



FIRST INDIA

RNI NUMBER: RAJENG/2019/77764 | VOL 5 | ISSUE NO. 232 | PAGES 14 | ₹3.00

Rajasthan's Own English Newspaper



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FORECAST

Max **24°C**
Min **11°C**
Humidity **66%**
Hazy and sunny in morning & cold at night

MODI-MACRON TAKE A BIGGER LEAP!



President Droupadi Murmu and French President Emmanuel Macron on their way for the 75th Republic Day celebrations from the Rashtrapati Bhavan to Kartavya Path in New Delhi on Friday. It was after 40 years the carriage has been used at the parade in Delhi.

PM Modi and Prez Macron unveil roadmap for defence weapon manufacturing

India and France inked a total of 9 agreements in numerous sectors

First India Bureau
New Delhi

French President Emmanuel Macron attended the 75th Republic Day parade as the chief guest at the celebration of the adoption of the country's Constitution on Jan 26, 1950, following India's independence from British colonial rule.

President Droupadi Murmu escorted Macron in a ceremonial British-era horse-drawn carriage from the nearby president's palace to the viewing stand. It was the first time the carriage has been used at the parade since it was abandoned by the government 40 years ago in favour of an automobile.

Meanwhile, India and France unveiled ambitious defence industrial roadmap to co-develop critical military hardware, firmed up a space situational awareness programme even as the Tata Group and Airbus announced to jointly build H125 helicopters following talks between Modi and Macron.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi & French President Emmanuel Macron share a light moment during the 75th Republic Day celebrations, at the Kartavya Path, in New Delhi on Friday.

IMPETUS TO INDIA-FRANCE TIES: MODI

PM Narendra Modi thanked French President Emmanuel Macron, who was the chief guest at the 75th Republic Day celebrations, for joining grand event at majestic Kartavya Path. "Your presence will add great impetus to Indo-French relations. Your presence will add great impetus to Indo-French relations," Modi said.

'FRANCE TO WELCOME OVER 30,000 INDIAN STUDENTS BY 2030'

French President Emmanuel Macron, on the social media site X, announced the goal of welcoming 30,000 Indian students to France. He added that the country will open new pathways for students, and also facilitate visa processes for Indians who have once studied in the country.

Thank you, India, for your warm welcome in Jaipur and Delhi. France will welcome the whole world this year with the commemoration of the Second World War, the Olympic and Paralympic games in Paris and the Francophonie summit. You are welcome, our friends!

EMMANUEL MACRON, FRENCH PRESIDENT

MAJOR DEALS



DEFENCE SPACE

The 2 sides also signed pact for a defence-space partnership that will see them collaborate on "space situational awareness", and an MoU on coordinating on satellite launches, along with agreements on partnerships in energy, digital health, agri, and education.



AIRBUS-TATA CHOPPER DEAL

One joint venture for the local manufacture of civilian helicopters was agreed between Airbus and TATA.



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Defence industrial roadmap with France that "prioritises co-designing, co-development, co-production" mirrors India's joint efforts with the U.S. for co-design and co-development of military systems.

IN SHORT

BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF TAN SINGH TODAY



New Delhi: Shri Kshatriya Yuvak Sangh is going to celebrate the 100th birth anniversary of its founder Tan Singh in a grand manner at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi today. Born on January 25, 1924 in Barmer, Tansingh was a well-known social worker, politician and writer.

NAVY SHIP CARRYING 22 INDIANS HIT BY MISSILE, INDIA RESPONDS TO SOS



New Delhi: A guided-missile destroyer of the Indian Navy has responded to an SOS call by a merchant ship struck by a missile in the Gulf of Aden as the vessel caught fire on Saturday. There are 22 Indians and a Bangladeshi on board.

KERALA GOV GETS Z+ SECURITY AFTER FACEOFF WITH SFI

Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan has been given Z+ security by Centre after a faceoff with student activists on Saturday. SFI in Kollam, 40 km from Thiruvananthapuram, staged a black flag protest against Gov.

CERTIFICATE SCAM CASE: SC STAYS CAL HC PROCEEDINGS

New Delhi: A five-judge bench of Supreme Court on Saturday stayed all proceedings before single-judge and division bench of Calcutta High Court in a matter relating to caste certificate scam, which saw unsavoury judge vs judges sparring.

Birla voices concern over Parl 'disruption'



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla along with RS Deputy Chairman Hariwansh Narayan Singh, Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde and others lights the lamp at the 84th AIPO in Mumbai on Saturday.

First India Bureau
Mumbai

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Saturday said that the conduct of public representatives should be in accordance with parliamentary decorum.

Speaking after inaugurating the 84th All India Presiding Officers' Conference (AIPOC) in Maharashtra Legislature

premises here, he expressed concern over incidents of indiscipline, disruption of proceedings and unparliamentary conduct in the legislatures affecting their credibility. Birla noted that there is enough space to give voice to dissent in the democratic system, therefore, disruption should not be used as a tool of protest and dissent.

AGELESS BRILLIANCE!

Rohan Bopanna becomes oldest man to win Grand Slam, clinches doubles title with Matthew Ebden



India's Rohan Bopanna became the oldest man to win a Grand Slam after clinching the Australian Open 2024 men's doubles title, pairing with Matthew Ebden. Bopanna, 43, also celebrated becoming the oldest number one in men's doubles history by winning the title in Melbourne on Saturday.

POLITICAL TREMORS IN BIHAR KEEP EVERYONE GUESSING... NITISH-BJP DEAL DONE!

Nitish Kumar's swearing-in likely today as Bihar braces for shake-up | Bihar secretariat will remain open today despite it being a Sunday

Moni Sharma
Patna

Amid the political upheaval in Bihar over speculation of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar breaking the Mahagathbandhan and reuniting with the BJP, all the parties in the state corralled their lawmakers for meetings on Saturday. Nitish Kumar is likely to tender his resignation by today morning, a source close to the Chief Minister said on Saturday.

It is also said that prior to putting in his papers, Kumar, the JD(U) president, will hold a customary meeting of the legislature party. The source said government offices like the secretariat have been



Bihar CM Nitish Kumar along with Union Minister Ashwini Choubey at the Baba Brahmeshwar Nath Temple in Buxar on Saturday.

JDU Legislature Party meet likely at 10 am, Nitish may go to Raj Bhavan to submit his resignation at 11 am

asked to remain open on Sunday "in view of hectic activity expected during

the day", which may see a new govt with the BJP's support. Meanwhile, at a party meeting, state BJP leaders stopped short of making a formal announcement of support to the JD(U) chief in the event of his pulling out of 'Mahagathbandhan'.

WHAT UNFOLDS NOW?

Moments after the resignation, Nitish Kumar likely to take oath as the Chief Minister from BJP today itself. According to sources, BJP's Sushil Modi and Renu Devi may take oath as 2 Deputy Chief Ministers of the State.

'KHEL HONA BAKI HAIN', SAYS TEJASHWI YADAV

RJD leaders gathered at party supremo Lalu Prasad's home in Patna on Saturday for a meeting convened by Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav. "Now, more people are with us. We managed to get work done within a short time - be it jobs, caste census, reservation, etc. Bihar mein abhi khel hona baki hain", Yadav said.

Meet and Greet at 'Desh Raag'!



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma being greeted by Pawan Arora in presence of Suresh Mishra, Harsh Chaudhary, LL Sharma and others, during Dainik Navajyoti's Kavi Sammelan 'Desh Raag' at the Birla Auditorium in Jaipur on Saturday.

BJP'S ELECTORAL SYMPHONY!

Fulfill tasks given by the party with full dedication, says CM Sharma

Aishwary Pradhan and Yogesh Sharma
Jaipur

ADDRESSING CONCLUDING SESSION OF BJP MEDIA & SOCIAL WORKSHOP HELD FOR LS POLLS, CM SAID THAT WHEN ANY WORKER WORKS WITH POSITIVE VIEW, HE GETS ENERGY FROM WITHIN

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma on Sunday said that the party workers should fulfill the responsibilities given by the party with full dedication and hard work. He said that to prove oneself in the media, knowledge of current issues is important. He said that workers should evaluate themselves and discharge their responsibilities with concentration. "We have to work in an organized manner and win all the 25 Lok Sabha seats in the state," he said. The inaugural session was addressed by BJP State



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma being greeted with memento of 'Balak Ram' by Pramod Vashishtha, Suman Sharma and Pinkesh Porwal at BJP Office on Saturday. Also present here is Anand Sharma.

President CP Joshi, National Spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi and Cabinet Minister Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Ra-

thore. CP Joshi said no other party in the country has vision that BJP has. Rajyavardhan said that media is the best medium of communication.

Republic Day celebrations

Governor Mishra and CM Bhajanlal Sharma witness colourful cultural performance at the SMS Stadium

R-Day celebrated with patriotic fervour



Governor Kalraj Mishra unfurling the National flag at Raj Bhawan in Jaipur on Friday.



Guv Kalraj Mishra inspecting the parade at SMS Stadium during the State level celebrations on Friday.



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma saluting the flag after unfurling it at the Secretariat in Jaipur on Friday.



Deputy CM Diya Kumari inspecting the parade during Republic Day celebrations in Dudu on Friday.



Ritu Shukla, Addl DG PIB and Central Communications Bureau, unfurling the tricolor.



Deputy CM Dr Prem Chand Bairwa inspecting the parade at Swarn Jayanti Stadium in Jhunjhunu on Friday.



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, Ramcharan Bohra, Narayan Panchariya, Gopal Sharma and others at RD celebrations at the Badi Chaupar, Jaipur on Friday.



Folk artists during cultural programme at the SMS Stadium.



Congress leaders GS Dotsara, Rafeek Khan, Mahesh Joshi, Vaibhav Gehlot and others during the Republic Day celebrations at Badi Chaupar on Friday.

Pawan Arora unfurls National flag at 1st India office, wishes viewers



Pawan Arora with (L-R) Aadi, Kailash, Vikas, Kamal, Dharamveer, Vinod, Abhishek, Hanuman, Ajay, Rishikesh, Ravi, Dinesh, Tripti, Moni, Dimple, Kavita, Rajendra Chhabra, Jinendra Singh, Rachna Singh, Priyanka, Dr Devendra Pathak, Vishal, Ashish, Ravindra, Vikas, Ramesh, Deepak, Mahesh Sharma, Manjula, Pooja and others during the flag hoisting at the 1st India Channel office on Friday. After the event the staff was treated to a sumptuous breakfast at Tokio.

MUKESH KIRADOO



Pawan Arora distributing gifts and sweets to school students during the Republic Day celebrations at the 1st India Channel office in Jaipur on Friday.



Pawan Arora greeted by Jinendra Singh Shekhawat. Also seen are (L-R) Moni Sharma, Rachna Singh, Rainu Singh, Shweta Mishra Awasthi and Poonam Sharma Solanki.

Heritage tourism icon Randhir Mandawa no more

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Heritage Tourism icon, **Randhir Vikram Singh Mandawa** passed away on 26 January. He was ailing for some time. He was cremated at Mandawa on Saturday.

He was President of Indian Heritage Hotels Association (IHHA), past Chairman of Rajasthan State Council of FICCI and past President of Federation Hospitality & Tourism of Rajasthan (FHTR), and was also the Chairman of the Mayo College Committee. A professional with a vision, he is credited with putting Mandawa and the Shekhawati region on the world tourism map.

Devnani expresses concern over less number of sittings

Shivendra Singh Parmar
Mumbai

Rajasthan Legislative Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani expressed concern over less number of sittings of the House, saying that in order to hold the executive accountable and detailed discussions; there is a need to increase the sittings.

Devnani was addressing a session organised on the first day of the ongoing 84th Presiding Officers Conference at Maharashtra Assembly in Mumbai. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde were also present in the conference.

Devnani said that committees of the House should not be formed on



Vasudev Devnani during the 84th Presiding Officers Conference held at Maharashtra Vidhan Bhavan in Mumbai on Saturday.

party lines but keeping in mind the qualifications, interest and special experience of the members.

He said that the committees of the Assembly are important in which various issues are discussed and a report is prepared. This report can give a new direction to the working system.

Devnani said that such programs should be organised in all the houses

of the country to provide training to the new members. He also met Assembly Speakers of all the states including Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narvekar. Devnani said that committees are being activated in Rajasthan Assembly. For this, a monitoring committee has been formed under the chairmanship of the Assembly Speaker to monitor work of panels.

ACB's case against cop falls flat in court; accused acquitted

First India Bureau
Alwar

Judge Shivani Singh acquitted constable Hawa Singh Yadav of all charges in a bribery case by the Anti-Corruption Bureau. The court said that ACB could not prove its case. After filing the complaint on June 4, 2012, the ACB presented a challan on March 23, 2015.

Advocate Gaurav Jain represented the then constable Hawa Singh in Bhiwadi police station. The complainant had registered a complaint regarding Yadav for taking Rs 10,000 in lieu of imposing a FR in a case and demanding a bribe of Rs 500. After verification on June 4, a transcript of the conversation was made on July 10, 2012.

