cadre IAS Vivek Joshi, who served as Chief Secretary till February 2025, is now an Election Commissioner of India and remaining six helm administrative machinery of some of country's most politically and economically pivotal regions like UP, MP, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Jammu & Kashmir, collectively representing more than 40% of India's population. This exceptional concentration of leadership reflects a rare blend of discipline, dedication, that has shaped one of the most illustrious batches in administrative history.

## 15 OFFICERS WHO COMPLETED THE JOURNEY

Officers who have already served as CS for Batch of 1989 are, Amritlal Meena (Bihar), Shivdas Meena (Tamil Nadu), Dharmendra (Delhi), Santhi Kumari (Telangana), Somesh Kumar (Telangana), Rebecca Suchiang (Meghalaya), TT Toy (Nagaland), Pavan Borthakur (Assam), BP Gopalika (West Bengal), Pankaj Joshi (Gujarat), Pradeep Jena (Odisha), Umang Narula (Ladakh), Niranjan Arya (Rajasthan), Brijesh Mehrotra (Bihar), Amitabh Jain (Chattisgarh).

## THE SIX WHO CURRENTLY LEAD THEIR STATES

The remaining six distinguished officers from this remarkable 1989 cadre currently hold the reins of administration as Chief Secretaries in UP, MP, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, & J&K.



### V SRINIVAS (RAJASTHAN)

Chief Secretary of Rajasthan, V Srinivas, a 1989-batch Rajasthan cadre officer, returned to the state to formally assume the role of Chief Secretary in November 2025, following a highly productive period in the Central government. Trained as a Chemical Engineer (B.Tech and M.Tech from Osmania University), he has held major Union government posts, including Secretary for the Departments of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, and Pension and Pensioners' Welfare. Deeply familiar with Rajasthan, Srinivas has also represented India internationally, including at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and global forums like the Commonwealth Heads of Public Service. He is a Digital India Award recipient for his leadership in successfully implementing e-Office across the Government of India. His mandate is concentrated on boosting administrative transparency, improving coordination, and accelerating policy implementation in alignment with the ambitious "Viksit Rajasthan @ 2047" vision of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma. In a milestone moment, he recently became the first Indian in 100 years to be elected President of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences, a prestigious post that underscores the global recognition of India's civil service leadership.

### ANURAG JAIN (MADHYA PRADESH)

Jain, the 35th Chief Secretary of MP, is a technocrat-administrator & blends IIT-honed analytical skills with global public-administration training from the Maxwell School. His career spans key district assignments, senior state responsibilities, and significant central roles, including Joint Secretary in the PMO & Secy, Road Transport & Highways. Known for his digital governance thrust, recognised with Web Ratna Award, Jain has tightened administrative discipline since taking charge in October 2024. His extension through August 2026 underscores New Delhi and Bhopal's confidence in his leadership.



### RAJESH AGARWAL (MAHARASHTRA)

Taking charge as Chief Secretary of Maharashtra in November 2025, Rajesh Agarwal brings unusual breadth across IT, finance, administrative reforms, and social-sector governance. His final central role, Secy, Dept of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, highlighted his focus on inclusive, system-wide efficiency. With a one-year mandate, Agarwal steps in as the steady, systems-focused leader Maharashtra requires, tasked with preserving policy stability, sharpening administrative efficiency during a phase that demands rapid, disciplined governance.



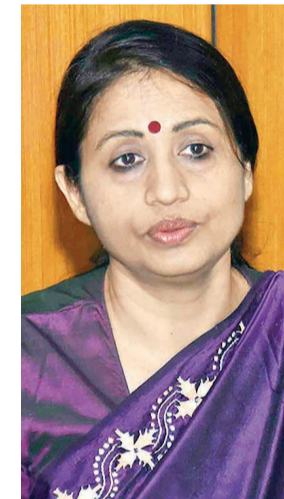
### SHASHI PRAKASH GOYAL (UTTAR PRADESH)

A steady, methodical officer known for his execution skills, Shashi Prakash Goyal took over as the Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh in July 2025. With early district stints in Etawah, Mathura, Prayagraj, and Deoria, and a central posting in Higher Education, he returned to the state in 2017 as a key figure in the office of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Goyal now anchors the state's governance priorities, speedy project delivery, corruption-free administration, and policy consistency in India's most populous state.



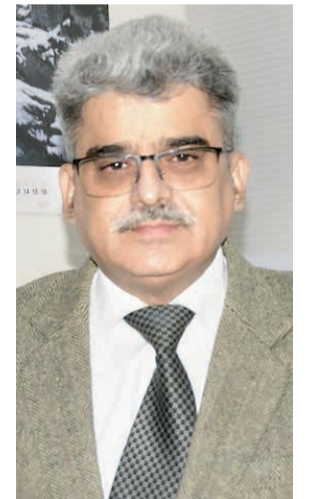
### DR SHALINI RAJNEESH (KARNATAKA)

Rajneesh is the fifth woman Chief Secretary of Karnataka and is a scholar-administrator with gold medals in Psychology, an MBA, and a PhD in Rural Development. Dr Shalini Rajneesh is known for her sharp clarity of thought and a "citizen-first" governance approach. Her stewardship of Karnataka's acclaimed Sakala programme, guaranteeing time-bound public services, earned national honours including Google Innovation Award. Since taking charge of the post of CS in July 2024, she has pushed technology-led transparency.



### ATAL DULLOO (JAMMU & KASHMIR)

Atal Dulloo, the officer from the AGMUT cadre, is Chief Secretary of Jammu & Kashmir and is a civil engineer by training and a consensus-builder by temperament. Dulloo has deep administrative roots in J&K, and his leadership has been pivotal in driving urban missions such as AMRUT and Swachh Bharat and in fast-tracking agri and climate-resilience initiatives. His steady handling of affairs during recent elections drew appreciation from the Election Commission for seamless, coordinated administration.



## B'desh court jails ex-PM Hasina for 5 years

PTI  
Dhaka



B'desh Ex-PM Sheikh Hasina

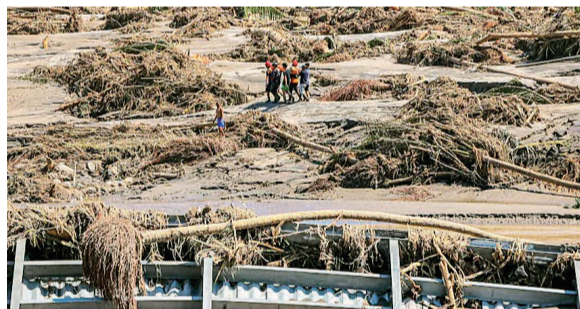
A Bangladesh court on Monday convicted and sentenced deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina to five years of imprisonment and her niece, British parliamentarian Tulip Siddiq, to a two-year jail term in a land scam case. Judge Md Rabiul Alam of the Special Judge's Court-4 of Dhaka also handed down a seven-year jail term to Hasina's sister, Sheikh Rehana, in the corruption case lodged against 17 people, the state-run BSS news agency reported. The court handed down the verdict in a packed courtroom in the absence of the three accused. Siddiq, a British-Bang-

The 14 other accused were jailed for five years each. The court also imposed a fine of Tk 1 lakh each on all 17 convicts, including Hasina, Rehana, and Siddiq, failing which they will have to serve an additional six months in jail.

