



# FIRST INDIA

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Rajasthan's Own English Newspaper



## HAMAAR KASHI HAMAAR MODI!



CLICK CODE FOR MORE GLIMPSES OF MODI'S MEGA SHOW IN KASHI

**PM Modi will file his nomination from the Varanasi Lok Sabha constituency today**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday held a roadshow in his constituency Varanasi, from where he is contesting the Lok Sabha elections, amid Phase 4 of polling across India. He will be filing his nomination from the Varanasi Lok Sabha constituency in Uttar Pradesh today. Taking to X, the PM said Kashi is "special" because of the "unbelievable" warmth and affection of the people. Ahead of his roadshow, PM Modi also paid tribute to Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya's statue.

**SENSEX**

BSE 72,776.13  
NIFTY 22,104.05

▲ 111.66 ▲ 48.85

**IN SHORT**



Union Minister and BJP candidate from Hamirpur Anurag Singh Thakur files his nomination papers in Hamirpur on Monday.

● Fake NoC case: State level report in the matter of organ transplant fake NoC is almost ready and may be submitted to Health Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar today.

● Air India is targeting the completion of Vistara's merger with itself by the end of this year and integration of over 7,000 employees will start from June in different phases.

● India and Iran sealed a critical 10-year agreement on Monday to jointly develop and manage the Chabahar port, a move that significantly deepens strategic cooperation.

● Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday resigned as the President of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), ARY News reported, citing sources.

● A special court in Karnataka granted bail to HD Revanna in a case of alleged kidnapping, in connection with sexual abuse charges against his son and Hassan MP.

● SC refused interim bail on Monday for Hemant Soren to campaign for the Lok Sabha election, but agreed to list his plea to quash his arrest by the probe agency on May 17.

● The Delhi Police on Monday said AAP Rajya Sabha member Swati Maliwal made two calls to the Police Control Room alleging assault at the Chief Minister's house.

**PHASE 4 VOTING IN 96 SEATS ACROSS 9 STATES & J&K CONCLUDES**

## Kashmiri Pandits vote in homecoming hope

Moni Sharma  
New Delhi

Millions of Indians across 96 constituencies casted their ballots as the country's gigantic, 6-week-long election edges past its halfway mark. Monday's polling in Phase 4 of election across 9 states and 1 Union Territory is pivotal for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking a 3rd straight term but facing the voters' fury over unemployment and inflation. Meanwhile, 2 governments Odisha and Andhra Pradesh also voted to pick their next governments in simultaneous elections.

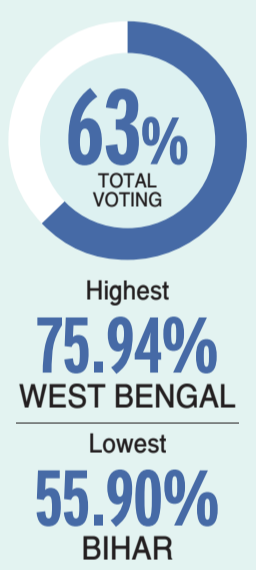
Meanwhile, displaced from their native soil, their homes, hearths and loved ones, many of whom perished in the face of militancy and cross-border terrorism; migrant Kashmiri Pandits residing in Jammu turned out in numbers outside polling booths on Monday, in the hope, perhaps, of a homecoming in the not-too-distant future. P5



(From Top) People wait in queue to cast their votes in Srinagar on Monday. Security assist an elderly woman to cast her vote in Murshidabad. A woman shows her ink-marked finger in Asansol.

**AT 36.58%, SRINAGAR RECORDS HIGHEST VOTING SINCE 1996: ECI**

Efforts made by the Election Commission of India (ECI) and political parties to encourage people to come out and vote bore fruit as the Srinagar Lok Sabha constituency saw a voter turnout of 36.58% - the highest in the last 5 elections. Officials in the EC said they had made concerted efforts to facilitate campaigning and provide a secure environment for political activity.