LS polls preps in Rajasthan Process for Lok Sabha elections begins with first level checking: CEO

First India Bureau
Jaipur

With the first level checking of the electronic voting machines, the Election department has started the preparations for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in Rajasthan, an official said on Saturday.

Chief Electoral Officer **Praveen Gupta** in a statement said the Election department has started the process of preparations for the Lok Sabha elections in the state with the first level checking (FLC) of the EVMs.

He said the first level checking of the EVMs is necessary for fair, free

and transparent elections.

Gupta said that as per the instructions of the Election Commission of India, the first level checking work of EVM/VVPAT machines for the Lok Sabha elections has been started by the engineers of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru, from Jan 27 in all districts of the state. This work is likely to be completed on February 20, he added. Gupta said this work will be done in the presence of recognised national and state political parties. EVM refers to Ballot Unit (BU), Control Unit (CU) and VVPAT. About 83,000 BU, 73,000 CU and 73,000 VVPAT machines will be checked (FLC) by 274 engineers in the districts of the state.

Ex Sada Tanseeq: 1st Jt exercise by India-Saudi Arabia



First India Bureau
Jaisalmer

The inaugural edition of Mechanised Infantry based Joint Military Exercise 'EX SADA TANSEEQ' between India and Saudi Arabia will be conducted at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges from 29 January to 10 February 2024. The exercise will comprise of nearly 90 soldiers from Indian Army & Royal Saudi Land Force training together.

The Exercise will hereafter become a yearly event which will be conducted alternatively in India and Saudi Arabia.

CONDOLENCE MEET OF HARI SHANKAR BHABHRA

Guv, CM, Om Mathur others pay tributes

Ziauddin Khan
Jaipur

On the demise of former Assembly Speaker and former Deputy CM Harishankar K Bhabhra, a condolence meeting was organized at Anu Vibha Centre on Saturday. CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, Governor Kal Raj Mishra, BJP State President CP Joshi, senior BJP leader Rajya Sabha MP Om Mathur, LoP Tikaram Jolly, Minister Jhabbar Mal Kharra, MLA Yunus Khan, former BNP State President Ashok



(L-R) Governor Kalraj Mishra, Om Mathur, Kalicharan Saraf, Bhajan Lal Sharma, CP Joshi, others during condolence meet of Harishankar Bhabhra at Anu Vibha Centre in Jaipur on Saturday.



Bhajan Lal Sharma, CP Joshi paying tribute to Bhabhra on Saturday.

Parnami, former Cong-state prez Dr Chandrabhan and people associated with political, social and administrative fields also participated.

Harishankar Bhabhra was the Assembly Speaker from 1990 to 1994 and the Deputy Chief Minister of the state from 1994 to 1998.

Mother-in-law of Gajendra Khimsar passes away; funeral meeting held

Vikas Sharma
Jaipur

The funeral meeting of the late Rajendra Kumari, mother-in-law of Health Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar, was held at the residence in Civil Lines. First India News' CMD and Editor-in-Chief Dr. Jagdeesh Chandra also attended the meeting and offered floral tributes to the noble soul.

During this, Jyoti Mirdha, Richpal Mirdha, former MLA Rao Rajendra Singh, Vijay Poonia, Usha Poonia, SMS Medical College Principal Dr



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra offers condolences to Gajendra Singh Khimsar. Also present are Dhananjai, Pradeep Singh and others.

SANTOSH SHARMA

Rajeev Bagrahatta, Rajasthan Nursing Council Registrar Shashikant Sharma and many other dignitaries reached the meeting and paid tribute.

RAJASTHAN

Raj paper leak case The accused had been in Judicial custody since April 18th **Guv suspends ex-RPSC member Katara, accused in paper leak**

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Rajasthan Public Service Commission member Babulal Katara who was arrested last year in the paper leak case was suspended by the governor on Friday, according to an official statement.

Governor Kalraj Mishra, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of Article 317 of the Constitution of India, has suspended Rajasthan Public Service Commission member Babulal Katara on direction (reference) of the



WHAT WAS THE PAPER LEAK CASE? WHAT ROLE DID BABULAL KATARA PLAY?

On December 24, 2022, the Udaipur police apprehended a bus carrying 49 candidates who were caught solving leaked papers for the RPSC second-grade teacher recruitment. Upon receiving information, the RPSC cancelled the paper. It is stated that Babulal Katara leaked the paper, back in October. As soon as the papers were prepared, he took the original copies to his residence. There, he had his nephew, Vijay Damor, answer the questions.



Supreme Court with immediate effect, said a release from the Raj Bhavan issued on Friday. Katara was suspended on the basis of miscon-

duct, the release said. Katara is the prime accused in the Paper leak case. Babulal Katara took charge as a member of the RPSC on October 15,

2020. Katara was arrested by the Special Operation Group (SOG) of Rajasthan Police in April 2023 for his alleged involvement in grade-2

teacher exam-2022 paper leak case. Later, a team of Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials also arrested Babulal Katara in the same case.

Illegal mining: Officials told to use drones for survey

Nirmal Tiwari
Jaipur

In the statewide campaign against illegal mining, instructions have been given to conduct surveys through drones in large mining areas, while field officers have been asked to use the LIS system of DMGOMS.

They have been asked to immediately upload the updated data and send the certificate to the Mines Directorate within seven days. Under the joint campaign, emphasis is on eliminating illegal mining activities from its source. Mines Secretary Anandi, during a virtual meeting with the officials of the Mines Department at the Secretariat on Saturday,



took action under Section 177 against the illegal mining on the Khatadari land and asked the Revenue Officers to send proposals for its cancellation. It was told that in Bhilwara, 70-75 cases of illegal mining on Khatadari have been identified.

Anandi gave instructions to officers for checking of illegal mining and transportation in the border areas adjoining the NCR. She told the SME officials that the operation is being carried out with the ME-AME joint investigation team.

Son shot dead, parents injured over land dispute



Ravi Katara
Bharatpur

A man was shot dead in firing between two groups of a family over a land related dispute in Bharatpur district on Sunday. His parents were injured in group clash.



Police said that the families of two cousin brothers Bachchu Singh and Surajmal, confronted over the land dispute. Bachchu Singh's son Mukesh fired at Sonu with a country-made pistol, leaving him critically injured. He was rushed to a hospital where he died. His parents were also injured in the clash.

OVER 1,000 HISTORY SHEETERS CAUGHT IN STATEWIDE OPS

Since the formation of AGTF, swift action has been taken against the gangsters in the state. The operations are carried out in collaboration with the district police across the state. More than 1,000 history sheeters, 60 hardcore criminals and around 35 criminals with rewards have been arrested so far. Besides, 260 liquor mafias are also arrested. The action is taken in a planned manner by preparing the database of gangs. The force is working effectively under the leadership of ADG Crime and AGTF Dinesh MN, with AGTF officers IPS Karan Sharma and IPS Rajesh Meena giving their best.

RAIDS ON 13 AREAS OF LAWRENCE AND ROHIT GODARA AIDES, SEVEN SUSPECTS NABBED

Jodhpur: SP Hanuman Prasad directed the major action, which included a raid on 13 premises related with the Lawrence and Rohit gang. Police nabbed seven renowned offenders and seized two vehicles. Police are questioning all of the captured criminals about their relationships and activities with gangsters. It is possible to obtain a wealth of valuable information.

THREE TEACHERS PUT ON APO FOR ALLEGEDLY MOLESTING GIRLS

Tonk: Girls were molested at Khandwa School in the subdivision area. In this case, 3 teachers were arrested by education and local authorities. Teacher Banwari Lal Berwa, lecturer Ramswaroop Meena, and Prem Narayan Gurjar are put on APO. The education department administration has issued notice to the school administrator.

VENDOR GETS INTO SCUFFLE WITH JMCG BY COMMISSIONER

A scuffle occurred with the Greater Corporation Deputy Commissioner. Misbehavior with the squad sent to remove illegal encroachment outside JK Lone Hospital. Naveen Bhardwaj is the Deputy Commissioner of Health for Greater Municipal Corporation. The case has been filed against the thadi operator at SMS hospital police station.

'SAR TAN SE JUDA' POST CAUSES STIR

Sirohi: Following the Udaipur incident, a post threatening beheading went viral. The snapshot of the Babri edifice was tagged in a viral Instagram post with the caption 'Patience, when our time comes, people will be decapitated'. As soon as the message went viral, there was outrage among Hindu organizations and the BJP.

NCB SEIZES OPIUM WORTH ₹13.15 LAKH

Jodhpur: The NCB crew captured opium smugglers in Desuri. Three packets of opium weighing 02.630 grams emerged from the car's bonnet. Naresh Gurjar stated that products belonged to Dinesh Banjara. The NCB crew apprehended Dinesh Banjara and identified him using his Aadhaar card.

New born burnt with heater in Jaisalmer hosp

CS Dave
Jaisalmer

On January 25th, a newborn was burned due to a medical negligence error shortly after birth, caused by the excessive heat of the heater. When the child's body turned red, the family sought medical attention.

Due to lack of oxygen, the medical personnel referred the infant to Jodhpur immediately. When the family arrived in Jodhpur, they learned that the infant had suffered burns. When the situation became public, it caused a sensation at Pokaran District Hospital. Family members called for action against the medical staff for not having proper warmer in pediatric ward.

Modi-Macron Roadshow: French Prez praised our tea, says Jpr tea stall owner

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Raj Kumar Sahu, owner of the tea stall where Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron interacted with each other over a cup of tea said that he served both the leaders "traditional sahu tea" adding that the French President "praised" his tea.

"We served the traditional sahu tea to French President Emmanuel Macron and PM Modi. French President praised our tea and used UPI to make a payment," an owner of the tea stall told ANI on Thursday. French President Emmanuel Macron used UPI to make a payment there.



During the road show, PM Modi & President Macron visited a stall & interacted other over a cup of tea in main market area of Jaipur

Prime Minister Narendra Modi explained the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) digital payments system to French President Emmanuel Macron as the two leaders visited a local shop during their visit to Hawa Mahal earlier today in Jaipur.

Nine ADGs transferred, 10 IPS officers put on Awaiting Posting Orders

First India Bureau
Jaipur

In the recent transfer dynamics within the police force, notable changes have unfolded in Rajasthan. The transfer list highlights officers awaiting posting orders and those given permanent responsibilities.

In the first transfer list released after formation of BJP government, 10 IPS officers on APO, including DG cadre officers have not been given

THE OFFICERS WHO WERE TRANSFERRED

- Sanjay Aggarwal - ADG Intelligence
- S Sengathir - ADG Headquarters
- Anand Kumar Srivastava - ADG RAC
- Sanjib Kumar Nursing - ADG Personnel
- Vishal Bansal - ADG Law and Order
- Vijay Kumar Singh - ATS - SOG
- Rupinder Singh - ADG Jail
- Bhupendra Sahu - ADG Telecommunication
- BL Meena - ADG Community Policing

posting. DG Rajesh Nirvana is APO. The then DCP (Jaipur Traffic) Prahlad Krishnaia and Shahpura SP KC Yadav were re-

moved from their posts before polls. Both have not been given posting in this list. Besides, 7 IPS officers of 2020 and 2021 batch are on APO.

PPTL: Jaipur Club gears up for grand finale today

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The Jaipur Club reverberates with electrifying anticipation as it prepares to host the grand finale and dazzling awards night of the Professional Premier Tennis League 2024 Season 1 today at 5.30 PM. After witnessing the nail-biting semi-finals on Friday, where fierce competitors battled it out for a shot at glory, the stage is now set for an epic showdown that will crown the

ultimate champions. Additional Chief Secretary Home Anand Kumar will lend his distinguished presence as the Chief Guest. Surbhi Misra, Vice President of the Squash Rackets Federation of India, will add her sporting spirit to the occasion. Sandeep Singh Maan, Gold Medalist at the Indian Open P a r a Athlet-

ics Championship 2018, will inspire with his unwavering determination. In the semi-finals majestic lions defeated RJ13 kings by 2-0 and Court commanders defeated topspin titans by 2-1.

In 100+ doubles matches, Naveen Mahajan and Gaurav Bhargava defeated Ajay mehta and Jai Gurbaxani by 8-5.



Naveen Mahajan, Gaurav Bhargava, Jai Gurbaxani, Ajay Mehta at the Professional Premier Tennis League 2024 Season 1.



Anand Kumar

Madan Dilawar warns teachers involved in wrongful behaviour

Bhanwar S Charan
Kota

Education Minister Madan Dilawar has issued an open warning to teachers who misbehave, stating, "I will not leave teachers who forget the dignity of Guru-disciple, even if I am hanged."

Teachers with such a twisted mentality will be fired, and bulldozers will run over their property. He has urged for a new record to be set on Surya Saptami, February 15th, under the flag of his department.

Dilawar, citing an or-



der from the Education Department, urged all government and non-government educational institutions and coaching institutes to fully follow the directive and begin performing Surya Nam-

askar immediately. In addition, Dilawar has urged Panchayati Raj, rural public representatives, and rural service professionals to volunteer their labor to the Swachh Gram Abhiyan.