Anti-Corruption Commission prosecutor Khan Mainul Hasan claimed Siddiq called the then premier's principal secretary Salahuddin Ahmed via encrypted apps and even met him while she was in Dhaka

ladeshi Labour Party politician, is Rehana's daughter and has been the Member of Parliament for Hampstead and Highgate since 2015. The interim govt in April issued an arrest warrant for Siddiq, 43, as part of investigations into corruption during Hasina's premiership.

## Deadly rains devastate South & Southeast Asia



Local residents inspect an area hit by deadly flash floods following heavy rains in Palembang, Agam regency.

Agencies  
Padang Sidempuan

Recovery and relief operations are underway across Southeast and South Asia after a week of severe rains and flooding left hundreds dead and many more missing. Indonesia reported at least 469 deaths, Thailand 162, and Sri Lanka 334. In

Thailand, severe flooding across 12 southern provinces has affected over 3.8 million people, prompting the government to announce compensation measures. Sri Lanka is still searching for 370 missing people, with nearly 148,000 displaced and living in temporary shelters after landslides and widespread flooding.

## Virender Choudhary reviews progress of Jayal hostel project

First India Bureau  
Nagaur



Former PCC member Virender Choudhary inspected the under-construction hostel building of the Shri Baldevram Mirdha Vidyapeeth Sansthan on Monday. Also seen are Jayal Deputy Pradhan Tilok Ram Roz; former Sarpanch Jochina Purna Ram; former Pradhan representative Dewaram Lamrod; Gordhan Ram Rewad; Ganesh Ram Siyak; Sarpanch Gorau Gopal; Jora Ram Gujarayas; Ramiwas Lamrod; Parsa Ram Manglod; Bhanwar Lamrod; Jayaram Lamrod and Sahdev Roz, along with many local residents.

In Jayal, Nagaur district, former PCC member and First India News Director, Virender Choudhary, inspected the under-construction hostel building of Shri Baldevram Mirdha Vidyapeeth Sansthan. Expressing satisfaction over the progress of the project, he extended best wishes to the managing committee and said, "Higher education can only become stronger when modern educational facilities are available in rural areas."

During the inspection, he reviewed the current stage of construction, the quality of work and discussed future plans with the officials.



Former PCC member Virender Choudhary also visited Sinod village to attend the condolence meeting of journalist Mahendra Choudhary's grandmother Mohini Devi on Monday.

## BWC 50TH ANNIVERSARY

## Jaishankar urges stronger global biosecurity

ANI  
New Delhi



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar addresses a conference on '50 Years of the Biological Weapons Convention: Strengthening Bio-security for the Global South', in New Delhi.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday warned that the threat of biological weapons and bioterrorism is no longer theoretical and urged the international community to modernise global biosecurity frameworks under the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). "Misuse by non-state actors is no longer a distant possibility. Bioterrorism is a serious concern that the international

community has to be adequately prepared for," Jaishankar said while addressing a two-day conference on '50 years of

the Biological Weapons Convention: Strengthening Biosecurity for the Global South'. Pointing out critical

Reflecting on the BWC's five decades of existence, S Jaishankar said its core principle--rejecting disease as a weapon--remains vital, but the convention must evolve to remain effective

structural inadequacies within the 50-year-old convention, the Minister noted that the BWC currently has "no compliance

system, no permanent technical body and no mechanism to track new scientific developments." "These gaps must be bridged in order to strengthen confidence," Jaishankar stressed. He reiterated India's long-standing position supporting stronger compliance and verification mechanisms designed for contemporary scientific realities. India, he said, also backs international cooperation for peaceful biological research and exchange of materials and technology.

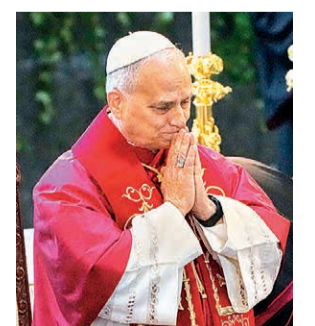
## Former Pak PM son voices fears for father's safety

ANI  
Islamabad

Imran Khan's son, Kasim Khan, has expressed grave concern over the lack of information about the jailed former prime minister's health, saying authorities may be hiding "something irreversible." Khan's family and party leaders say they have been denied access for over three weeks and have had no verified contact for months.

## Pope urges Christians to stay in the Middle East

Agencies  
Beirut



Pope Leo XIV's visit to Lebanon underscores the country's unique position as a Middle Eastern nation where Christians continue to enjoy religious freedom and political influence despite years of crises. His trip serves as a message urging Christians not to abandon the region, even as communities elsewhere have dwindled. In Iraq and Syria, Christian populations have sharply declined due to war, the rise of the Is-

lamic State group, and ongoing insecurity. IS destroyed churches, seized Christian property, and triggered mass displacement.

# FIRST INDIA 2ND FRONT

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Your character is the quiet sum of your daily habits.

DR JAGDEESH CHANDRA, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



08

## STATE CABINET RESHUFFLE DEFERS

# Rejig air likely to clear post Parliament Winter Session

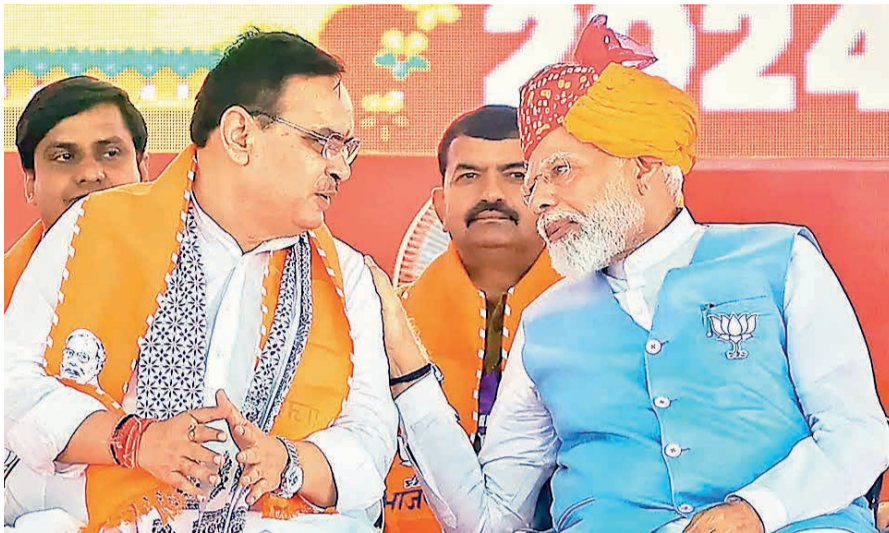
Sources say party high command in New Delhi to decide the date

Aditi Nagar  
New Delhi/Jaipur

The Chief Minister and the BJP's central leadership have reached an agreement in principle for a major reshuffle in the State Cabinet, but the exercise will not take place on the earlier speculated date of December 2, party sources said.