**May 20: Phase 5 poll**  
The Phase 5 polling is scheduled for May 20. It will cover 93 seats & mark crucial juncture in overall 7-phase polls.

**KEY HIGHLIGHTS**

Sporadic incidents of violence mark Phase 4 polling in Bengal, BJP's Dilip Ghosh heckled

BJP's Madhavi Latha asks burqa-clad women to lift veil at voting booth

MLA from Jagan Reddy's party slaps voter in polling queue, he hits back

Arrest orders for 2 polling officials for 'trying to influence voters' in Odisha

Supriya Sule alleges cameras in Baramati EVM room turned off

## 8 die, 64 hurt as hoarding falls due to Mumbai storm

First India Bureau  
Mumbai

At least 8 people died, and 64 others were injured, with more than 40 trapped after a 100-foot tall billboard collapsed in Mumbai following a dust storm and heavy rain. The illegal billboard fell on a petrol pump at the Cheddanagar Junction in Ghatkopar area. After the hoarding collapse incident at Ghatkopar, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnis, who cancelled his rally in Mulund and met



A hoarding collapses in Mumbai's Ghatkopar area on Monday.

affected people. Police, BMC, Disaster Management Depts are making best possible efforts to evacuate trapped people on a war footing. P6

**Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announced ₹5 lakh compensation for kin of deceased**

## Over 50 Jaipur schools receive bomb threat

Satyanarayan Sharma  
Jaipur

Over 50 schools in Jaipur received bomb threats via email on Monday morning, triggering panic among students and their parents, police said. However, no explosive or anything suspicious has been found, they added. The authorities said the incident as hoax. P2

## CBSE X, XII results out: Girls outperform boys

First India Bureau  
New Delhi

The CBSE has declared the class 10 and class 12 board results on Monday. As many as 87.98% have cleared 12th exams this year and 93.60% have passed class 10. Girls have outperformed boys yet again. Trivandrum is the top-performing district this year in both

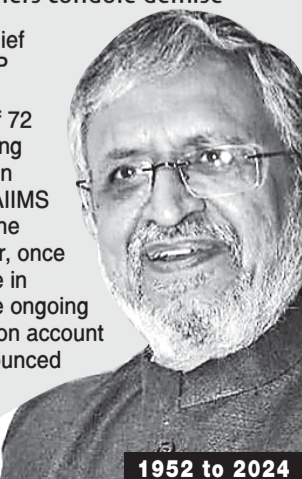


CBSE 10th and 12th results. The CBSE has announced that there will be no merit list to "avoid unhealthy competition".

## EX-BIHAR DY CM SUSHIL MODI PASSES AWAY AT 72

PM Narendra Modi, Governor Kalraj Mishra, UHM Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, JP Nadda, CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, Mamata Banerjee, Lalu Yadav, Tejashwi Yadav and others condole demise

Former Bihar Deputy Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Sushil Kumar Modi passed away at the age of 72 on Monday. He was battling cancer and was admitted in the intensive care unit of AIIMS in New Delhi for the last one month. The stalwart leader, once the BJP's best-known face in Bihar, had opted out of the ongoing Lok Sabha elections also on account of his health. He had announced it on social media with a post on X, formerly Twitter, on April 3.



1952 to 2024

## CM SHARMA'S MARATHON RALLIES CONTINUE...

## Only Narendra Modi working to remove poverty, says CM Sharma

Ashvini Yadav  
Karnal

CM BHAJAN LAL SHARMA MET LOK SABHA SPEAKER OM BIRLA AT THE LATTER'S RESIDENCE IN NEW DELHI ON LATE MONDAY

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma held a meeting in Assandh Assembly of Karnal where in he addressed a gathering in support of Manohar Lal Khattar. Targeting the Congress, Sharma said that Congress is still giving slogans of removing poverty and 'their last 3 generations have been raising the same slogan'. "Only Narendra Modi worked to remove poverty. Congress worked to divide the country on the basis of caste, religion and region. Now they are bringing color discrimination, this is undivided



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, Union Minister of Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and others during nomination filing of BJP candidate Anita Som Prakash in Hoshiarpur on Monday.