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

Need to prioritise edu for positive change: Arora

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Amidst the vibrant hues of patriotism and communal harmony, the 75th Republic Day was celebrated with zeal and fervour at St Soldier Academy, Raja Park. Representatives of the Sikh community, accompanied by children from various religious backgrounds and their families, came together in a jubilant display of national pride. The event, held in rev-



Pawan Arora with Giani Jagdish Singh, RPS Sethi, Manjeet Kaur, Baldev Singh, Preetpal Singh, Principal Apoorva Jain, Sardar Ajaypal Singh & Ratan Singh along with students of St Soldier Academy.

erence of the nation and its values, saw Pawan Arora, CEO & Managing Editor of First India

News, gracing the occasion as the chief guest, while Sardar Ajay Pal Singh presided over the

festivities. The highlight of the day was a captivating program presented by the children. In recogni-

tion of academic prowess & cultural engagement, students excelling in a Sikhism quiz were honoured by the chief guest.

Arora, who inaugurated festivities by hoisting the flag, emphasized the pivotal role of education in societal progress. Arora stressed the importance of prioritizing education for positive societal change. On the significance of the occasion, Arora further shared, "In embracing diversity and fostering communal harmony, we truly honour essence of our nationhood."



Ollie Pope's Hundred Ignites English Hopes After India Take Control of First Test



Siddhaarth Mahan

The writer is a specialist on Sports and Cinema who works as an actor in the Hindi film industry



Before the English team arrived in India, all the talk centred around their 'Bazzball' brand of cricket. Their aggressive intent though was thoroughly tested as they chose to bat after winning the toss in the first Test of the 5-match series. England were shot out for just 246 and at the end of day 2 India had plied on a neat 175 lead with 3 wickets in hand. But the English side trusted their method and came all guns blazing on day 3 and made the day their own after bundling India out for a lead of 190 and then taking a 126 run lead of their own. While every English batter was free flowing in stroke-play, the day truly belonged to Ollie Pope, who is still unbeaten on 148 and a shining beacon for England in their quest for a win.

India started day 3 with their noses firmly in front. They appeared to have batted England out of the contest, setting the stage for what could potentially be the final day of the Test. A lacklustre performance by England with the bat and then with the ball had put them far behind in the Test. But it was different on day 3, as they stifled the Indian lefties, Jadeja and Axar, not allowing them easy runs and once their partnership was broken, took the remaining 2 wickets without an addition of a run.

Joe Root dismissed Jadeja LBW with the lead at 190 runs, and then bowled Bumrah off the next delivery. In the next over Axar was bowled by



India started day 3 with their noses firmly in front. They appeared to have batted England out of the contest, setting the stage for what could potentially be the final day of the Test. A lacklustre performance by England with the bat and then with the ball had put them far behind in the Test. But it was different on day 3, as they stifled the Indian lefties, Jadeja and Axar, not allowing them easy runs and once their partnership was broken, took the remaining 2 wickets without an addition of a run

Rehan Ahmed to a ball that stayed low and turned in. But it was a substantial lead already and few imagined that England would be able to take the game beyond a couple of sessions. Zak Crawley and Ben Duckett initiated England's positive start with aggressive sweeps against Indian spinners.

After a solid start and the score reading 113 for 1, Bumrah disrupted the proceedings with his terrific spell of reverse swing. He caught Duckett on the crease with a ball that swung in and his stumps went cartwheeling. Bumrah's pivotal spell after lunch was a massive moment in the game and he dismissed Joe Root as well in the very next over. Despite the slow turn that the pitch offered, Bumrah emerged as the pick of the bowlers on day three.

As the innings progressed, Jonny Bairstow's astute tactics countered Bumrah's threat, adapting his stance and reacting to variations effectively.

However, India found a glimmer of hope when Jadeja turned one away and then from the same length pushed a straighter one that bamboozled Bairstow. He was bowled off a straighter one that Bairstow left only to see the ball strike off stump! Post-tea, England's scoring slowed down as India's spinners applied pressure. Ravichandran Ashwin's strategic changes of length exposed England's vulnerability, leading to a crucial wicket of Ben Stokes. Ashwin was at his best as he tossed one up and drew Stokes into a forward defence and the ball spun sharply to rattle his off stump. At the time, England were still trailing by 27 runs and the game seemed to be swinging in India's favour.

However, Ollie Pope's resilient and emphatic performance in the final session turned the tide back in England's favour. Pope's mastery of the reverse-sweep and innovative strokes frustrated the In-

dian bowlers, taking him to a well-deserved century. Despite a late wicket of Ben Foakes by Axar Patel, England ended the day with a lead of significance.

Earlier, in the first innings, the spinner dominated as the ball spun fast and with bounce. Bumrah took 2 wickets but rest all went to the spinners. The salvation for England came in the form of Ben Stokes, whose brilliant knock of 70 runs from 88 balls, along with crucial partnerships with the lower-order batters, propelled England to a decent total. Indian openers, Rohit Sharma and Yashasvi Jaiswal, then 'Bazzballed' England with attacking batting. Contrary to expectations of a survival-oriented approach due to the turning pitch, they aggressively scored at a rate of more than 6 runs per over.

India continued to build with strong partnerships throughout their innings. K.L. Rahul once again showed his class in his well-crafted 86. Jadeja and Rahul ensured India got a big lead but unfortunately couldn't complete their centuries. Jadeja got out for 87 after a brilliant 8th wicket partnership with Axar.

Now, on day four, India remains hopeful of limiting England's lead. India's potent spin attack might pose challenges for England to stretch their lead further. The turnaround, though, irrespective of who wins, introduces a captivating element to the series, one that could have a bearing on the rest of the series!

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL

IN-DEPTH

IT'S ADVANTAGE BJP AS NITISH READIES TO DUMP ALLY RJD

Amidst the brewing political turmoil in Bihar, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's potential departure from the INDIA alliance has created uncertainty. Despite Congress's optimism about retaining Kumar and Mamata Banerjee, Jairam Ramesh claimed the INDIA bloc is not imploding but showcasing democratic credentials. However, the reality suggests otherwise, with the INDIA bloc facing internal challenges. The unfolding drama in Patna indicates Kumar's inclination towards aligning with the BJP to secure his position, granting the BJP a strategic advantage before the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

The Rashtriya Janata Dal's confident stance may not deter Kumar's potential return to the NDA fold, signalling a significant shift in political dynamics in another north Indian state. Deputy Chief Minister Tejashvi Yadav said that Nitish remains the chief minister and it is game on but a Delhi court's notice to his mother Rabri Devi, a former chief minister, may puncture his confidence. With the Mahagathbandhan on the verge of collapse, the BJP was preparing to be part of the government.

STAGGERING BLOW WHICH MAY NOT STOP TRUMP



ANew York jury has concluded that former US president and 2024 candidate Donald Trump was guilty of sexually assaulting and defaming writer E. Jean Carroll. Amidst audible gasps, Trump was ordered to pay a staggering \$83.3 million to compensate Carroll. The civil order won't affect Trump's chances of running for Presidency but comes as a major legal setback. The former President vowed to appeal against the federal court's "ridiculous" order.

It took the jury just under three hours of deliberations before reaching its decision. Trump, who had stormed out of the court at one point, returned for closing arguments but was absent when the punitive damages were announced. "This is not America," the 77-year-old Trump, who faces several criminal cases, said while leaving the courtroom.

The damages include \$65 million for malicious actions in Trump's public comments about Carroll, \$7.3 million in compensatory damages, and \$11 million for a reputational repair programme. However, Trump uses the cases against him to play the victim card to strengthen his poll campaign. He used his Truth Social platform to vilify Carroll, the trial and the judge, whom he referred as "an extremely abusive individual".

Among the cases which Trump faces includes one about his alleged attempt to overthrow the 2020 elections which Joe Biden won. Later this month a decision is expected in another civil fraud trial. If that goes against Trump his business empire could get jeopardized.

The verdict ordering Trump to pay damages to Carroll is significant because neither the prosecutors nor judge of the court were appointed by the Democrats.



Among the cases which Trump faces includes one about his alleged attempt to overthrow the 2020 elections which Joe Biden won. Later this month a decision is expected in another civil fraud trial. If that goes against Trump his business empire could get jeopardized

TWIST AND TRIUMPH

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Indian openers, Rohit Sharma and Yashasvi Jaiswal, then 'Bazzballed' England with attacking batting. Contrary to expectations of a survival-oriented approach due to the turning pitch, they aggressively scored at a rate of more than 6 runs per over.



TOP TWEETS

X Birthday greetings to Meghalaya Chief Minister @SangmaConrad Ji. May the Almighty keep you blessed with good health to continue actively in public life.

Amit Shah @AmitShah



X Hearty congratulations and best wishes to Meghalaya Chief Minister Shri Conrad Sangma on his birthday. I pray to God for your long life, healthy and bright future.

Jyotiraditya M. Scindia @JM_Scindia

SPIRITUAL SPEAK

Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned.

BUDDHA

SOLID GHAR

✦ सिर्फ ✦

BANGUR

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PM Narendra Modi with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during NCC rally, at Cariappa Ground in New Delhi, Saturday. PTI

“NCC cadets embody spirit of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat”

First India Bureau
New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday expressed his happiness over the increase in the number of NCC rallies being conducted in recent years and said that NCC cadets embody the spirit of ‘Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat’.

Addressing the NCC PM Rally, which was held at Cariappa Parade Ground in Delhi, PM Modi said, “Being an ex-NCC cadet, every time I

get flashbacks of my own experiences and memories. NCC cadets embody the spirit of ‘Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.’ You all have come here from different regions of India, and I am happy that over the past years, the stature of NCC rallies has also increased.”

The Prime Minister further stated that this year’s NCC rally is in the direction of the ‘One World, One Family, One Future’ motive.

“This year, more than 400 Sarpanches of the Vibrant Villages and more

PUBLIC GLORIFICATION OF THOSE CONVICTED OF CORRUPTION AN INSULT TO JUDICIARY AND CONSTITUTION, SAYS PM MODI

New Delhi: In a veiled attack on some opposition parties, PM Narendra Modi said on Saturday that they stand in support of members who violate decorum and asserted that public glorification of those who have been convicted of corruption by the court “is an insult to the executive, judiciary and Constitution”. In a video message at the All India Presiding Officers’ Conference, the PM said that enhancing the efficiency of legislative assemblies and committees is crucial in today’s scenario where vigilant citizens scrutinize every representative. The PM urged presiding officers to discuss how to maintain the decorum of the House.



than 100 women belonging to various self-help groups from different parts of the country are present here. I welcome all of them. This rally of the NCC is continuously strengthening the ‘One World, One Family’ mo-

tive. In 2014, NCC cadets from 10 countries participated in this rally. This year, cadets from 24 countries are present here at the rally, and I welcome all the young cadets from these 24 countries,” the PM Modi said. PM Narendra Modi also presented awards and medals to the NCC Cadets at the annual NCC PM rally. PM Modi also took a salute at the annual NCC PM rally at Cariappa Parade Ground in Delhi. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh was also present at the event.

Amid Buzz Around Nitish Flip-Flop

BJP will form govt in Bihar in 2025, says Giriraj Singh

The Union Minister also says BJP central leadership monitoring political situation

First India Bureau
Patna (Bihar)

Amid speculations that Nitish Kumar is poised to side with the BJP again, Union Minister Giriraj Singh referred to the Bihar CM as a “restless soul” while emphatically stating that the BJP will form the new government in the state in 2025.

“People of Bihar will vote for BJP in Lok Sabha in 2024, and in Bihar in 2025. I am just observing what’s going on in the state...” Singh said.

On being queried about JD(U) leader parting ways with BJP in 2022 to form the grand alliance government in Bihar comprising RJD, JD(U), Congress, and three Left parties Giriraj Singh said, “he is a restless soul.”

The Union Minister also said that BJP has no role in the current political development between RJD and JD(U). “BJP is definitely keeping an eye on the political activities happening. Now whatever answer has to be given has to be given by Lalu Yadav, RJD, Tejashwi Yadav, or Nitish Kumar. Neither Lalu Yadav has just said that we have left, nor Nitish Kumar has said that he will leave. What can the Bharatiya Janata Party say in this?,” said Union Minister Giriraj Singh.



RJD supporters gather outside party leader and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav's residence amid Bihar political crisis, in Patna, Saturday. PTI

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE TRYING TO SPEAK WITH NITISH KUMAR BUT UNABLE TO CONNECT: CONG

The Congress on Saturday asserted that the INDIA bloc is not imploding even though the BJP is trying its best to do “mini-implosions” in the opposition alliance. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said the party chief Mallikarjun Kharge is trying to get in touch with Kumar but the two are have not been able to connect. Due to their pre-occupations, the Congress general secretary said.



“ALLIANCE WITH CONG OFF TO GOOD START”

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav today said his party’s alliance with the Congress is “off to a good start” with 11 “strong” Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh. The state sends 80 members to the Lower House of Parliament and elections are due in April-May. ‘INDIA’ team and ‘PDA’ strategy will change history,” Yadav said.