According to sources, the plan involves a complete overhaul of the Cabinet, though the final timeline remains unclear. Sources indicated that only the party's top leadership in New Delhi is in a position to decide when the reshuffle will be carried out.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled



PM Modi likely to visit Jaipur on Dec 10 to attend Rajasthani Pravasi Divas programme. FILE

to visit Jaipur on December 10 to attend a conference of Rajasthani expatriates. Industrial investment has been a key priority for the Prime Minister, and the Chief Minister is expected to travel to New Delhi in the coming days to formally invite him for the event.

The Chief Minister's camp is upbeat about the Prime Minister's upcoming visit, seeing it as an important political and administrative engagement. However, the postponement of the reshuffle has caused disappointment among leaders who had been preparing for December 2, with

some expecting a call to the Raj Bhavan.

Many within the party now believe the reshuffle may take place only after the current Lok Sabha session concludes. But with no final decision announced, uncertainty continues over when the long-awaited changes will be implemented.



Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari participates in the birth anniversary celebrations of Mahant Shri Pramendra Nath Ji Maharaj at Shri Baad Peepali Balaji Dham, Jaipur, on Monday.

## Diya participates in Mahagaddi ceremony; holds public hearing

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari on Monday visited Shri Bad Peepali Balaji Dham in Vidyadhar Nagar to participate in the Mahagaddi ceremony on the occasion of Mahant Premendranath Maharaj's birthday. She offered prayers and extended her greetings, praising the Mahant's guidance and his

By CM Diya Kumari highlighted the state Government's initiatives to promote religious tourism and improve facilities for devotees

efforts in developing Santan and other religious sites. Kumari highlighted the state government's initiatives to promote religious tourism and improve

facilities for devotees.

Later, she held a public hearing at her Civil Lines residence, where citizens raised concerns about roads, electricity, encroachments, drinking water, and other local issues. The Deputy CM directed officials to take immediate action, earning appreciation from attendees for her proactive approach and responsiveness.

Over 200 Panchayat Samiti Chiefs seek admin posts after tenure ends

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Over 200 Panchayat Samiti Chiefs gathered in Jaipur on Monday, demanding appointment as administrators after the completion of their terms. The delegation, led by Rajasthan Pradhan Sangh president Dinesh Sunda, submitted a memorandum to the CM seeking official consideration of their request.

Earlier, the representatives met Panchayati Raj Minister Madan Dilawar to discuss their demands and the administrative implications of the end of their tenure. They are now scheduled to meet the Chief Secretary and Panchayati Raj Secretary Dr Jogaram to further advocate their position.

According to the association, the move aims to ensure continuity in governance and prevent administrative gaps at the Panchayat Samiti level.

## CS Srinivas pushes for transparent governance, improved road safety

Officials asked to implement 'Max Governance, Min Government' principle

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Chief Secretary V Srinivas on Monday highlighted the State Government's focus on strengthening governance and road safety, aiming to make administration more transparent, accountable, efficient, and citizen-centric. He urged officials to prepare action plans under the "Maximum Governance, Minimum Government" principle to accelerate Rajasthan's overall development.

Srinivas reviewed departmental schemes and budget allocations in a meeting with officials from Finance, Law, IT, Personnel, Administrative Reforms, and Public Relations departments. He stressed that the "Developed Rajasthan-2047"



Chief Secretary V Srinivas

roadmap seeks inclusive development, with services reaching the last beneficiary through timely and transparent implementation of budget announcements.

Additional Chief Secretary Bhaskar A Sawant, Finance Secretary Rajan Vishal, DoP Secretary Archana Singh, and other senior officials attended the meeting.

In a separate session on road safety with WHO and AIIMS representatives, Srinivas underlined continuous measures to prevent accidents, improve emergency response, and strengthen road safety systems.

CM PRAISES CHIEF SECY'S OPEN-DOOR POLICY AS A MODEL FOR TRANSPARENCY

Amid a stricter bureaucracy, a refreshing change is earning praise in Rajasthan. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma has appreciated Chief Secretary V Srinivas for his open-door policy. The Chief Minister commended Chief Secretary Srinivas' initiative of meeting people without appointments three days a week, which has improved transparency and responsiveness in the State Secretariat by allowing direct public access. CM Sharma described this as a model of transparent governance and instructed senior officials to adopt a similar approach. The move is being widely recognised as a positive shift within the bureaucratic functioning of the state.

## Courtesy Meet



Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, along with his wife Pana Devi, meets Prime Minister Narendra Modi and presents handmade handicraft souvenirs and a copy of the book 'A Journey with a Companion', in New Delhi, on Monday.



Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani, Urban Development and Housing Minister Jhabar Singh Kharra, and Ajmer South MLA Anita Bhadel, along with other, display the brochure of the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Nagar Residential Scheme, in Ajmer, on Monday.

## Speaker Vasudev Devnani launches residential scheme in Ajmer

First India Bureau  
Ajmer

The Ajmer Development Authority on Monday launched the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Nagar Residential Scheme. The inauguration was jointly carried out by Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani, Urban Development Minister Jhabar Singh Kharra and Ajmer South MLA Anita Bhadel. A detailed brochure of the project was also released, with Kharra announcing

A detailed brochure of the project was also released, with Kharra announcing the reserved residential rate at Rs 14,700 per sq m

the reserved residential rate at Rs 14,700 per sq m. Later, Devnani inaugurated the Kho-Kho competition under the 5th Khelo India University Games - 2025 at the Indoor Patel Stadium. He praised the enthusiasm

and discipline of participants from across the country and wished them success, calling such events a strong platform for youth development.

At his residence, the Speaker also marked Gita Jayanti, emphasising the Bhagavad Gita's relevance in today's stressful lifestyle. He said its teachings of courage, patience and balance guide individuals toward truth, duty and self-fulfilment. Priests from various temples attended the event.

## ALL 24 MILK UNITS IN STATE OPERATING PROFITABLY

# Dairy sector sees record growth under CM Sharma

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, Rajasthan's dairy and livestock sector is witnessing unprecedented growth, boosting the economic and social lives of rural communities. Operational milk cooperatives have become profitable, with annual turnover rising from Rs 8,000 crore to Rs 10,000 crore and profits increasing by 44 per cent. Previously loss-making units

A Rs 1,000 crore infrastructure fund has been established to upgrade dairy plants in Kota, Bharatpur, Alwar, Udaipur, and Jodhpur

are now all profitable.