India, now it is PoK's turn. Not a drop of blood was allowed to be spilled on removal of Article 370. There was no SC-ST section, now these people are getting benefits," the CM said. P8

# Bomb threats shake 56 schools of Jaipur, students evacuated

● On 16th anniv of Jaipur bomb blasts, school principals received mail in morning, threatening to bomb school

● Efforts are on to identify sender of emails, all messages were generated from single source: Jpr CP Biju G Joseph

Satyaranayam Sharma  
Jaipur

It was a regular day for schools students in Jaipur when the information of a bomb threat was received by the authorities. Upon receiving the information from the schools and also via media and social media, the worried & parents rushed to schools in panic to pick up their children

However, they took a sigh of relief when authorities told them things were under control and there was no need to worry. According to the police, 56 schools in Jaipur received emails stating explosives were planted on their premises. On being informed, squads were rushed to these locations to check for suspicious objects or devices.

No suspicious objects were found wherever the checks have been completed, the police said. "The locations have been sanitised and marked clear from security point of



STF of Rajasthan Police and school teachers helping to evacuate the Jaipuria Vidyalaya after the bomb threat mail in Jaipur on Monday. **SUNIL SHARMA**



(L) Teachers and parents calming the students outside the Vidhyashram School.



(R) Dog Squad in action at MPS International School.

view," police officer said. The first information about the threat was reported from a private school in Tilak Nagar followed by other schools in

different localities including Manak chowk, Vaishali Nagar, Vidhyadhar Nagar, Niwaru Road, Tonk Road, and Sanganer among others.

"Several schools received threats via email that explosives were there in schools. Checking in most of schools has been completed and no explo-

## CM ASKS OFFICIALS TO BE ON ALERT MODE

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma took feedback from Jaipur police on bomb threat issue. Notably, threats of bomb blasts were received in Jaipur schools over which the CM instructed officers to remain alert and said, "Investigate thoroughly and be cautious." CM also assured the families about the safety of children.

## 4 of family from Asind on vacation in Gujarat drown in Arabian Sea

Rohit Soni  
Asind(Bhilwara)

On Sunday, four members of a Rajasthan family vacationing in Gujarat drowned in the Arabian Sea. Four people's bodies were retrieved during the rescue operation, which lasted until 10.45 a.m. on Monday. These included the mother and two sons. Seven persons drowned in the sea, with three rescued by local police and the coast guard.

According to the report, Yuvraj, Deshraj, Su-



Security personnel evacuating the Dandi Beach after the tragic accident in Gujarat on Sunday evening.

shila, Durga, and three others were swept away by the high tide in the sea this afternoon. The Coast

Guard quickly rescued three people. Gopal's two sons, wife, and niece drowned in the water.

## Diya Sharma honored with Brahmin Ratna for safa tying and textile art

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

"Brahmin Ratna Samroh" was organized by Sarva Brahmin Mahasabha at Chamber Bhawan MI Road, Jaipur in which Brahmins who have done excellent work in education, textile art, astrology, business, sports and administrative fields were honored. On this occasion, Jaipur MP Ram Charan Bohra, BJP MP



Diya Sharma being felicitated by Bal Mukund Acharya and Ram Charan Bohra and others in Jaipur on Monday.

candidate Manju Sharma, Hawamahal MLA Bal-mukund Acharya, Amer

MLA Prashant Sharma, senior leader of BJP, Nat'l Prez of Sarva Brahmin Samaj and social worker P Suresh Mishra, Dr Sameer Sharma, Savita Sharma, Acharya Rajeshwar, Govind Pareek, P Uma Shankar Sharma and other dignitaries were present.

In the field of textile art, Diya Sharma received this award for mastering the art of tying turban of Rajasthan.