“WHATEVER IS GOD’S WISH, WILL HAPPEN”

Buxar: BJP leader and Union Minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey participated in the foundation laying ceremony of development works with CM Nitish Kumar on Saturday and said that whatever will happen, will happen as per “God’s wish”. “The first time around, I only brought him (Nitish Kumar) here, and today also I have brought him,” he said.

SOME PEOPLE ARE UNABLE TO DO JUSTICE: THAKUR



Lucknow: Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur on Saturday took an apparent jibe at the INDIA bloc saying “Some people are unable to do justice in their own alliance.” Thakur made the remark in Lucknow while attending the prize distribution of the 19th Asian and 4th Para and National Games. “Some people are unable to do justice in their own alliance. And due to this, you can see what is happening in states one after the other,” Thakur said.

Conspiracy to ‘buy’ 7 AAP MLAs, topple Delhi govt, accuses Kejriwal

PTI
New Delhi

AAP on Saturday alleged that the BJP has offered Rs 25 crore each to seven of its MLAs in Delhi to quit the party while also threatening to topple the Kejriwal government.

The Delhi BJP, however, rubbished the allegation and challenged AAP to name the MLAs and the people who allegedly contacted them with the offer.

The AAP claimed that the recording of a person who contacted one of the party MLAs was available and which will be shown later.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal posted on ‘X’ that seven of his party MLAs had been contacted by “them” and warned that the AAP convener would be arrested soon. As per Kejriwal, the callers claimed they were in contact with 21 AAP MLAs.

Lok Sabha polls

BJP appoints poll in-charges, co-in-charges for 23 states, UTs

PTI
New Delhi

The BJP on Saturday appointed election in-charges and co-in-charges for 23 states and Union territories in view of the Lok Sabha polls.

BJP national general secretary Vinod Tawde has been made the election in-charge for Bihar, while BJP Rajya Sabha member and former Jharkhand unit chief Deepak Prakash will be the co-in-charge.

Tawde is the BJP’s in-charge for political affairs in Bihar. The BJP has appointed vice president Bajjayant Jay Panda as the election in-charge for Uttar Pradesh and national general secretary Dushyant Kumar Gautam as that of Uttarakhand.

BJP national vice president and Rajya Sabha member Laxmikant Bajpai will be the election in-charge for Jharkhand.



BJP Uttar Pradesh leaders attend the meeting headed by the party’s Lok Sabha in-charge and convenors ahead of the Lok Sabha election 2024, in Lucknow on Saturday. ANI

WILL MAKE ALL EFFORTS TO SEE THAT BJP WINS OVER 25 LS SEATS IN K’TAKA, SAYS SHETTAR

New Year: Former Karnataka Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar on Saturday said the process to bring him back to the BJP had been on for the last five to six months, as he gave large credit to state president B Y Vijayendra and veteran leader B S Yediyurappa. He said one of the main reasons for his return to the BJP is to contribute towards making Narendra Modi prime minister once again, and that he will work towards ensuring that the party wins most of the seats in the state in the coming Lok Sabha polls. Shettar rejoined the BJP by quitting Congress in New Delhi on Thursday. He had joined the grand old party, ahead of assembly polls last year, after being denied a ticket by the BJP to contest the elections.

After Maharashtra Government Accepts All Demands

Maratha quota: Jarange ends indefinite fast

Agencies
Navi Mumbai

Maratha reservation activist Manoj Jarange Patil, who commenced a hunger strike on Friday, announced the conclusion of the protest, stating that the Maharashtra government has “accepted our request.” Jarange broke his fast in the presence of CM Eknath Shinde.

Addressing a press conference on Friday night, Jarange expressed appreciation for the CM’s



Supporters of Maratha reservation activist Manoj Jarange Patil celebrate after the Maharashtra government accepted his demands, in Navi Mumbai. PTI

actions, declaring, “Shinde has done a good job. Our protest is now over.

Our request has been accepted. We will accept the letter from him.” Refer-

ring to the demand for issuing Kunbi certificates to the 54 lakh individuals identified as Kunabi, Jarange mentioned that these certificates would be provided soon. He remarked, “54 lakh entries were found for our fight. They will be given the certificate soon.”

Patil has been also demanding free education from kindergarten to postgraduate level, and reservation of seats for Marathas in government job recruitments.

TO HELP BURNING VESSEL

Fire onboard MV Marlin Luanda under control

First India Bureau
New Delhi

INS Visakhapatnam, a guided missile destroyer, deployed in the Gulf of Aden responded to a distress call from MV Marlin Luanda on the night of 26 Jan 24. The MV has 22 Indian and 01 Bangladeshi crew onboard.

Based on a request from the master, fire fighting team from INS Visakhapatnam comprising ten Indian Naval personnel with special-



The Indian Navy on Saturday said that it has deployed its guided missile destroyer INS Visakhapatnam in the Gulf of Aden in response to a distress call from MV Marlin Luanda on the night of January 26.

ist fire fighting equipment embarked MV Marlin Luanda on early hours of 27 Jan 24.

After six hours of battling the fire along with crew of MV Marlin Luanda, the Indian Naval fire fighting team has successfully brought the fire under control.

The team is currently monitoring the situation to rule out any possibility of re-ignition.

Indian Navy remains steadfast in her commitment towards safety of merchant shipping and seafarers.

FI TOON



SHEKHAR

**WONDER
CEMENT**

FARQ NAZAR AAYEGA

**RK
GROUP**

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वंडर सीमेंट आपको मौका दे रहा है सुपरस्टार बनने का।
अगर आप बिल्डिंग कांट्रेक्टर हैं तो वंडर के डीलर से मिलें और
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Budget 2024 Govt also defers filling strategic oil reserves Govt halves Budget support to state-owned oil retailers

First India Bureau
New Delhi

The government has halved the amount of equity infusion in state-owned fuel retailers to Rs 15,000 crore for supporting their investments in energy transition projects, the finance ministry has said.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had on February 1 last year while presenting the annual Budget for 2023-24 fiscal (April 2023 to March 2024) announced equity infusion of Rs 30,000 crore in Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) to support the three state-owned firms' energy transition plans.

Alongside, she had also proposed Rs 5,000 crore for buying crude oil to fill strategic underground storages at Mangalore in Karnataka & Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh that India has built to guard against any supply disruptions. That plan has also been deferred in view of emerging trends in oil markets, the ministry said. The ministry also informed about the halving of equity support and deferring of filling strategic reserves.



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

KEY FACES IN 'TEAM BUDGET'

- Nirmala Sitharaman
- TV Somanathan
- Ajay Seth
- Tuhin Kanta Pandey
- Sanjay Malhotra
- Vivek Joshi
- V Anantha Nageswaran

DELHI BUDGET SESSION FROM FEB 15; HEALTH, EDUCATION ON AGENDA

New Delhi: The Kejriwal government will present its tenth budget in the budget session of Delhi Assembly to be held from February 15-20, with a focus on health, education, roads and infrastructure, officials said on Friday. Delhi Finance Minister Atishi is expected

to table the 2024-25 budget of the city government on February 17, they said. It will be the first budget presentation by Atishi, who was given the finance portfolio last year. A file of the budget session has been sent to Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena for his approval, said a statement

from Delhi government. In the forthcoming budget, the Kejriwal government is set to address several significant issues, placing particular emphasis on education, health, electricity, water, roads, and infrastructure and various developmental projects, the statement said.

TEAM GIVING FINISHING TOUCHES AS INTERIM BUDGET ENTERS LAST LAP

The preparation of the Interim Budget 2024 has entered the last lap with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and her team of top Finance Ministry officials giving the final touches to the document as North Block has been put in lock-down mode to ensure complete secrecy. Sitharaman is poised to present the interim budget for the fiscal year 2024-25 on February 1, making her only the second finance minister of the country to present a budget in Parliament for the sixth time in a row after Morarji Desai. The full budget for 2023-24 will be presented after the formation of the new government.

HOUSING, IT, AUTO, AGRICULTURE & OTHER SECTORS SHARE WISHLIST

As anticipation builds for the upcoming Budget 2024 in India, a diverse array of sectors eagerly await FM Nirmala Sitharaman's announcements and fiscal policies that will shape their respective landscapes. From agriculture, infrastructure, and healthcare to education, finance, and manufacturing, each sector carries its own set of expectations for allocations and reforms. The fiscal agenda, these sectors collectively voice their aspirations for a budget that fosters growth, innovation, and societal well-being. Finance Minister Sitharaman played down expectations of big announcements in the interim budget in February,

ASI findings on Gyanvapi will be accepted: Patel

PTI

Bhopal

Madhya Pradesh minister Prahlad Patel has said that the findings of ASI about Gyanvapi mosque will be accepted by the country and world, referring to the claim by the lawyer representing the Hindu litigants that the mosque was built after razing a temple.

The MP minister of panchayat rural development and labour told reporters in Jabalpur that the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), which carried out a survey at the mosque on the Supreme Court's direction, is renowned not only in the country but across the world.

The minister said that the ASI experts involved in the Ram Janmabhoomi case were eminent archaeologists.

Pran Pratishtha fuels BJP's electoral momentum in Gujarat

Agencies

Gandhinagar

The recent 'Pran Pratishtha' ceremony at the Ram temple in Ayodhya has sparked a political and social ripple effect, particularly in Gujarat, where the BJP is leveraging the event to consolidate its position ahead of the forthcoming general elections this year.

BJP National President JP Nadda, while inaugurating the election office in Gandhinagar, underscored the party's achievements under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Nadda cited a substantial poverty reduction in India, with reports from the IMF and NITI Aayog supporting this claim.

He emphasised that the BJP's continued governance was essential for fulfilling Modi's vision of eradicating poverty.



People take pictures in front of a decoration depicting Ayodhya Ram temple, in New Delhi on Friday.

RAM TEMPLE GETS 3.5 L DEVOTEES ON FRIDAY

Ayodhya: Over 3.25 lakh devotees offered obeisance at the Ram temple here on Republic Day on Friday. The temple opened its doors to the public on Tuesday, a day after the grand consecration ceremony on January 22. Around 5 lakh devotees visited the temple on day one. On the fourth day, people patiently stood in queues to have a 'darshan' of Ram Lalla.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

- American firm signs pact with Uttar Pradesh tourism for 100-room resort in Ayodhya
- As per the schedule, the Aarti and Darshan timings include Shringaar Aarti which will commence at 4:30 in the morning followed by Mangala Aarti which is scheduled at 6.30 in the morning.
- Devotees continued to throng the Ram Temple in Ayodhya to have the darshan of Shri Ram Lalla on the fifth day after the Pran Pratishtha.

UP CM Yogi praises Indian Constitution

PTI

Lucknow

Emphasizing the enduring strength of the Indian Constitution, CM Yogi Adityanath Friday said it has consistently stood the test of time.

He stated that India, through its Constitution, has been formulating policies and organising programmes on its own, and presenting its strength and



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and UP CM Yogi Adityanath during an interaction with the media, in Lucknow, Saturday.

capabilities to the world in accordance with its identity. The CM honoured and awarded individuals who have made significant contributions in the fields of art, culture, as per state government.

100 NEW BIOGAS PLANTS SOON IN UP, SAYS PURI
Lucknow: Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Saturday said that 100 new biogas plants will soon be established in Uttar Pradesh. Puri said that in the last seven years, under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the state has shed the label 'BIMARU' (sick) state and has done excellent work in every sector.

"Kept my concerns": Chirag Paswan on meeting BJP leaders

ANI

New Delhi

Amid political uncertainty in Bihar, Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) president Chirag Paswan met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP chief JP Nadda on Saturday.

Paswan said he kept "his concerns over Bihar" before the BJP leaders.

"They have given assurance. The situation is very positive regarding the alliance. The situation will become more clear, and after that, our party will take a stands. We are a part of NDA today," he said.



Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP Prez JP Nadda, and Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) Prez Chirag Paswan in a meeting, in New Delhi.

UNION HOME MINISTER AMIT SHAH'S VISIT TO T'GANA ON SUNDAY POSTPONED

The visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Telangana on Sunday to attend BJP meetings in preparation for the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls stands postponed, the state BJP president G Kishan Reddy said on Saturday. Shah's visit has been postponed due to some urgent work, Kishan Reddy, also the Union Tourism Minister, said in a statement.

Mamata's ultimatum to govt over pending funds

Agencies

Kolkata

West Bengal CM and Trinamool chief Mamata Banerjee on Friday gave the Centre a seven-day ultimatum to clear all dues failing which the party would launch a massive protest.

Banerjee said, "If the central government does not clear the funds, then we (TMC) will initiate a massive protest."

According to West Bengal government's figures, the Centre owes the state ₹9,330 crore under the PMAY, ₹6,900 crore under MGNRE-



Mamata Banerjee

GA, ₹830 crore under National Health Mission, ₹770 crore under PM Gram Sadak Yojna, ₹350 crore under the Swachh Bharat Mission, ₹175 crore for mid Day Meals, as well as money under other schemes.