The state's milk processing capacity is being expanded from 48 lakh litres per day to 54 lakh litres, with a target of 70 lakh litres in the next two years. A Rs 1,000 crore infrastructure fund has been established to upgrade dairy plants in

Kota, Bharatpur, Alwar, Udaipur, and Jodhpur.

The Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation is also enhancing livestock quality under the National Gokul Mission, producing one lakh sex-sorted semen doses annually. Around one lakh new farmers have joined the cooperative movement, receiving fair milk procurement rates and improved livelihoods. RCDF's innovations have earned national recognition, including selections in all three categories of the prestigious Gopal Ratna Award.

## Minister Rathore inspects Jodhpur Handicraft facility to boost MSMEs

First India Bureau  
Jodhpur

Industry Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore on Monday inspected the newly developed Handicraft Common Facility Centre in Jodhpur, built at a cost of Rs 180 crore to strengthen the state's handicraft sector, particularly furniture manufacturing. The facility provides modern machinery and technology to help small artisans and MSMEs enhance production quality and compete globally.



Cabinet Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore during inspection of Handicraft Common Facility Centre, in Jodhpur, on Monday.

Rathore announced a 25 per cent freight subsidy to reduce transportation costs and revealed plans to replicate the model for metal and stone crafts. He said the initiative aligns with the

government's vision to empower artisans, support MSMEs, and elevate Rajasthan's handicrafts in international markets, ensuring equal opportunities for small and large producers.



The Bhajan Lal Government is also enhancing livestock quality under the National Gokul Mission. FILE

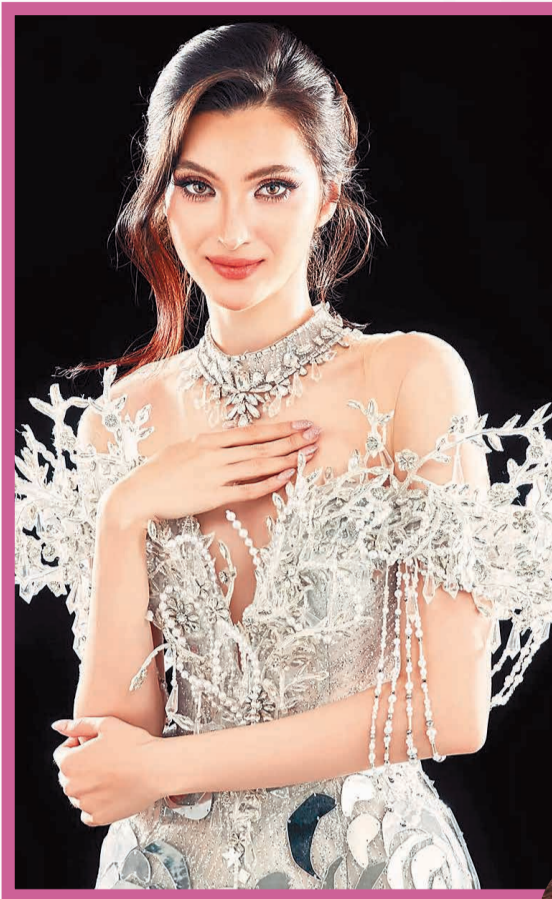


**JAIPUR WELCOMES STARS!**

The much-anticipated film Tere Ishq Mein's star cast, Dhanush, Kriti Sanon, and director Aanand L Rai, arrived in Jaipur on Monday, delighting fans at Rajmandir Cinema.



Roosh Sindhu (Miss India International 2025)



Roosh Sindhu dazzled in the National Costume round as she represented India with elegance and pride.

# Roosh Rises Radiantly

Roosh Sindhu Makes History at Miss International 2025, places in Top 20 After 12 Years



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Roosh Sindhu



Roosh Sindhu and Nikhil Anand



**Kavita Chauhan**

cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

**T**okyo witnessed an evening of glamour and global celebration on November 27 as the Miss International 2025 Grand Finale unfolded in all its splendour. While Colombia's Catalina Duke claimed the coveted crown, the night turned equally memorable for India as Roosh Sindhu created history by securing a place in the Top 20, breaking India's 12-year-long drought at Miss International.

Roosh Sindhu's journey to the Miss International stage has been one of unwavering determination, discipline, and excellence. Her entry into the Top 20 not only marks a major individual achievement but also reinstates India's strong presence in

the international beauty pageant arena. From cultural representation to her impactful advocacy, Roosh impressed the judges and audience alike, restoring faith in India's pageant aspirations.

Congratulatory messages have been pouring in from across the country. Dr. Jagdeesh Chandra, also congratulated Roosh Sindhu for her remarkable achievement, praising her for "making history and bringing pride to the nation." He applauded both Roosh and Nikhil Anand for their dedication and highlighted how this milestone would inspire many young Indian women aspiring to shine on international platforms.

A significant part of her success is attributed to the relentless hard work put in by

Nikhil Anand, Director of Glamanand Entertainment, the organization responsible for sending India's representatives to Miss International. Known for his commitment to grooming and preparing young Indian women for global pageants, Nikhil Anand worked closely with Roosh Sindhu throughout the year. His strategic guidance, rigorous training modules, and sharp vision played an instrumental role in elevating Roosh's performance at every stage of the competition.

Although the crown eluded India this year, Roosh Sindhu's historic placement has opened new doors of hope and ambition. Her achievement reflects the rising standards of Indian participation at global pageants and sets a promising tone for the years ahead. With this breakthrough, India proudly returns to the spotlight—stronger, more confident, and ready for the next leap.



# Hindi Cinema Lost Its **KINDEST PULSE**

## The Gentle Giant Who Carried Sunlight in His Eyes



**Tanusha Nagrath**

Content Writer, Media Freelancer

### ABOUT THE DAY A CERTAIN WARMTH LEFT OUR WORLD

There are days when the news does not feel like news at all.

It feels like a small earthquake in the crevices of the heart, a quiet shifting of something old, something blue, something borrowed all assembled as something deeply loved and lost...

Monday, 24 November 2025, was one such day.

Hindi cinema lost the man who had been its pulse - its old, beating, human pulse.

Dharmendra ji, at 89, left for his onward journey, and with him, an entire era folded its wings.

For so many of us, he was not merely an actor.

He was a feeling, a mood, a memory, a softness wrapped in strength.

### THE CHILDHOOD MOMENT THAT NEVER LEFT ME

My earliest memory of Dharm paaji is not from a film at all.

I was watching an award show with my father, a man who has adored Dharmendra ji all his life.

Onstage, Dharmendra ji accepted a Lifetime Achievement Award.