## Soldier from Jhunjhunu martyred in explosion at Army's Ammunition Depot

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

A brave soldier from Thana Ramrakh in the Jhunjhunu district, Nandu Singh, has been martyred in an explosion at the Army's ammunition depot in Leh-Ladakh. As soon as the news of Nandu

Singh's martyrdom emerged, grief engulfed the village.

On May 8th, an explosion occurred suddenly at the ammunition depot in Leh-Ladakh, injuring Nandu Singh. Following the blast, Nandu Singh was admitted to the Army hospital in Chandigarh,

where he breathed his last. The news of the martyrdom of the soldier from Thana Ramrakh has left the rural community in shock. According to information, Nandu Singh was martyred in the explosion at the Army's ammunition depot in Leh-Ladakh.

## Tenant kills landlady, grandson after tiff over daily bickering in Jaipur; bodies found in tank



First India Bureau  
Jaipur

In a shocking incident that unfolded in Sanganer, on Monday evening, a tenant brutally murdered the house owner, Prem Devi Bairwa (50), and her 6-year-old grandson, Gaurav, by slashing their throats with a sharp knife. Subsequently, he disposed of their bodies by dumping them into a water tank in courtyard of the house.

The incident came to light when Pooja, wife of another tenant, Mukesh, returned home in evening and opened the tank to fetch water. To her horror, she discovered the bodies inside tank and screamed in terror. Nearby residents gathered upon hearing her screams. The locals apprehended the accused, Rajkumar, and informed the relatives of the deceased and the police. Acting swiftly, the police detained Rajkumar.



Mother of the kidnapped youth waiting outside home in Bundi.

## YOUTH KIDNAPPED IN NAINWA BUNDI, CASE FILED

Bundi: Sudeep Kumar Jain, a native of Nainwan, was kidnapped and money was demanded by three youths. His kidnappers from Tonk carried him to Bundi. On the way, the kidnappers assaulted the young man and stole the money. They stole around Rs 1 lakh 35 thousand from him. They transported him to Kota and released him. The cops arrived after family members reported the incident. He then came to Nainwan with the police. On other hand, his elder brother Pradeep Kumar Jain stated in the report that he received a call from his niece Ruchi Jain regarding kidnapping. They sought Rs 80,000. SHO Mahendra stated that a case has been filed against unknown. **Bhawani Singh**

## JPR WOMAN RAPED ON PRETEXT OF TREATMENT IN HOTEL BY DOC'S ASST

Jaipur: A woman was raped in a hotel, according to reports. The guy claiming to be a doctor's acquaintance gave the woman drugs under the guise of treatment. When she went unconscious, the accused raped her and recorded indecent movies. Following this, the accused began calling & threatening to meet. When she declined, the accuser sent her indecent recordings via WhatsApp. The victim claimed that later his friend drove him to a motel on Vatika Road, where the accused raped her and recorded filthy videos.

## AGTF NABS GANGSTER IN H'GARH WITH JOINT OP OF DEL-HRY POLICE

Hanumangar: Under directives of ADG Crime Dinesh MN, a major operation was carried out following a tip-off from the AGTF, resulting in the apprehension of gangster Sagar in Hanumangar. Sagar, a hardcore criminal from Haryana, was on the run after being implicated in a murder case. Acting on inputs provided by AGTF, a joint operation was launched by Delhi & H'garh Police. During the op, gangster Sagar opened fire on police team, resulting in an exchange of gunfire.

## FIR AGAINST PUNJAB POLICE FOR FALSE CASE IN JODHPUR

An FIR has been lodged in Jodhpur against 12 Punjab police personnel. Allegations suggest that these officers abducted a 22-year-old youth from Jodhpur and arrested him two days later on charges of drug trafficking. The father of the youth accuses the policemen of demanding 1.5 million rupees. When the money wasn't paid, they falsely implicated his son. The incident dates back to March 6th, and the youth's father learned about his son Manveer through a press note issued by Ludhiana police on March 9th.