Federation Cup: State Women Handball team leaves for Maha

First India Bureau

Jaipur

The Rajasthan women's handball team left for Sangli under the captaincy of Hemlata on Saturday to participate in the 35th Federation Cup.

The tournament will be held from 28-31 January 2024 in Sangli (Maharashtra). Yash Pratap Singh, Honorary Secretary of the Rajasthan State Handball Association, announced the team.

Rajasthan women had won the gold medal in the last Federation Cup.



The Rajasthan women's handball team.

International player Prachi Gurjar has been made the coach of the team.

The Rajasthan team participating in the competition is as follows: Hemlata (Captain), Pooja

Gurjar, Muskan, Kritika, Jassi, Payal, Anjali, Priya Kanwar, Sanjana, Sharda, Babita Sharma, Aarti, Maya Jat, Bhanwari, Kiran, Rekha Chaudhary, Geeta, and Tina.

RAJPUT CONGREGATION IN DELHI TODAY

Shri Kshatriya Yuvak Sangh founder Tan Singh's birth centenary event

Vinod Singh Chauhan

Jaipur

Shri Kshatriya Yuvak Sangh will mark the 100th birth anniversary of its founder, Tan Singhji, with a grand event on January 28 at New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. This monumental gathering will assemble Rajputs nationwide, including politicians, officials, industrialists, and esteemed personalities, to honour Tan Singhji's enduring legacy and advocate for social cohesion.

Sixteen special trains have been booked from Rajasthan for people to reach Delhi.

The event has been organised under the patronage of Shri Kshatriya



Tan Singh



Gajendra Singh Shekhawat



Diya Kumari



Rajyvardhan Singh Rathore



Rajendra Rathore



Bhagwan Singh Rolsahabsar and Laxman Singh Bainyababs take stock of the preparations at JLN Stadium on Saturday.

Yuvak Sangh's patron Bhagwan Singh Rolsahabsar and his chief Laxman Singh Bainyababs. The duo took stock of the preparations for the function at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium on Saturday.

Tan Singhji, a visionary Kshatriya leader, established Shri Kshatriya Yuvak Sangh in 1946 at the tender age of 22 to instil Kshatriya values among Rajput youth.

Through numerous camps and affiliated organisations, the Sangh imparts the essence of the Kshatriya ethos, as elucidated in the teachings of Lord Shri Krishna. Born in Bersiala village on January 25, 1924, Tan Singhji's early life was marked by adversity. Despite losing his father at a young age, he pursued education and excelled, eventually venturing into

politics. Elected MLA at 28 and MP twice, Tan Singhji's tenure was characterised by integrity and commitment to national interest.

His contributions extended beyond politics. He bravely protested the unjust ban on the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, exemplifying his commitment to justice and societal welfare. A distinguished scholar

proficient in Sanskrit, Hindi, English, and Rajasthani languages, Tan Singhji authored numerous influential works, including the acclaimed compilation 'Jhankar.'

At the core of Tan Singhji's legacy is his founding of Shri Kshatriya Yuvak Sangh, a testament to his commitment to societal upliftment. Through his teachings, he emphasised impor-

tance of responsibility in Sanatan culture, inspiring generations to serve society and nation.

Despite his premature demise in 1979, Tan Singhji's impact reverberates through the ongoing endeavors of Shri Kshatriya Yuvak Sangh. As the nation commemorates his 100th birth anniversary, individuals from diverse backgrounds will converge at

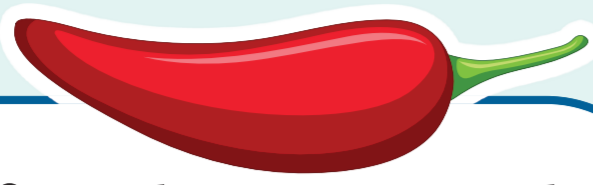
Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium to pay homage and reaffirm their dedication to his ideals.

His spiritual depth transcended societal boundaries. He advocated for social work as a path to divine connection, elucidating his philosophy in 'Sadhana Path.'

In his short life, Tan Singhji left an indelible mark on Indian society. His vision, embodied in

Shri Kshatriya Yuvak Sangh, continues to empower the youth towards the betterment of religion, culture, and humanity.

On January 28, 2024, as the nation gathers to honor his legacy, Tan Singhji's influence serves as a beacon of inspiration, transcending generations and fostering unity across the Indian landscape.



Mirch Masala

FIRST INDIA SUNDAY SPECIAL



By Tridib Raman

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

IS NITISH ACTUALLY A MASTERMIND?

Nitish Kumar has done the work of giving reality to the facts mentioned earlier in this column. Sunday is generally a holiday, so it is possible that Nitish will give a rest to all speculations. The role was tied to the cabinet meeting convened on January 25. Immediately before this meeting, a press note was issued to the media that 'There will be no press briefing after today's meeting.' This press note created panic in the RJD camp. It is said that in the cabinet meeting itself, a suggestion came from Nitish that 'Bihar Assembly should be dissolved and Bihar elections should be conducted along with Lok Sabha elections,' but RJD rejected this proposal outright and made it clear that 'RJD ministers will not sign this proposal.' As Prashant Kishor, who was once very close to Nitish, also believes that 'Nitish has reached that stage of his age from where the path of his future politics is blurred.' That is why Lalu Yadav wanted 'Nitish should hand over the reign of Bihar to his son Tejashwi and raise awareness against BJP across the country on behalf of 'India Alliance', but

something else was going on in Nitish's mind. That day the cabinet meeting also ended in just 15 minutes without any decision. The ministers and officials had not even finished their tea and breakfast when Nitish got up with a jerk and came out of the room. When Nitish came out, he saw that Tejashwi had already reached the lift, so ignoring Tejashwi, he started coming down the stairs quickly. Lalu Yadav handed over the responsibility of convincing Nitish to Shivanand Tiwari. Tiwari even went to Nitish but things did not work out. Here, on the day of Republic Day, JP Nadda and Amit Shah hurriedly summoned the leaders of Bihar BJP to Delhi. BJP has also woven its final strategy. Only 15 Lok Sabha seats have been offered to Nitish, along with this BJP has also made it clear to Nitish that 'if JDU government is formed with BJP under his leadership, then BJP's 2 Dy CMs will be included in that govt.' What better opportunity could there be for Nitish than the Ram Mandir wave and Bharat Ratna to Karpoori Thakur to join with BJP? But some people are still calling it Nitish's 'pressure tactics' i.e. he can go anywhere.



SP'S FOCUS ON UTTAR PRADESH

Samajwadi Party is confident that 'they and RLD together have the potential to win at least 18-20 seats in the Lok Sabha.' In a way, the identification of seats has also been completed and the names of the candidates are also more or less decided. Like preparations are being made to field Shivpal Yadav from Azamgarh, Akhilesh Yadav himself will contest from Kannauj, Dimple Yadav from Mainpuri, Dharmendra Yadav from Badayun, Akshay, son of Professor Ramgopal Yadav from Firozabad, Chandrashekhar Azad from Nagina and Ravidas Malhotra from Lucknow, Afzal Ansari from Ghazipur and former UP minister Manoj Pandey are also almost finalized to contest the elections.

WILL CONGRESS-SP FIGHT TOGETHER?

Congress continues to be confused about the list of its potential candidates in UP. Congress has so far sent three separate lists of its potential candidates to the SP leadership. In the first list, a demand has been made for 22 seats, in the second, 24 seats and in the third and last list, again 22 seats have been demanded. The seats Congress has demanded include parliamentary seats like Gautam Buddha Nagar, Ghaziabad, Kairana, Sambhal, Amroha, Rampur, Ballia, Amethi, Rae Bareilly, Sultanpur, Maharajganj and Kanpur. BSP MP Danish Ali has recently been expelled from the party by Mayawati and Congress is demanding Moradabad seat from Akhilesh for him. There is a demand for Maharajganj seat for party spokesperson Supriya Shrinet. This time Salman Khurshid wants to contest from Kanpur instead of Farrukhabad, because due to his ill health, Shriprakash Jaiswal has given up his claim from the Kanpur seat. Whereas Akhilesh had called Rahul and said, 'Don't get involved in numbers. Just bring good and strong candidates, I am ready to give up the seat for them.'

CONGRESS IN 'TROUBLE' IN BIHAR?



Due to the changed expressions of Nitish, Congress is also extremely perplexed. It was certain that when Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Nyaya Yatra would reach Bihar on January 29 and Nitish would also share stage with Rahul. This journey of Rahul has to pass through at least 7 districts of Bihar for 4 days. But Congress' Bihar in-charge Mohan Prakash, in whose appointment Nitish-Lalu is considered to have played an important role, distanced himself from Rahul's program in Bihar. Apparently did not want to upset Nitish. In the absence of Mohan Prakash, Congress handed over the responsibility of arranging Rahul's visit to Bihar to co-in-charge of Bihar and party's national secretary Virendra Singh Rathore. At the same time, the statement of Congress' CLP leader in Bihar Shakeel Ahmed Khan has also come in favor of Nitish. The whereabouts of Congress leader Ajay Kapoor, who is making waves on every issue of Bihar, is also not available. In such a situation, it can be easily understood what will be the fate of Rahul's Nyaya Yatra in Bihar. Anyway, Rahul has suddenly reached Delhi after taking a break of 2 days from his Nyaya Yatra and from this a seriousness of the matter can be understood.

SISTER'S CHALLENGE TO BROTHER IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Ever since the Congress has handed over the command of Andhra Pradesh to Jagan Mohan Reddy's sister Sharmila, the political atmosphere there has started changing. As soon as Sharmila became the state president, Andhra's almost moribund Congress has got a new lease of life and Jagan Mohan is facing a tough situation. Jagan has opened two fronts simultaneously and along with Congress, TDP has also attacked him. Ever since Jagan has sent Telugu Desam Party chief Chandrababu Naidu to jail, TDP cadre has come out on the streets. MPs of Jagan's party are also leaving him and turning to other parties. Sharmila is currently on her journey, and she is directly attacking her brother, saying that 'ever since Jagan's government has been formed in the state, the wheel of development has stopped and Jagan has not even been able to build a new capital of the state.' Along with the Lok Sabha elections, assembly elections are to be held in Andhra. In the 2019 assembly elections, Jagan's YSR Congress won 151 out of 175 seats and 22 out of 25 Lok Sabha seats.

Diya Kumari discusses dev work, attends West Raj Handicraft Fest

Diya Kumari also inaugurated Sambhar festival

Shiv Prakash Purohit, Nirmal Tiwari and Jitendra Madhani Jodhpur/Sambhar



Diya Kumari and Kailash Choudhary with others at the West Raj Handicraft Festival in Jodhpur on Saturday.



Diya Kumari during the Sambhar Festival in Jaipur on Saturday.

State Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari was on a one-day visit to Jodhpur on Saturday. Public representatives and officials welcomed her at the airport. She was given a guard of honour at the Circuit House. She had a discussion on various development works of the city with officials of Public Works Department, Jodhpur Development Authority, Municipal Corporation, etc. here and gave them necessary guidelines. Diya Kumari also interacted with the

media and participated in the 'Western Rajasthan Industry Handicraft Festival- 2024' here.

On the occasion, Minister of State for Agriculture and Welfare, Kailash Choudhary, Minister of State for Industry and Commerce KK Vishnoi, Mayor of South JMC Vanita Seth and others were present.

BRING 'SAMBHAR UTSAV' TO THE LEVEL OF 'RANN UTSAV', SAYS DEPUTY CM DIYA KUMARI

Diya Kumari said that there is a lot of tourism potential in the Sambhar Lake area and by developing it, tourism and employment opportunities can be improved there. Deputy Chief Minister inaugurated a three-day festival organised at Sambhar Lake on Friday. She directed the officials to immediately start working on all possibilities and develop the 'Sambhar Utsav' on the lines of the 'Rann Utsav' of Kutch. She said that Sambhar Lake covers a very large area and is a Ramsar site, lakhs of flamingos and other exotic birds come here for migration.

BJP MANDAL SUBMITS MEMO TO DIYA KUMARI

Meanwhile, the BJP Mandal submitted a memorandum regarding development in the tourism sector in Sambhar to Diya Kumari. They have demanded that the tourism department should organize Sambhar Festival at developed places.

Rajyavardhan & Kanhaiyalal lay foundation of devp works



Cabinet Min Rajyavardhan Rathore and PHED Minister Kanhaiyalal Chaudhary during foundation laying in Bindayka, Jaipur on Saturday.

Satyanarayan Sharma Jaipur

PHED Minister Kanhaiyalal Chaudhary said that under the guidance of PM Modi and efficient leadership of the BJP govt of Rajasthan, the situation of drinking water in rural areas is changing rapidly. He said that pure drinking water is being available through tap to every villager's home. Chaudhary and Jhotwara MLA and Cabinet Minister Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various works under Bisalpur-Prithviraj Nagar Drinking Water Project Phase-II in Khushi Pinkcity on Sirsi Road. Chief Engineer of Bisalpur Project R.K. Meena, Chief Engineer City K.D. Gupta, Addl Chief Engineer Ajay Singh Rathore and others were also present.