His voice trembled, and he said he hardly ever received awards.

I remember glancing at my father. Something within him swelled...

pride, love, pain, all tangled together.

### THAT MOMENT ROOTED ITSELF IN ME.

Later, as I began discovering his films one by one, I would return to that memory, stunned at how someone so effortlessly brilliant could go unrecognised for the depth he carried.

We often speak of his charm, beauty, and magnetism.

But to me, the magic was elsewhere...

In the poetry his eyes held,

In the ease with which he slipped into a character,

In the honesty he never had to act.

Watch Anupama, Bandini, or Satyakam, and you will find an actor who could move you with silence alone.

He filled the screen physically, yes, but his soul filled the spaces in between.

No one romanced on screen the way he did.

No one raged like him.

No one fought like him, making even grit look lyrical.

He was not just versatile.

He was fluid, shifting from larger-than-life heroism to gentle vulnerability without ever breaking his truth.

### A GRACE THAT COULD NEVER BE MANUFACTURED

Dharmendra ji was different because he did not just perform humanity...he lived it.

A dignity so grounded in a world that often forgets its own roots.

The warmth in him was such that could not be choreographed.

His passing leaves a gap that is not cinematic; it is cultural, emotional, and personal.

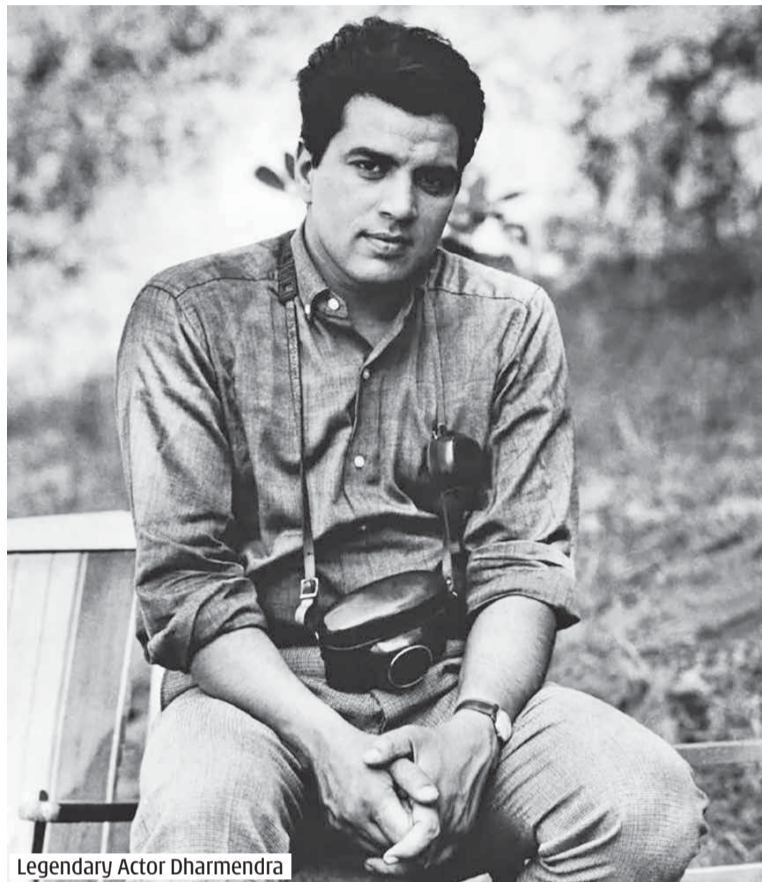
A face that reminded us that strength can be quiet.

A space where goodness lived.

That simplicity can be noble.

Holding up a mirror to tenderness, courage, and decency.

Showing us that humility, even in a giant, can feel like sunlight.



Legendary Actor Dharmendra

His legacy is not only in the films he gave us.

It is in the experiences he left behind.

Dr. Parimal's mischief.

Veeru's laughter.

Satyakam's conscience.

The moments when he showed us that honesty - plain, unpolished honesty, is timeless.

### A MAN WHO REDEFINED THE HERO

There was a certain paradox about him.

Swagger and innocence, fire and quietude, bravery and softness.

He was the man who could break into a fight scene and still recite poetry.

The hero who could make vulnerability look heroic.

From the reluctant saviour in Mera Gaon Mera Desh, to the prankster professor in Chupke

Chupke.

From the idealist engineer of Satyakam, to the wounded truck driver in Pratigya, Dharmendra ji became the most adaptable icon of Hindi cinema.

Over 300 films.

Six decades of work.

At least one clean hit every decade.

Between 1966 and 1975, a dozen consecutive hits.

Even his so-called average films made money because the audience trusted him, especially the heartlands, where his honesty resonated like an old folk tune.

### SAIRA BANU JI'S MEMORY: THE STORY THAT SAYS EVERYTHING

But perhaps the truest picture of Dharmendra ji comes from Saira Banu ji's words after his passing. Her message carried the ache of



losing someone who was not merely a colleague, but her beloved Dilip Kumar Saab's "Dharam."

She recalled a story Dharmendra ji told with childlike innocence, again and again, through the years.

It was 1952.

A young boy from Ludhiana, stirred deeply by Shaheed, came to Bombay with one dream:

to meet Dilip Kumar Saab, the man whose performance had touched something sacred within him.

He walked to Pali Hill, into the home where Dilip Saab lived.

No one stopped him.

Inside, he saw Dilip Saab asleep on a sofa, afternoon sunlight resting gently on his face.

The boy stood frozen, trembling with reverence.

As Dilip Saab stirred awake, the young Dharam panicked and fled... a startled deer escaping its own daring.

That moment, he would recount for decades, always with a shy smile.

It was his first glimpse of the man who would later become his elder brother in spirit.

Six years later, destiny wove their fates together again.

Through the Filmfare Talent Hunt, arranged by Farida, Dilip Saab's sister,

the young aspirant met his idol! not as a star on a pedestal, but as a man with eyes full of kindness.

On a chilly evening, before they

parted, Dilip Saab removed his own sweater and wrapped it around Dharam ji's shoulders.

The gesture was small, but it stitched a bond that lasted a lifetime.

Sometimes, the tenderness we receive in our youth shapes us forever.

And perhaps that is why Dharmendra ji carried such gentleness all his life.

### THE FAREWELL THAT DOESN'T FEEL FINAL

His loss sits like a sorrow of a heavy metal.

Yet strangely, the sadness is laced with light.

Because a life lived with such sincerity does not vanish; it lingers in its lessons.

The love people gave him, the respect he quietly earned, remains untouched.

Souls like his do not leave. They soften into memory, into the scenes that still move us,

into the values we learned without knowing-kindness, grace, courage, humility.

Dharmendra ji, walked through our cinematic history like a man carrying a lantern...

lighting corners of our collective imagination that will never go dark. Some stars don't fade.