Bhandari files plea against Adani, Ambani on black money allegations

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Poonam Chand Bhandari, the convener of the Public Against Corruption organization, had filed a complaint with the Chief Election Commissioner and the CBI on May 8th. He demanded an investigation into the allegations that black money was being seized from Adani and Ambani through raids. This comes after PM Modi, while addressing a rally in T'gana, stated that Cong had been taking names of Adani & Ambani but has now stopped, questioning how much money is involved.

However, even after 6 days, CEC & CBI did not take any action on complaint. PC Bhandari, Therefore, Bhandari has filed a petition in the Raj High Court on Monday, requesting that the Central Home Dept be directed to register a case under PMLA and instruct officials to seize black money.

## Super Singer Plus Auditions



In a landmark event, the auditions for Super Singer Plus Rajasthan concluded with a spectacular showcase of talent in Dubai, transcending borders, on May 11. Krishan Kumar, Sunil Pareek, Dilip Kumar Jain, Rekha Agarwal, Alok Sharma, Mradula Saxena, Jyoti Jain, Poonam Kumar during the event in Dubai. **MORE IN CITY FIRST P10**

## NEGLECTANCE IN MAINTENANCE

## Talkatora beautification project becoming victim of negligence as works get delayed

Nirmal Tiwari  
Jaipur

More than Rs 18 crore have been spent on Talkatora beautification but the project is still incomplete and the condition of works has also turned bad due to negligence of authorities.

Floating fountain of Pondrik Garden is closed and water is dirty due to lack of treatment. There is no water supply in Jai Niwas and Pondrik Udyan.



Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation had handed over the project to the Smart City Project but no action was taken to get the maintenance done by the contract firm. **FILE**

Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation had handed over the project to the Smart City Project but no action was taken to get the maintenance done by the contract firm. The project of Talkatora & Ishwar Singh's Chhatra was worth Rs 18.18 crore. The railing installed under the project has broken and trees have grown in the walls behind the lake and houses. The negligence has led to the failure of the night tourism promotion plan.

## JMCG commissioner inspects dumping yards, instructs officials for proper waste management

Bharat Dixit  
Jaipur

JMCG greater commissioner Rukmani Riyar conducted an inspection of transfer stations. These transfer stations utilize hopper trucks for door-to-door garbage collection. The Commissioner visited the transfer stations near Bambala Pulia, RIICO Mansarovar, & Kalwar Road. During the visit, Chief Engineer Nitin Sharma and Dy Commissioner Atul Sharma were also present. The Commissioner provided directives for development &



JMCG commissioner Rukmani Riyar during the inspection in Jaipur city on Monday.

modernization of transfer stations, along with instructions for waste management. Furthermore, instructions were issued to

## JMC-HERITAGE COMMISSIONER ABHISHEK SURANA TAKES MEETING FOR MONSOON PREPARATIONS

In preparation for upcoming monsoon season, JMC Heritage is gearing up to tackle water-related challenges. Commissioner Abhishek Surana convened a marathon meeting on Monday, directing all zone commissioners along with other officials to prepare for relief efforts. During the review meeting at the corporation headquarters, Commissioner Surana instructed all zones and main office deputies to mobilize preparations in anticipation of forthcoming monsoon season. The majority of Heritage Municipal Corporation's area falls under low-lying regions with high population density. Consequently, it is imperative for all major drains and sewers to be swiftly cleaned.

identify locations for the development of other transfer stations. Inspecting the civil work of footpaths and di-

viders along Shilpura Path, the Commissioner emphasized the need for expeditious progress in the ongoing projects.

**Ajmer Region** ranked 10th among 16 regions across India

## Results of CBSE class 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> declared



Students of Jaipur's DAV School in Vaishali Nagar celebrate after the results were declared on Monday. **MUKESH KIRADOO**

First India Bureau  
Ajmer

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has declared the results of class 10th and 12th.