CS Pant to review the progress of secretaries today

Dr Rituraj Sharma Jaipur

Chief Secretary Sudhansh Pant is serious about tight monitoring. He has directed regular meetings of secretaries which include officers at the level of chief secretaries, principal secretaries, secretaries, special secretaries and joint secretaries. The first meeting is scheduled on Monday morning. The frequency of meetings has not been decided yet. But this meeting will be a regular feature where Pant will review the progress of each department, said a senior officer.

Sudhansh Pant will review the progress of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, status of complaint on sampark portal.

Rathore holds LS election preps meet in Bharatpur



Rajendra Rathore being welcomed and felicitated by local BJP leaders in Bharatpur on Saturday.

Ravi Katara Bharatpur

During the visit of BJP leader Rajendra Rathore, the BJP workers held a meeting regarding preparations for Lok Sabha elections. Rathore said that the ground work on the manifesto issued by the BJP government at the time of elections have started. It has begun with the examination scrutiny

under the BJP government, while activities of mineral mafia and gangsters has witnessed curb. In the meeting, MP Ranjita Koli, MLA Shailesh Singh, Bahadur Singh Koli, Nauksham, BJP leaders Hemraj Meena, and Parakram Rathore were present. Talking to media reports, Rathore said that the case of paper leak scam will be investigated by the ED soon.

Gehlot to attend BJNY in Jalpaiguri

Kailash Choudhary Jaipur

Former Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot left for New Delhi on Saturday. He will leave for Bagdogra from Delhi today at 9:30 am to participate in the Bharat Jodo Nyaya Yatra in Jalpaiguri. Gehlot will stay in Bagdogra today and will leave tomorrow at 4:45 pm for Delhi and will be back to Jaipur by night.

Mevani meets Cong workers for Lok Sabha elections

Naresh Sharma Jaipur

Member of AICC Election Manifesto Committee and Gujarat MLA Jignesh Mevani on Sunday met various social organizations of the state, representatives of various sections of society, civil society and took suggestions for LS Poll manifesto.

He took suggestions in an important meeting at the PCC office. Former Speaker of Rajasthan Leg-



CP Joshi and Jignesh Mevani interacting with media in Jaipur on Saturday.

islative Assembly and chairman of the state congress manifesto committee chairman CP Joshi headed the meeting. Suggestions were received from society members, Cong workers, leaders & public representatives.

CONGRESS SEARCHING FOR LS CANDIDATES

Jaipur: With just a few months left for Lok Sabha elections, Cong started exercising to look for candidates. 25 coordinators of the party have set out to search for the candidates. They are touring state and feeling the pulse of LS constituencies. The coordinators have to prepare reports which will be given to PCC Chief. Decisions will be based initial report of coordinators.

CONGRESS LEADERS TO REVIEW BJNY PREPS

Cong in-charge for Rajasthan SS Randhawa and state party chief Govind Singh Dotasra will tour the state to review preparations for the Bharat Jodo Nyaya Yatra and the upcoming Lok Sabha polls. The duo along with senior leaders of the party will also address a series of public meetings across the state beginning February 1, party spokesperson Swarnim Chaturvedi said.

DAINIK NAVAJYOTI DESH RAAG

Poets recite patriotic 'raag' on Republic Day

Navin Sharma Jaipur

Dainik Navajyoti organised 'Desh Raag', a national level conference of poets at Birla Auditorium on Saturday, under which Actor Yashpal Sharma, Poet Sanjay Jhala, Vineet Chauhan, Surendra Sharma, Chirag Jain, Arun Jaimini recited their compositions.

During this, CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, ADG Crime Dinesh MN,



Bhajan Lal Sharma, Prem Chand Bairwa, Harsh Choudhary, Yashpal Sharma, Deen Bandhu Chaudhary felicitating Sanjay Jhala during 'Desh Raag' programme in Birla Auditorium in Jaipur on Saturday. Also seen are Vineet Chauhan, Surendra Sharma, Chirag Jain, Arun Jaimini, Manisha Shukla.

Deputy CM Dr. Prem Chand Bairwa, MP Ramcharan Bohra, BJP leader Ashok Pamami and other dignitaries including Pawan Arora - CEO and



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, Deputy CM Dr Prem Chandra Bairwa, Desh Bandhu Chaudhary, Pawan Arora, Suresh Mishra during the event at the Birla Auditorium in Jaipur on Saturday.

Managing Editor of First India News - were also present. At the onset, Director of Dainik Navajyoti Harsh Choudhary welcomed everyone.

f FIRST INDIA 2ND FRONT

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

We pay tribute to the great nationalist leader Lala Lajpat Rai on his birth anniversary. A true patriot, he truly embodied the spirit and courage of 'Punjab Kesari'!

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



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Dr Jagdeesh Chandra in conversation with (L-R) Pooja Yadav, Ayushi Shekhawat, Shikha Thakur, Aditi Nagar and Poornima Mishra during The JC Show.



PM NARENDRA MODI IS A MIRACLE ON INDIAN SOIL, SAYS Dr CHANDRA

Detailing the recent Ram idol consecration in Ayodhya and how Modi has far surpassed the leaders of the land, **Dr Jagdeesh Chandra** asserts how Advani was right in terming Modi as chosen by God to fulfill the dream of Hindus. Dr Chandra also reveals how Modi has tried to end the North-South divide, how he has carried out the role of a spiritual leader before the 'Pran Pratishtha', and how he is at a position where any challenge to him would be puny. Excerpts... (Part I)

● **PM Modi has fulfilled the long-held dream of a glorious Ram Temple erected at the disputed site. What is your take on this?**

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra: Narendra Modi has indeed won the hearts of one hundred forty crore Indians. These people, through their lives and for centuries, won't forget Modi's resolve. Truth be told, it can be said that in a single day, Modi has become the single global leader of all Hindus across the world. If I see it philosophically, we can say that this is the beginning of a new era for both India and Narendra Modi. This 'Pran Pratishtha' is akin to the rising of a new collective consciousness of India. The 'Pran Pratishtha' has happened and with it, Modi's honour as well as the nation's honour has also increased manifold. This is a magical moment for which we can say that nation can be proud of Narendra Modi. We can say that it was a historic moment that came and fulfilled the hopes, wishes, and dreams of over a billion Indians.

● **How do you see Narendra Modi's new avatar, especially after the 'Pran Pratishtha'?**

Before the avatar bit, one mention made by PM Modi is important to note. He said that the temple is not the problem but the solution. It does not create fire (division in people) but creates energy for bringing people together. Several people had said that if the Temple was constructed, the whole nation would burn and all those theories have been proven wrong. As far as PM Modi's new avatar is concerned, there is not even an iota of doubt that he has left the position of Prime Minister way behind. Today he is in a new avatar of a saint, a hermit, a Vishwa Guru, and a spiritual guru

and he has engulfed himself in Rambhakti. What did he say when he returned to Delhi from Ayodhya? He said that he has returned with Ayodhya in his heart! I sometimes feel that after Ayodhya or even during the entire process of Ayodhya, the holy spirits have entered Modi's consciousness. Look at his spiritual state of mind, he wrote a letter to the President saying that he had gone to Ayodhya as a pilgrim. So his heart is in Ayodhya and Rambhakti, while his physical being is in PMO in Delhi. In the future, you will see him remembering his time spent in Ayodhya and sharing anecdotes related to it. Even in cabinet meetings, Ayodhya will dominate.



● **So does it mean that Ram Rajya has begun in India under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi?**

Ram Rajya means a good beginning, a place where everyone has others' good in heart and the King looks after the people, there is development for all, the people feel safe and secure, and people may leave their homes and shops unattended owing to trust among people. This is the basic hypothesis of Ram Rajya where evil does not exist since the King has the means to end crime and criminals. So Narendra Modi has initi-

ated the Ram Rajya and it remains to be seen how the people of India follow it. But it can be said with surety that after the construction of Ram Temple, Narendra Modi has begun the revival of Ram Rajya in India.

● **Lal Krishna Advani said that the construction of the Ram Temple was in Narendra Modi's destiny. What does it mean?**

Though the words are limited, they carry utmost importance. Advani has said that he is extremely happy with the construction of Ram Temple and he has also said that since he could not go for the Pran Pratishtha, so he accepted the truth that destiny chose Narendra Modi for this work. Narendra Modi is extremely lucky and nothing can come across you if luck is on your side. Modi has done something for which the Hindu community cried for centuries. So Modi has become immortal now and thus what Advani said is correct that the almighty destined the construction of the Ram Temple through Narendra Modi and it can be said in another manner that the almighty sent Narendra Modi to India so that this work of Gods can be fulfilled.

● **The manner in which Narendra Modi has donned the spiritual way, will a day come when he will leave this power behind and take the role**

of a spiritual guru?

Possibility can't be ruled out! He certainly has a track record of this sort to the tune that he heads to the mountains leaving everything behind. He left everything and moved to the Himalayas for three years. As such, it is widely known, that his heart resides in Kedarnath, Badrinath, Ujjain Mahakal, and similar places. He is a hermit and he admits that power is just a tool for him to serve the nation. Everything is going alright as of now, but the day Rambhakti dominates him and he immerses himself fully in it, he may take such a decision. He may call Amit Shah one fine morning and tell him that he is going in search of truth and then perhaps you may hear folk tales akin to what we hear for Subhash Chandra Bose. If Modi goes like this, the entire nation will

search for him and then there will be stories that someone saw a person who looked like PM Modi. So I will not rule out the possibility. But there is another aspect to it. He has come into the mode of becoming a 'Chakravarti Samraat' and who knows if destiny itself has plans for Modi since he always says that he has to implement his vision 2047 for India.

● **Has PM Modi bridged the North-South divide in India in just a moment through his tours of various Temples situated in Southern India**

before the 'Pran Pratishtha' on January 22?

You are right. It is my firm belief that Narendra Modi has definitely bridged the divide between North and South India. If you observe and analyse what Modi did while visiting the Temples, you will realise that he has worked on national integration. He has brought in a new era of spirituality. I believe that he has brought the two sides closer and this will be evident from the Lok Sabha election result in the coming months.

● **However, some of his critiques have said that what Modi wore and how he behaved during the tour of Temples in Southern India was nothing more than a role play for votes.**

I don't see this as a role play. Rather it is an effort to make contact with the locals. He wants the people to realise that he is one of them. Look at the visuals from the days he went to the Temples and you will see that he looks like a local and thus the people connect with him. He carried out the rituals as any devout person would. He finds perfection in whatever he does and through these activities, he has found a connect with the people of Southern India. It is not a role play rather

he wants to live the role that comes with certain responsibilities.

● **Do you feel that there is no alternative to Modi, be it within the party or out of it?**

Absolutely. There is no alternative to Modi anywhere. Take for example the so-called alternatives in other parties. They are Rahul Gandhi, Mamata Banerjee, Akhilesh Yadav, Nitish Kumar or anyone else. So there is no alternative to Modi and you can say with commitment and surety that Modi is the soul of India, Modi is the guarantee of India and he is the identity of Bharat. Thus I don't see any issue of an alternative to Modi, not just in 2024, but for the next foreseeable elections.

● **How did Modi play the spiritualism and nationalism card in the politics of India?**

He lives by spiritualism and nationalism. He knew the nerve point of India so he first brought the nationalism aspect to politics in the last election. And then now he has donned the spiritual aspect and made a mix of spiritualism and nationalism, he took the nation forward. So Modi is now handing back the lost heritage of India to the people of this land which is a good act.

● **Do you feel that the security of all candidates before Modi in Varanasi will be forfeited?**

That is an interesting aspect. With the way things are right now, why should political parties even bother to contest against Modi in Varanasi? You are right in saying that the security may be forfeited if

the elections were to be held tomorrow. Secondly, every person in the country wants Modi to contest from their area. Earlier people from Uttar Pradesh came saying that he should contest from their state, so he did. Now people are coming from Tamil Nadu asking for Modi to contest from their state. So the question before Modi would be how to say no to these people. Also, if he contests from any seat in Southern India, he will further break the North-South divide and that sends a message. Also, he takes challenges head on and it would not be a surprise that he decides to contest from South India. There is word that people are trying to request PM to contest from South India.

● **Some people have claimed that Modi has set his election agenda through the Ram Temple.**

See, the election agenda is a small thing. He is someone who sets the agenda of the nation. What he says the nation follows. During Corona, he asked people to clap and beat the plates, and people did that. Then he said that he was a Chowkidaar, and the entire nation started speaking in the same tone. Now he has asked people to light diyas and thus people celebrated Diwali on the day of 'Pran Pratishtha'. So he has the power and capability to turn the people towards a goal.

TO BE CONTINUED...