They simply shift to a quieter sky and shine from there...

- Rest in Eternity.





Dhanush and Kriti Sanon

## JAIPUR CELEBRATES FILM STAR ARRIVAL

City First  
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

**T**he star cast of the much-awaited film Tere Ishq Mein arrived in Jaipur on Monday, creating a wave of excitement among cinema lovers. Actors Dhanush and Kriti Sanon, along with director Aanand L Rai, were welcomed by an enthusiastic crowd at the iconic Rajmandir Cinema. Fans gathered in large numbers to see the team, cheering as the cast interacted, waved, and shared moments with them. The atmosphere

turned electric as the stars acknowledged the overwhelming support coming from Jaipur.

Released on November 28, Tere Ishq Mein has quickly emerged as a major box-office success. The film crossed the ₹50 crore mark within just three days, strongly reflecting the audience's appreciation. Viewers across the country continue to give the film an overwhelmingly positive response. The Jaipur visit further boosted the buzz, with fans celebrating the cast's presence and the film's impressive early performance.



Aanand L Rai, Dhanush, and Kriti Sanon at Rajmandir Cinema

### BAGHPAT DM PLEDGES EYE DONATION



IAS Asmita Lal, District Magistrate, Baghpat (UP)

In a remarkable act of compassion, IAS officer Asmita Lal, District Magistrate of Baghpat, publicly pledged to donate her eyes after death, inspiring bureaucracy and citizens alike. Speaking at a special event, she highlighted that timely notification after death can restore sight to two individuals and urged people to participate in eye-donation drives. Lal dedicated her pledge to her late grandfather, SS Lal, emphasising that small noble acts can foster a culture of service and humanity across society.

### Spiritual Exchange India-UAE

City First  
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

**H**aji Syed Salman Chishty, 26th-Generation Hereditary Gaddi-Nashin of Ajmer Sharif and Chairman of the Chishty Foundation, was a distinguished guest at the Tanweer Festival held recently in Sharjah, UAE, celebrating light, creativity and cultural harmony.

During the festival, he held an insightful meeting with Her Highness Sheikhha Bodour bint Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, discussing potential collaborations linking India's Indic folk mystic traditions, Sufi-Bhakti music, and sacred art with the festival. He also extended an invitation to the Sharjah Royal Family to visit Ajmer Dargah Sharif, highlighting its spiritual



Haji Syed Salman Chishty with AR Rahman

ual and cultural significance. The festival featured a soul-stirring Sufi music performance by Oscar-winning composer AR Rahman and the debut of his daughter Khatija Rahman's ensemble, Rooh-e-Noor, blending devotional compositions with mesmerising visual projections of Ajmer Sharif. Haji Syed Salman emphasised the festival's role in fostering global cultural and spiritual dialogue.

## First Woman Cricketer Honoured with Wax Figure

City First  
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

**I**n a historic first, Indian Women's Cricket Team Captain Harmanpreet Kaur is set to become the world's first women's cricketer to have a life-sized wax figure, with the Jaipur Wax Museum leading the initiative. The museum team recently met Harmanpreet to take precise body measurements and capture detailed photos and videos for crafting the statue.

Curator and Founder



Harmanpreet Kaur during her measurements for her wax figure creation

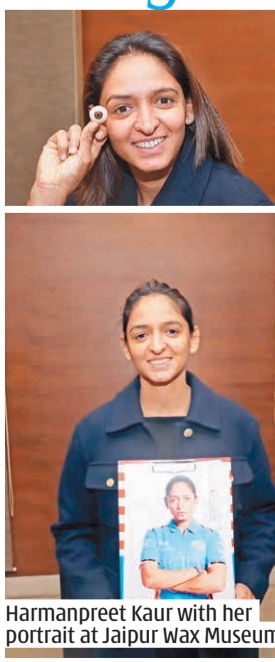
Anoop Srivastava praised her humility and enthusiasm during the session, noting that she expressed gratitude to the museum and showed keen interest in the wax-making process. Harmanpreet has promised to attend the unveiling ceremony with her family.

Highlighting the museum's focus on inspirational icons over celebrities, Srivastava emphasized that Harmanpreet's figure will motivate young girls nationwide. The museum al-



Anoop Srivastava with Harmanpreet Kaur

ready features sports legends like Sachin Tendulkar, Virat Kohli, MS Dhoni, Saina Nehwal, & Sandeep Singh, set within a stunning 300-year-old heritage site, making it a unique destination for wax and history enthusiasts alike.



Harmanpreet Kaur with her portrait at Jaipur Wax Museum



### MINIATURE ART EXCELLENCE RECOGNISED

On the 82nd birthday of Kalaguru Dr Sumhendra, Kalavritt announced the winners of the 6th National Contemporary Miniature Painting Workshop, organised with Rajasthan Lalit Kala Academy. The

Padma Shri Ramgopal Vijayargiya Award went to Aniket Verma, while Alka Sharma received the Padma Shri Kripal Singh Shekhawat Award. Other honourees included Ruchi Sharma, Mahak Buria, Meena

Jain and Dr Namita Soni for the Chairman's Choice award. Kalavritt President Sundeeep Sumhendra lauded participants for blending traditional miniature techniques with modern creativity, preserving the art form for future generations.

### SEEDLING'S SPORTS CARNIVAL



Seedling Modern High School hosted its Sports Carnival 2025 - Grand Ring Gala on Saturday at Jaipur National University Sports Complex, transforming the venue into a circus-themed arena of athletic and artistic brilliance. Nearly 800 students participated in relay races, obstacle courses, and dance performances, celebrating determination, rhythm, and teamwork. Pre-Primary and Cambridge Wing students added charm with themed obstacle races, while senior students paid tribute to the Indian Women's Cricket Team. Dr Sandeep Bakshi and Dr Preeti Bakshi, Executive Director, lauded participants for energy, fair play, and resilience. Winners received medals and certificates, concluding a day of joy, creativity, and community spirit.

### Jaipur Comes Together for Impactful World AIDS Day Campaign

# VOICES FOR CHANGE



A still from the Nukkad Natak



RAYS family with the participants of the Walkathon

City First  
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

**W**orld AIDS Day was marked with a powerful show of solidarity as Rays - Aasha ki Ek Kiran, an NGO serving HIV-positive children for 15 years, partnered with Positive YUVA Network, a community-based organisation working with marginalised youth, to organise a large-

scale awareness event sponsored by AU Small Finance Bank on Monday. Over 400 young participants from NCC units, city colleges, and NGOs gathered at Jawahar Circle for an awareness walk aimed at promoting empathy, accurate information, and dignity for people living with HIV.

The programme opened with a high-energy Zumba session, followed by live music and an interactive quiz that kept the crowd

engaged. A thought-provoking Nukkad Natak became the highlight of the day, addressing stigma, myths, mental health challenges, and the real-life experiences of individuals living with HIV. As the participants marched with banners and messages of support, they carried forward a strong call for a stigma-free and compassionate society.