The result of Ajmer region in class 12th has been 89.53% wherein girls scored better compared to boys. The result of girls was 92.95%, while the result of boys was 87.18%. If we talk about Rajasthan and Gujarat state, the children of Gujarat outperformed those of Rajasthan. Ajmer region ranked



Riya Sehgal of Rawat Public School, Pratap Nagar, secured 99.40% marks in Humanities.

10th among 16 regions across the country. The result of class 12th in 2023 was 89.27%.

At the same time, about 2 hours after the release of 12th result, the

10th result was also declared. The result of Ajmer region in 10th board was 97.10% and is ranked 5th in the country. Ajmer region is lagging behind in both 10th and

12th board this year as compared to last year. Last year it stood at 7th, whereas this time it stood at 10th, but the result percentage has increased by 26 %.

Sreya Guha issues guidelines for electricity, water, healthcare in Sikar district

First India Bureau  
Sikar

Secretary in-charge of Sikar district and Additional Chief Secretary, Transport Department - Sreya Guha held a meeting of the concerned district level officers regarding electricity, water, roads, medical and education in the Collectorate Auditorium on Monday and gave necessary guidelines.

Guha gave directions to the district level officials in the meeting that in view of the summer season, the focus should be on smooth drinking water and electricity supply. She instructed the water supply officers to ensure that drinking water is made available to the people on time by maintaining the smooth supply of drinking water in the district.

While reviewing the plans of the Medical Department, she instructed the CMHO to release demand for medicines on time to ensure availability of medicines, ORS packets in all CHCs, PHCs and necessary measures regarding heat wave.

During this, she reviewed the projects of the Public Works Department and directed them to complete them on time.

## The centre will be used for common patients SMS Hosp's IDH to end VIP culture, says Dr Maheshwari

Vikas Sharma  
Jaipur

The Infection Disease Centre built at a cost of crores of rupees in SMS Hospital will end the VIP culture. This centre will be used for common patients and there will be no VIP culture, SMS Medical College acting Principal Dr. Deepak Maheshwari said.

Dr Maheshwari gave these instructions while taking stock of the arrangements of the hospital. After getting the new responsibility, Dr. Maheshwari reached IDH



Wing, Bangar, Medical ICU and many other places for inspection. He inspected the place where plaster fell recently and asked for a report from the in-charge.

He said that the IDH

wing, built at a cost of crores of rupees, is not being used properly for which the medicine department will be consulted and according to requirements, IDH wing will be opened for patients.

## Pregnant woman dies after blood transfusion; 2 critical

Hukum Singh  
Neem Ka Thana

One pregnant woman died while the health of two others deteriorated following a blood transfusion at Neem ka Thana District Hospital on Sunday night. The pregnant woman admitted to Janana Hospital died while receiving treatment. The second was admitted to a private hospital and gave birth to a dead child. Following this, family members filed a complaint with the higher authorities. According to sources, CMHO Dr. Bhupendra Singh and hospital



PMO Dr. Kamal Singh Shekhawat arrived at the blood bank at 9 p.m. on Sunday night, seized all of the documents, and began an inquiry.

Notably, Maina Devi, Madhu, and Geeta Devi. were admitted in the district hospital and needed blood. The family brought blood from the Sita Blood Bank on Shahpura Road.

Proper mgmt of biomedical equipment necessary in hospitals: Giri

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Proper management of biomedical equipment is necessary to provide quality diagnosis and treatment to patients and to strengthen health services, Managing Director of Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Neha Giri said.

For this purpose, she informed that a biomedical equipment repair and maintenance program is being run in the state.

Addressing the National Symposium organized on Monday on the topic "Biomedical Equipment Management Program Boost: Elevating Hospital Services with Seamless Repair and Maintenance Excellence", she said that repairs and routine maintenance of medical equipment go a long way in improving diagnostic and treatment outcomes.