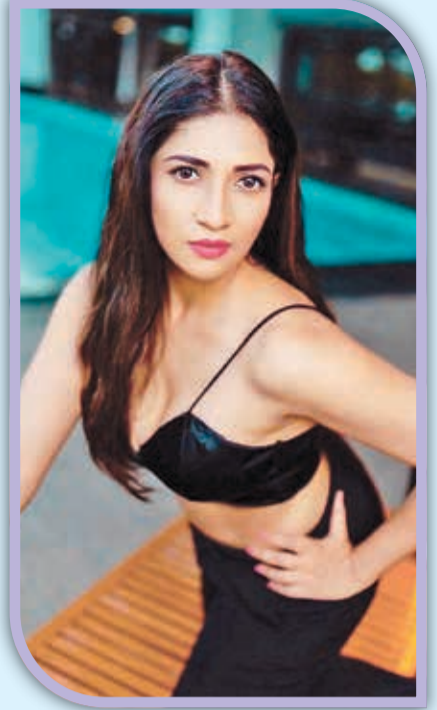
During the show #ModiAuraOfHoliness trended top All-India on X

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra during The JC Show.



BOLLYWOOD'S GLITTERING TRIBUTE!

In a dazzling display of patriotic fervour, Bollywood's glitterati, including megastars Amitabh Bachchan, Hrithik Roshan, Alia Bhatt, Varun Dhawan, Katrina Kaif & Salman Khan. **P13**



Iti Acharya: Redefining Stardom

Iti Acharya, a versatile actress and producer, known for her captivating performances in Hollywood and South Indian cinema has won several hearts at a young age. With a passion for promoting Indian culture globally, she serves as a cultural ambassador with grace. City First highlights her beautiful journey!



Mitali Dusad

mitalidusad@firstindia.co.in

Hailing from the vibrant city of Jaipur, Iti Acharya has carved a niche for herself in the world of cinema with her impeccable talent and unwavering dedication. As an actress and producer, she has left an indelible mark on both Hollywood and South Indian film industries, captivating audiences with her performances and contributing to the rich tapestry of Indian cinema.

Her journey towards stardom began with a humble start as a Formula One Grid Girl, where she caught the eye of renowned photographer Dabboo Ratnani, who saw in her the potential to become a muse. This led her to pursue a career in the entertainment world, graduating from NIFT and venturing into the realms of acting and producing. Iti's portfolio boasts a diverse range of roles, from intense dramas to lighthearted comedies, showcasing her versatility as an actress. Her roles in films like "Kavacha," "Kerala Today," and her Hollywood debut project "Love Her Too Much" have garnered critical acclaim, establishing her as a force to be reckoned with in the industry.

Beyond her on-screen achievements, Iti Acharya is also a cultural ambassador for the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, a role she embraces with grace and enthusiasm. Her dedication to promoting Indian culture and cinema on a global platform has earned her widespread admiration and respect.

In addition to her acting prowess, Iti



Acharya is also a shrewd producer, with several projects under her belt that showcase her passion for storytelling and commitment to excellence. Her efforts in producing meaningful and impactful cinema have earned her accolades and recognition from industry veterans and audiences alike. Outside of the limelight, the passion-driven woman is known for her philanthropic endeavours and her unwavering support for causes close to her heart. Her involvement in various charitable initiatives reflects her compassionate nature and her desire to make a positive impact on society.

As she continues to tread the path of success, Iti Acharya remains grounded and grateful for the opportunities that have come her way. With her infectious energy, boundless creativity, and unwavering determination, she is poised to conquer new horizons and leave an enduring legacy in the world of entertainment.

BOOSTING Immune health

An immunologist explains why both too strong and too weak an immune response can lead to illness



Eating a well-balanced diet, exercising regularly, reducing stress and getting decent sleep, on the other hand, can help your body maintain a functioning and healthy immune system. Although these lifestyle behaviours are not foolproof, they contribute to overall good health and ultimately to a more healthy immune system



Aimee Pugh Bernard

Assistant Professor of Immunology and Microbiology, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

out of balance, your immune system itself can cause disease.

CELLULAR BALANCE
The immune system is the mobile defence system of your body. It is a complex network of cells and organs that work together to protect your body from infection and disease. Your immune cells are continually on patrol, travelling throughout your body looking for infectious invaders and damage.

New immune cells are created in your bone marrow. Certain immune cells – called B

and T cells – are the special forces of the immune system, playing an important role in the

elimination of infectious invaders. Because of this role, these cells undergo a rigorous boot

camp during their development to ensure they will not discharge friendly fire on healthy cells in the body.

Any B cell or T cell exhibiting activity against the self – or autoreactivity – is killed during training. Millions of newly created B and T cells are killed every day because they fail this training process. If these self-reactive cells escape destruction, they could turn against the body and carry out an inap-

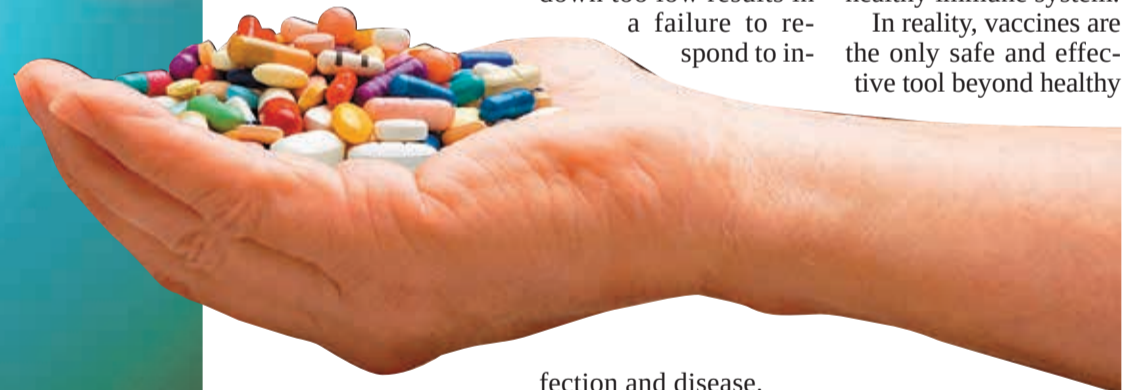
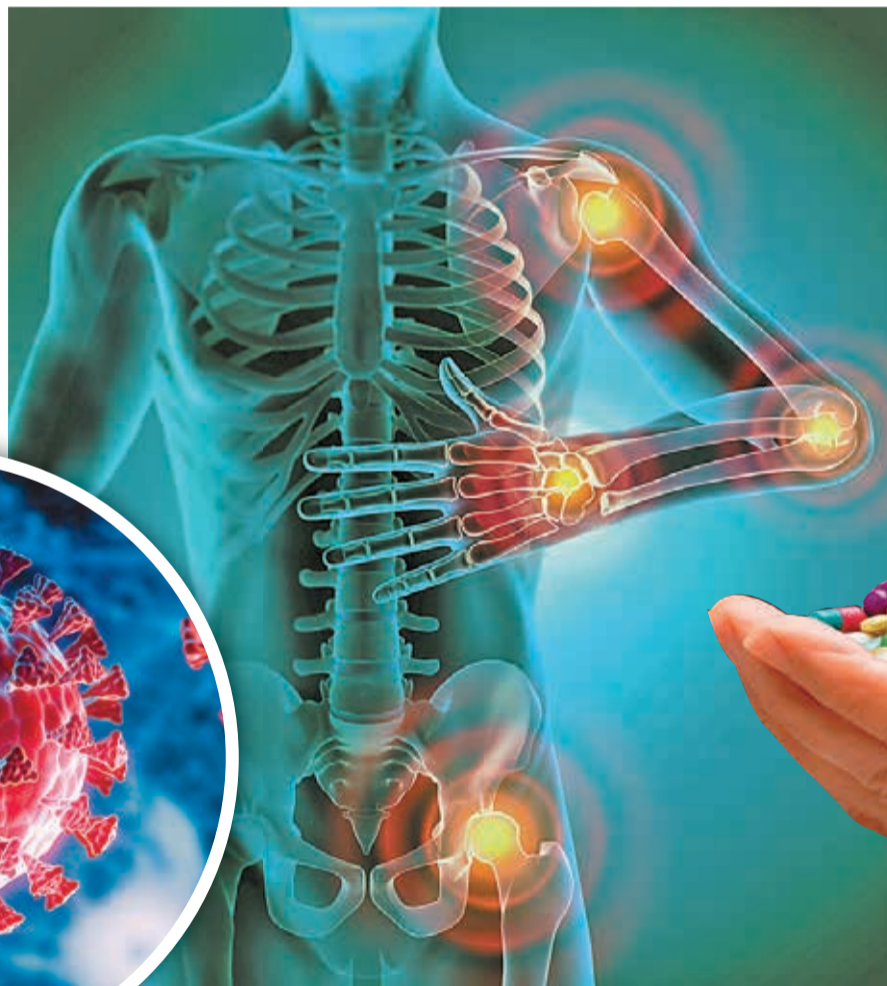
MORE ISN'T NECESSARILY BETTER

You've likely seen advertisements for dietary supplements that promise to "boost immune function." While this may sound appealing, it is important to keep in mind that the immune system functions best when perfectly balanced.

If the immune system is like a thermostat, turning it up too high results in overactivation and uncontrolled inflammation while turning it down too low results in a failure to respond to in-

getting decent sleep, on the other hand, can help your body maintain a functioning and healthy immune system. Although these lifestyle behaviours are not foolproof, they contribute to overall good health and ultimately to a more healthy immune system.

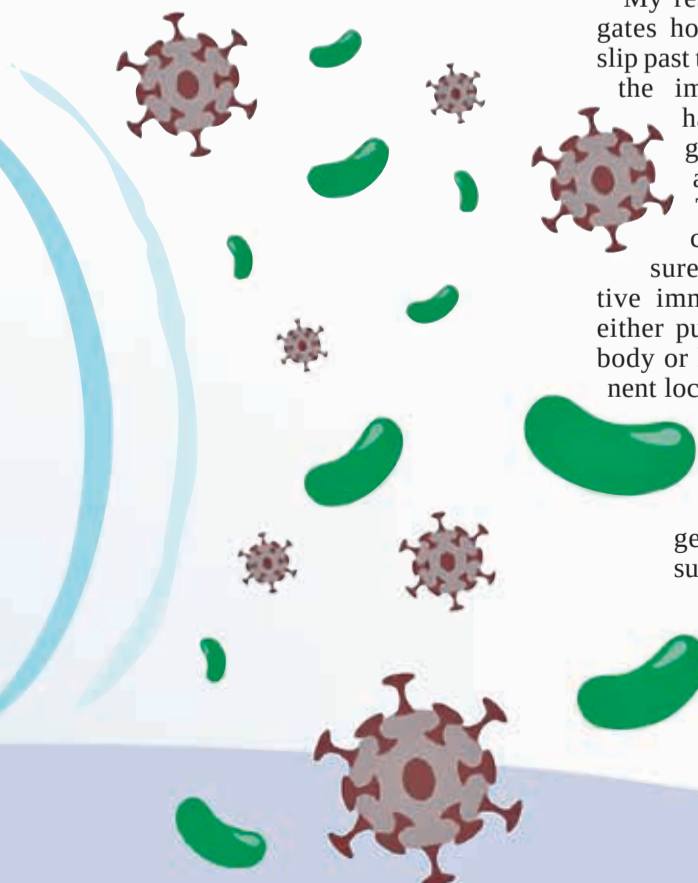
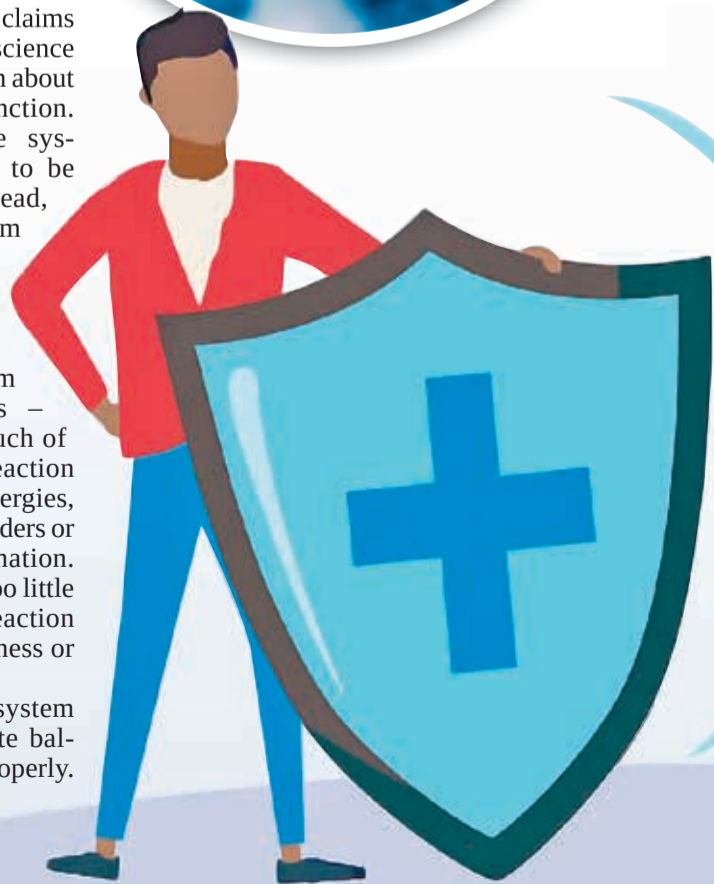
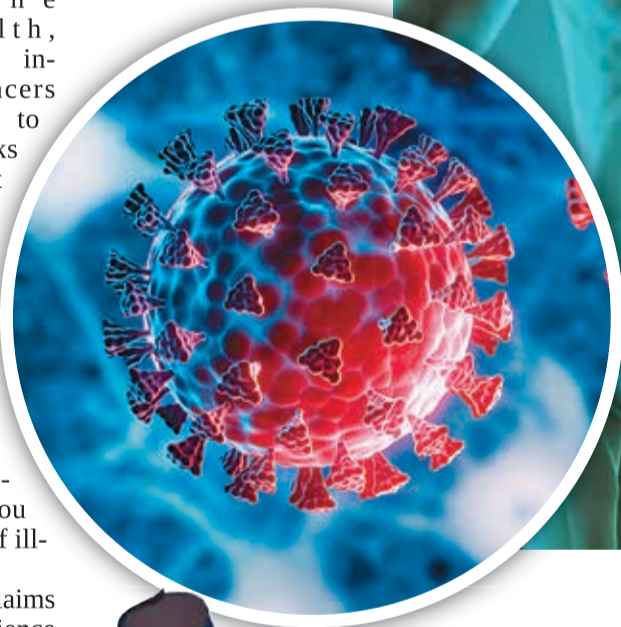
In reality, vaccines are the only safe and effective tool beyond healthy



For immune health, some influencers seem to think the Goldilocks philosophy of "just right" is overrated. Why settle for less immunity when you can have more? Many social media posts push supplements and other life hacks that "boost your immune system" to keep you healthy and fend off illness.