Reflecting on the initiative, Gurinder Virk, Co-founder and Secretary of

Rays - Aasha ki Ek Kiran, said that the movement began with a simple belief—that no young person living with HIV should ever feel alone. The overwhelming youth participation, he noted, shows their readiness to lead positive change. The event underscored the enduring message that awareness dispels fear and empathy dismantles stigma, marking a meaningful step toward a more inclusive and informed Rajasthan.



The walkathon saw enthusiastic participation as people walked together to support the initiative



The newlyweds Urvashi and Abhijeet with Sumitra Soni, Yashwant Soni, Alifirdoush Khan, Gaurav Gaur, Akanksha Bhalla & Pihu Choudhary

### WEDDING SPECTACLE

City First  
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

**T**he grand wedding of Urvashi, daughter of Sumitra and Yashwant Soni, with Abhijeet, son of Sangeeta and Govind Soni, was celebrated at Hotel Sajjan Prabh, Vijay Nagar Square, Indore, on Sunday. The ceremony was marked

by elegance and grandeur, attended by family and friends. Gaurav Gaur, founder and director of Elite Miss Rajasthan, graced the occasion along with supermodels Akanksha Bhalla, Alifirdoush Khan, and Pihu Choudhary, adding glamour and charm to the festivities. The event reflected joy, tradition, and celebration of union.

### MODELS SHINE AT AUDITIONS



Stunning contestants of Miss Urvashi - Season 4

The Jaipur auditions for the national-level beauty pageant Miss Urvashi - Season 4, organised by Elite Production House, were held at a cafe in Bani Park on Sunday. Female models from Jaipur's Miss category participated, showcasing their talent on the ramp in black one-piece dresses. Organiser Virendra Agarwal and show director Rachna Chaudhary highlighted that the pageant, themed "The Gateway to Bollywood," aims to connect young women with the entertainment industry. Around 100 shortlisted contestants from across India will undergo grooming sessions, photoshoots, talent rounds, and special activities, leading up to the grand finale on December 31. The pageant, free of cost, offers winners direct opportunities in Bollywood projects. The jury included Miss Urvashi Runner-Up 2024, Mamta Khichi and Rachna Chaudhary.



Utkarsha

# JOYOUS CELEBRATIONS!



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Birthday beauty Anshika Choudhary. Also seen are (L-R) Sanju Choudhary, Parineeta Bakshi, Priyan Sain, Somya Gupta and Kezia



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra greets birthday girl Anshika Choudhary. Also seen are Dharpal Saharan, Reyana, Sudhir Godara, Avantika, Digvijay Saharan, Soniya Saharan and Manju Godara



Birthday beauty Anshika Choudhary

## FOUR-DAY CELEBRATION FOR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED BEGINS

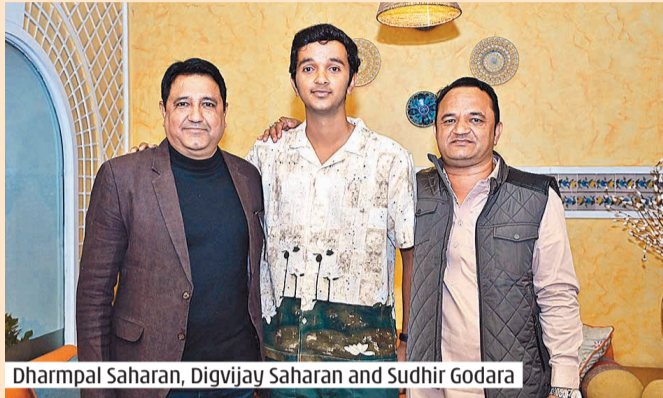


On the occasion of International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Socialist for Education for Differently Abled and Abhilasha Special School organised a four-day series of events from December 1 to 4. The programs aimed to promote the rights, abilities, and social participation of differently-abled individuals. The events began with IG Gaurav Srivastava inaugurating the Signature Campaign-on-wheel, which visited city schools for students to record messages of support. Rainu Singh, School Director and anchor of Bhule Bisre Nagme, and a notable member of the First India family, was also present. Activities included a "Colours of Inclusion" art workshop, a boat ride, an Inclusion Marathon at Fatehsagar Lake, and concluded with a special program and art exhibition on December 4.



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**S**upermodel and Miss Universe India show coordinator Anshika Choudhary celebrated her 23rd birthday with joy and heartfelt blessings at a city hotel on Sunday. The evening was graced by Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, who congratulated Anshika and wished her the very best for the year ahead. The birthday girl sought his blessings and



Dharpal Saharan, Digvijay Saharan and Sudhir Godara

expressed gratitude for the love and warmth she received, making the occasion truly memorable. Close family and friends, including her sister Reyana,

among other members, namely Dharpal Saharan, Sudhir Godara, Avantika, Digvijay Saharan, Soniya Saharan, Manju Godara, Sanju Choudhary, Ronak Kanodia, Parineeta Bakshi, Priyan Sain, Somya Gupta, and Kezia, joined the celebrations. The event was filled with laughter, love, and cherished moments as everyone marked this special milestone.

## JOYOUS WEDDING CELEBRATION



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra congratulates the Newlyweds, Priyanka and Karan. Also present are Sanjay Johari and Rachna Johari

The grand wedding of Priyanka, daughter of Krishna & Late Chaudhary Jairaj Singh, with Karan, son of Suhita Kanwar and Ram Singh Badgujar, was joyously celebrated on Sunday at Ganesh Paradise, Muhan Mandi, Jaipur. Dr Jagdeesh Chandra graced the occasion, extending his blessings to the couple and congratulating both families on their joyous union. Friends, close relatives and well-wishers, including Chaudhary Ajit Singh, Satya Pal Singh and Akshat Singh, Sanjay Johari and Rachna Johari among others gathered to shower the newlyweds with heartfelt wishes, filling the celebration with warmth, love and togetherness.