"Our endeavor is to improve the quality of research and management in the field of biomedical equipment, reduce downtime of equipment and ensure timely delivery of health services," Neha Giri said.

## In Remembrance



(Top) On the 16th anniversary of the Jaipur bomb blasts, Additional DCP Bajrang Singh Shekhawat and others pay homage to the martyred policemen at Chhoti Chaupar; (Left) People recite Hanuman Chalisa at Sangneri Hanuman Temple at Sangneri Gate, on Monday, while paying tributes to all those killed in blasts. **SANTOSH SHARMA**

Devotees from Raj among thousands stuck near Kedarnath

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Thousands of devotees including nearly 2000 from Rajasthan are stranded near Yamunotri while returning from Kedarnath. Rajesh Ginani of Jaipur and his family sent pictures of the situation to First India while appealing for help from the government through the channel. Due to being stuck in traffic for 24 hours, there is a shortage of food and water. In such a situation, many families in trouble requested the govt to send help immediately. Vehicles returning after Kedarnath darshan are facing difficulty in getting down. There was a long traffic jam especially due to buses.

## Priority list released for RTE admission in non-govt schools

More than 3 Lakh applications for RTE admissions in pvt schools of the State

Dimple Sharma  
Jaipur

Online lottery for admission in schools under Right to Education was conducted to determine the order of priority in admission.

School Education Secretary Krishna Kunal said that under the Right to Education Act, every child has been given the right to free education by the constitution of India. It is one of the fundamental rights of every citizen of India.

The lottery was conducted for admission under Right To Education, under the reserved 25 per-



School Education Secretary Krishna Kunal along with other officials in Jaipur on Monday.

cent seats in pre-primary (PP-3) and class-1 in non-government schools of the state for the underprivileged groups and weaker sections of the society.

Secretary Krishna Kunal said that parents can see the priority list released by the lottery by clicking on "Candidate Priority Order" on the home page of the official government website-

www.rajpsp.nic.in. Also, parents can login with their application ID number and mobile number and see the preference number of their children in all the applied schools simultaneously.

It shall be noted that more than 3.08 lakh applications were received for admission under RTE in close to 31,800 private schools of the state.

## CS PANT REVIEWS DEPTS

# Act strictly on mining mafia, crime against women: CS

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Chief Secretary Sudhansh Pant reviewed the departmental work of the heads of departments of Police Department, Anti Corruption Bureau, Prison, Home Defense, Prosecution and State Forensic Science Laboratory along with Additional CS of Home Dept Anand Kumar and other officers at Secretariat on Monday.

During the review meeting, the Chief Secretary directed that inten-



Sudhansh Pant speaking with officials during the review meet at Secretariat in Jaipur on Monday.

sive preventive action should be taken against drugs, mining mafia and organized crime in the state. He said that the state government is very

sensitive towards atrocities against women. "If any incident happens with women, it should be immediately investigated and the cul-

prit should be punished. For this, community policing should also be activated so that there is fear among the criminals and trust among the

## CS PANT CONDUCTS SURPRISE INSPECTION AT NIRMAN BHAWAN, REACHES BEFORE OPENING

On Monday, CS Sudhansh Pant conducted a surprise inspection at Nirman Bhawan. He reached Nirman Bhawan before the office opening time, only a few class IV employees and guards were present there. CE&AS DR Meghwal was on tour and as CS left, Meghwal arrived. Seeing a lot of files in CE&AS office, he asked him to 'dispose them on time'. CE Mukesh Bhatti gave feedback to CS. Pant's visit remained brief due to arriving before time. However, there was panic among the personnel after the news of CS's arrival. Due to the beginning of the week, some personnel were probably out of the headquarters.

common people," he said and directed that rapid sample testing should be done by the State Forensic Science Laboratory to bring the

criminals to justice. CS Sudhansh Pant will be attending the vice chancellor coordination committee meeting on Tuesday at Rajbhawan.