However, these claims are not based on science and what is known about immune function. Healthy immune systems don't need to be "boosted." Instead, the immune system works best when it is perfectly balanced. Scientific experts on the immune system – immunologists – know that too much of an immune reaction could result in allergies, autoimmune disorders or chronic inflammation. On the flip side, too little of an immune reaction could result in illness or infection.

Your immune system requires a delicate balance to operate properly. When it's



fection and disease. Because sustaining immune balance is critical, tinkering with the immune system through the use of supplements is not a good idea unless you have a clinical deficiency in certain vital nutrients. For people with healthy levels of nutrients, taking supplements could lead to a false sense of security, particularly since the fine print on the back of supplements usually has this disclaimer about their listed benefits: "This statement has not been evaluated by the FDA. Not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease."

Eating a well-balanced diet, exercising regularly, reducing stress and

lifestyle behaviours to support your immune system. Vaccines contain harmless forms of pathogens that help to train your immune cells to recognize and fight them. When you come into contact with the real and harmful version of the pathogen out in the wild – whether it's at a grocery store, social event or school – at a later date, these fully trained immune memory cells will immediately begin to fight and destroy the pathogen, sometimes so quickly that you don't even realize you've been infected.

In a world where people are continually bombarded by the marketing mantra that more is better, rest assured that when it comes to the immune system, maintaining perfect balance is just right.



<https://theconversation.com/immune-health-is-all-about-balance-an-immunologist-explains-why-both-too-strong-and-too-weak-an-immune-response-can-lead-to-illness-215217>

UNITY IN DIVERSITY!



During the celebration of 75th Republic Day

City First

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On the momentous occasion of India's 75th Republic Day, the spirit of patriotism pulsed vibrantly

across the nation. From the bustling streets of Jaipur to the serene corners of every village, echoes of celebration reverberated. Citizens, draped in the tricolour, came together, basking in the warmth of true pa-

triotic fervour. It was indeed a day where hearts had swollen with pride, commemorating the journey of a nation forged in diversity, resilience and unity. Amidst cultural performances, flag-hoisting ceremo-

nies and heartfelt tributes to freedom fighters, the love for the nation shines brightly, reminding us of our collective duty to uphold its values and ideals! City First sheds light on some beautiful moments!



Celebrations across JK Lon Hospital, Jaipur



Shanaya Bansal

PATRIOTIC RIDE MARKS REPUBLIC DAY

In celebration of the 75th Republic Day, the Godspeed Riders Club teamed up with Kamal Talai Cafe for a patriotic adventure. Together, they organised a Republic Day ride to Ramgarh Dam, where riders embarked on a memorable journey. Amidst the scenic beauty, a flag-hoisting ceremony added a touch of reverence to the occasion. Additionally, the spirit of camaraderie extended as they celebrated with the diligent workers of a nearby furniture factory, acknowledging their hard work and dedication. This collaborative event not only honoured the nation's milestone but also fostered a sense of community and appreciation for the unsung heroes of society. During the occasion, Vinamra and Rudra, Godspeed club founders; Shilpa Shara, Kamal Talai Cafe Owner and Saumitra, another fellow rider of Godspeed Riders Club among others were also present on the occasion.



Vinamra, Rudra, Ashwin, Prem, Shilpa, Pranay and Bhagyashree along with staff members



The students of Dr Seema Goel, Director Nritya Sanskriti Institute, namely Amaira, Aanya, Shreyasi, Sidhima, Dharima, Saanvi and Paridhi dress up gracefully.



Celebrations at Jojoba Farms

Bollywood's Glittering Tribute!

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In a dazzling display of patriotic fervour, Bollywood's glitterati, including megastars Amitabh Bachchan, Hrithik Roshan, Alia Bhatt, Katrina Kaif, Salman Khan, Kareena Kapoor, and filmmaker Karan Johar, lit up social media with posts celebrating the 75th Republic Day. President Droupadi Murmu kickstarted the national celebrations at Kartavya Path in Delhi, setting the tone for a day filled with pride and unity.



Sunil Shetty

touch with the song 'Lehra Do.' Madhuri Dixit, emphasizing inclusivity and justice, urged everyone to celebrate the unwavering

spirit of Republic Day.

Shilpa Shetty, waving the national flag with pride, wishes everyone on the 75th Ganatantra Divas. Meanwhile, the ever-charitable Sonu Sood shared a heartfelt moment with the Indian Army, spreading Republic Day cheer.

Sonali Bendre, draped in the tricolour, shared a patriotic post on Instagram, while Kareena Kapoor added a musical

As the nation marked its 75th Republic Day, Bollywood's vibrant messages echoed the unity in diversity, re-

flecting the ethos of a resilient and culturally rich India. The stars' posts, filled with joy and patriotism, added a dash of glamour to the historic occasion, proving once again that entertainment and celebration go hand in hand in the heart of Bollywood.



Varun Dhawan

Spirit of Patriotism

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Major Chandrakant, Veer Chakra Awardee was the Chief Guest at Nursery Park Vaishali Nagar to host Tiranga on the 75th Republic Day. The book of Major Saab about the 1971 war on

Gen. Sagat Singh was presented to the Yog Parivaar. Major Chandrakant bowed down and touched the soil of the park and appealed to everyone that we should take pride in that we belong to Bharat.

Ravi Kamra from Nursery Park Yog Parivaar said that Senior citizens both male & female presented a wonder-

ful dance on Desh Bhakti songs. Parmila Joshi choreographed the show. B M Vijayvargia & Ramesh Jalan were also present. Some 200 enthusiastic audiences enjoyed the celebrations. Meena Rathi promoted the cause of Organ Donation with placards in the presence of Renu Uba from the Organ Donor family.



SUNIL SHARMA



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra along with Sunil Bakshi and UM Sanghi release the tricolour balloons. Also seen are Vinod Jain, Rajendra Bilala, Arun Kala, Mahesh Kala, Ashok Jain, Surendra Pandya, Kamal Babu Jain, Manish Baid and Raj Kumar Kothari



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra greeted by Seema Jain & Sunil Bakshi. Also seen is UM Sanghi



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra inspects the Republic Day parade line-up

A SALUTE TO TRADITION

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Shri Mahaveer Digamber Jain Higher Secondary School, Mahaveer Public School, Mahaveer College of Commerce and Shri Padmavati Jain Girls Higher Secondary School, all esteemed educational institutions under the aegis of Shri Mahaveer Digamber

Jain Education Council, Jaipur, were honoured as Rajasthan's premier educational establishments. These institutions prioritized educational innovation. As customary, the Education Council hosted a special event on the 75th Republic Day on Friday in C-Scheme.

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra graced the occasion as the chief guest and commenced with a flag hoisting ceremony.

While addressing the audience, Dr Chandra said, "Education is the cornerstone of a progressive nation. It's an honour to be part of this celebration and witness the dedication of Rajasthan's premier educational establishments. Let us continue to prioritize education as the catalyst for shaping a brighter future for our nation." Honourable dignitaries including Sunil Bak-

shi, Kamal Babu Jain, Mahesh Kala and others graced the occasion. The program featured patriotic songs, dances, yoga demonstrations, and more, highlighting India's progress and values. Prizes were distributed to students for their academic achievements, emphasizing the importance of education in nation-building. The event concluded with the national anthem.

ARTISTIC FUSION

MUKESH KIRADOO



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra felicitated by Dr Kamal Sethia



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Sudhanshu Kasliwal, Akhilesh Jain, Anil Sarawagi, Anuj Mathur, Kamal Sethia, J K Ranka, Naren Bakshi, Naveen Arora, Dhurvendra Chhabra and Vivek Sethia during the book launch

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Jaipur's Maharana Pratap Auditorium shimmered with cultural brilliance as author Kamal Sethia presented his latest masterpiece, 'Let Thoughts Speak,' during a captivating book launch ceremony on Thursday.

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra graced the occasion as the chief guest and was wel-

comed by the literary enthusiasts present. The highlight of the evening was the ceremonial unveiling of Sethia's literary gem, 'Let Thoughts Speak,' a momentous occasion facilitated by Dr Jagdeesh Chandra. Attendees eagerly awaited to immerse themselves in the enchanting world crafted by the celebrated author, setting the stage for a night of intellectual

and emotional exploration. Transitioning seamlessly from the book launch, the auditorium transformed into a sanctuary of soulful melodies, paying homage to the legendary Ghazal maestro, Jagjit Singh. The

Ghazal night unfolded with timeless renditions, invoking nostalgia and resonating deeply with the hearts of the audience. As attendees embraced the melodic journey, the evening provided a poignant moment for reflection and remembrance of Jagjit Singh's iconic legacy.



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra addressing the audience

MEET & GREET!



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra was greeted by Aishwarya Pradhan of the First India family as he reached the former's residence to seek blessings on the occasion of latter's birthday.



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra was greeted by Pt Gajendra Sharma (astrologer), during a courtesy visit at the former's residence on Saturday.



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra was greeted by Fashion Designer Haneet Singh along with Ramit Malik Singh, during a courtesy visit at the former's residence on Friday. During the meet and greet, Haneet also invited Dr Chandra to the birthday bash of Ramit, on Sunday.

EVENTS!



Faridabad MLA Neeraj Sharma was greeted by Dr Devendra Pathak, National Business Head, Bharat 24- Vision of New India, during a courtesy visit recently.



JD Maheshwari, NS Publicity, extended a warm welcome to Bollywood star Abhishek Bachchan in the Pink City during the Pro Kabaddi League, recently. Maheshwari expressed admiration for the Pink Panthers team, highlighting their prowess in the league. The occasion saw the presence of Gokul Maheshwari and Suresh Patodiya, adding to the camaraderie.



MLA and former Rajasthan Government Minister, Dr Kailash Chand Verma inaugurated the Play Sports Jaipur Swachathon, with 1000 runners joining the event. Held on January 21, the marathon saw participants of all ages, from a 2-year-old accompanied by parents to a 70-year-old. The event was graced by dignitaries including Dr. Pradeep Yadav, aiming for a Guinness World Record, and organized by Rotary Club Jaipur Metro President, Shiva Gaur. Promoter Shubham Choudhary commended the turnout despite cold weather, emphasizing the message of a clean and drug-free society.

POETIC PROWESS UNLEASHED!



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Anil Lodha, CS Singhvi, Utkarsh Lodha, Chief Editors of Sunahara Rajasthan (newspaper) and talented poets during the ceremony



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Anil Lodha, CS Singhvi, Shri Krishan Rathi during the lamp lighting ceremony



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra received a warm welcome by Anil Lodha

In a celebration of literary excellence and patriotism, Senior Journalist Anil Lodha, in collaboration with Sunahara Rajasthan and A1TV, hosted a captivating Kavi Sammelan at the Press Club on the auspicious occasion of 75th Republic Day. Dr Jagdeesh Chandra graced the event as the Chief Guest, and received a heartfelt welcome by Anil Lodha and his team, adding prestige to the gathering. Among the attendees were CS Singhvi and Utkarsh Lodha, CEO of A1TV, alongside dedicated employees. The event, filled with stirring verses and poignant recitals, showcased the richness of Indian culture and the spirit of unity.

MUKESH KIRADOO