NAIM KHAN

## YOUNG INDIANS JAIPUR CHAPTER ORGANISED ANNUAL SESSION AT ITC RAJPUTANA

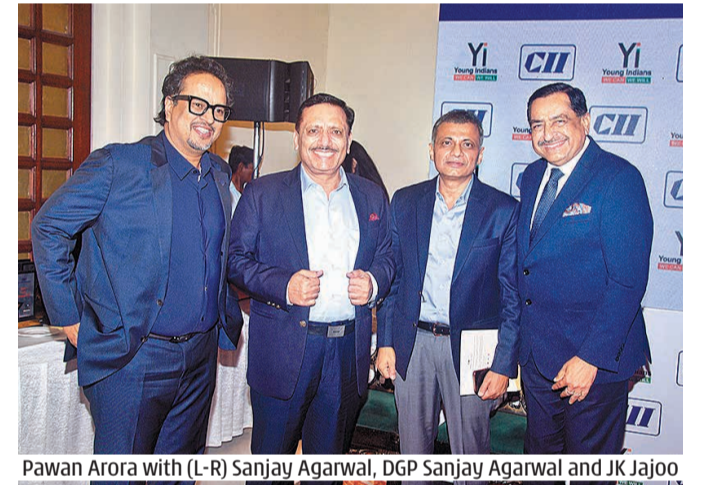
# New Leadership Begins



Mukesh Kiradoo



Nitin Gupta, Mohit Jajoo, Sanjay Agarwal, DGP Sanjay Agarwal, Rahul Kalani & Rahul Singhal during the event



Pawan Arora with (L-R) Sanjay Agarwal, DGP Sanjay Agarwal and JK Jajoo

**Divya Kanwaliya**  
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

**T**he Young Indians (Yi) Jaipur Chapter held its Annual Session at ITC Rajputana on Monday, in the collaboration with CII (Confederation of Indian Industry), marking a leadership transition and celebrating a record year of achievements. In the 2025 cycle, Mohit Jajoo served as Chair and now moves into the role of Outgoing Chair. Rahul Kalani, this year's Co-Chair, has been announced as the new Chair of Yi Jaipur, with Sankalp Gupta named the



JK Jajoo and Pawan Arora, surrounded by family members and an engrossed audience

incoming Co-Chair. The event featured special addresses by Sanjay Agarwal, Chairman of CII Rajasthan and MD & CEO of AU Small Finance Bank, and Sanjay Agarwal, DGP (Law & Order). They spoke on youth leadership, public responsibility, socio-economic change and safety issues, including drugs, crimes against women, cybercrimes and traffic. DGP stressed the importance of prevention, awareness and cyber hygiene in improving public safety. Yi Jaipur announced that it has crossed 300+ members, becoming the 6th largest

est Yi chapter in India, and conducted 411 activities this year across key verticals such as child safety, health, road safety, climate change, rural learning and entrepreneurship. Garima Jajoo, Yuva Chair 2025, Yi Jaipur and CHRO of JK Jajoo Ventures who also recognised as the top performer.

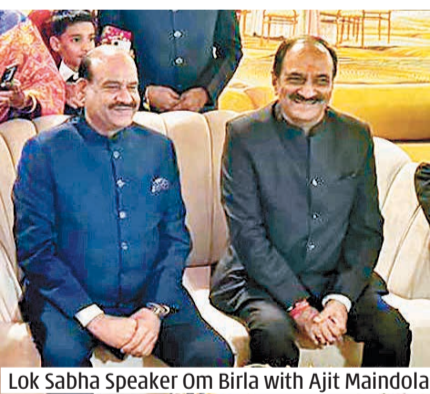
JK Jajoo Founder and Chairman of Shubhashish Homes, Pawan Arora CEO and Managing Editor of First India News with wife Ritu Arora and son Atul Arora also graced the occasion. Nitin Gupta also present. The session concluded with a felicitation ceremony for top performers and all teams of Yi.

NAIM KHAN

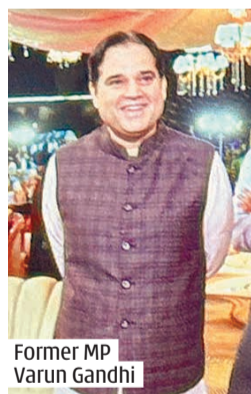
## FESTIVE WEDDING GALA IN NEW DELHI



Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia congratulates Bride Aishwarya. Also present is Ajit Maindola



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla with Ajit Maindola



Former MP Varun Gandhi

The grand wedding celebration of Aishwarya, daughter of Dr Asha Tiwari and Ajit Maindola, with Chiranjeevi Sughosh, son of Neeta Maithani and Shailendra Maithani, was joyously held on Monday at AAI Officers' Institute, B-1 Bungalow, Flying Club Road, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi. The ceremony was graced by several dignitaries, including Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and Former MP Varun Gandhi, among others. Family, friends, and close relatives were also present to bless the newlyweds and celebrate the auspicious occasion.



TRIBUTE PAID!

Family and close relatives paid floral tribute during the condolence meeting

The condolence meeting for the late Sundar Devi Rathore, wife of the late Poonamchand Rathore and mother of IAS Ujjwal Rathore who passed away on November 28, was held at Moti Doongri Jain Dadawadi on Monday. Family members, including sons Ujjwal and Rekha, daughters Usha -Prakash Chand, and other relatives, gathered to pay their respects. Grandchildren Ankit - Bhavi and great-grandchildren Navika and Samarth were also present, mourning the sudden loss. The gathering reflected the family's grief and offered an opportunity for friends & well-wishers to extend their condolences.

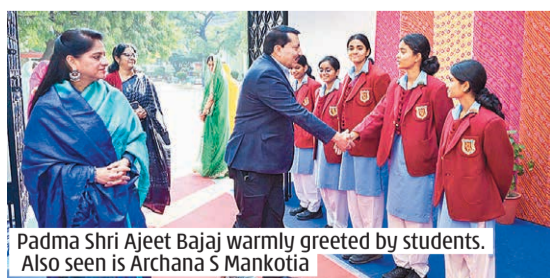


Bhavi and Khushbu Rathore, Prakash, Usha Bagrecha & other family members paid tribute to the departed soul

## YOUNG MINDS EMPOWERED AT MGD

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**M**GD Girls' School conducted the LEAD-I Programme from November 24 to December 5, fostering leadership, communication, and exploration among young learners, with participants from Indian and international schools.



Padma Shri Ajeet Bajaj warmly greeted by students. Also seen is Archana S Mankotia

On Monday, the eighth day featured a strong focus on learning, leadership, and sustainability. Activities began with a "Walk Around the Campus with Green Warriors," led by the Nature Club, followed by an insightful session titled "Beyond the Blueprint:



A powerful patriotic still from the AV showcased during the event

Fractals, Design, and the Art of Space." Archana S Mankotia, Director, warmly welcomed Padma Shri awardee Ajeet Bajaj.

The day's highlight was Padma Shri Ajit Bajaj's inspiring talk on "Taking Challenges." Bajaj is the first Indian to complete the Polar Trilogy and part of the first father-daughter duo to summit Mount Everest. Afternoon engagements included the culmination of Mini Leadership Projects and the LEAD-I Miyawaki Green Legacy Initiative.

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS!

Sanjay Kumar Jha, National Working President of JDU, was warmly greeted by Akshay Rai, Senior



Correspondent at Bharat24, during a courtesy visit to his residence on Monday. During the interaction, Akshay Rai presented a bouquet on behalf of Dr Jagdeesh Chandra and conveyed heartfelt birthday wishes to Jha, marking the occasion with warmth and respect.