## City suffers power shortage

# 50% rise in electricity demand within 10 days

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Amid scorching temperatures, a surge in electricity demand has sent shockwaves through Jaipur, raising concerns about power shortages.

Over past 10 days, the capital city has witnessed a staggering 50% increase in electricity demand. At the beginning of May, daily supply stood at 1.8 million units, whereas on May 10th, it soared to 2.63 million units. During this period, May 9th saw

highest peak demand of 1,276 megawatts.

The escalating demand has led to a flood of complaints regarding power outages across the city.

With widespread disruptions reported, the administration has established control rooms at the divisional level. Additionally, executive engineers have been tasked with monitoring electricity supply to ensure uninterrupted service. Residents are hopeful that these measures will alleviate their plight.

# ENDING THE LEGACY OF COLONIALISM IN HEALTHCARE



**Dr Rajeev Gupta**  
The writer is an eminent Physician and Researcher



**T**he ancient healthcare system in India- Ayurveda- developed in the first millennium and was focused on the prevention of ill health with limited focus on treatment and surgical interventions. In those centuries, there was a widespread exchange of ideas between traditional health systems in India with the Middle East, Far-East and Europe and all the civilizations dealing with health issues. All these health systems utilised almost identical approaches for disease prevention and management. Of note, surgical skills were better developed in India. A rapid increase in science-based treatments pushed prevention into the background and led to the development of surgical and medical therapies for acute and chronic diseases in the past three centuries in Europe. During this period many European nations established colonies in Asia, Africa and the Americas and transposed their systems of healthcare to these countries. Hospitals catering to the European populations developed in all the colonies with second-class services for the natives and led to a state of healthcare apartheid. This dichotomy has been succinctly described in Abraham Verghese's latest book *The Covenant of Water*.

Colonisation, a process of multifaceted oppression, inequalities and subordination has been a reality experienced by Indian society since ancient times. It has multiple socioeconomic, cultural, political and psychological repercussions. In ancient India, Ayurveda practitioners experienced ruler-guided and caste-based discrimination and faced obstacles in delivering universal healthcare. This dichotomy has been succinctly described by



**The ancient healthcare system in India- Ayurveda- developed in the first millennium and was focused on the prevention of ill health with limited focus on treatment and surgical interventions. In those centuries, there was a widespread exchange of ideas between traditional health systems in India with the Middle East, Far-East and Europe and all the civilizations dealing with health issues. All these health systems utilised almost identical approaches for disease prevention and management. Of note, surgical skills were better developed in India**

Devi Prasad Chattopadhyaya who focused on intentional distancing of the administrators of Ayurveda and its consumers. For example, Ayurveda did not accept the prevalent therapeutic techniques of magical remedies and shamanism promoted a certain class of priests. This class also promoted the concept of dynasty-based interventions rather than technique-based interventions. These debates have been highlighted in Charaka and Sushruta Samhitas as a path to hegemony. The formal phase of colonization in India began with external influencers from Europe (Britishers, Portuguese, French, etc). The colonial attitudes of the Europeans in healthcare as part of establishing hegemony have been extensively criticised by Mahatma Gandhi. During the colonial period, shortage of medical and other health personnel contributed to the substandard care for the general Indian populace with life expectancy at birth of >40 years in 1947 when India achieved independence.

The colonial legacy continued in the post-independence years. Although the Bhoré Commission (1946) provided a working paper for the creation of a national health service in India, in the euphoria of independence this wisdom

was lost on policymakers. From the 1950s to 1970s clinical facilities were rapidly developed in India to provide largely curative healthcare. Privatization of healthcare services in India began in the mid-1980s in India as the government sector failed to rapidly increase its capacity and was slow to absorb technological advancements. Non-governmental sector in early 1950's provided <5% inpatient care but now provides more than 50% outpatient and 70% inpatient care in some regions of the country. The government health system, barring a few excellent hospitals, could not keep up with the pace of technological advances in healthcare, whether it was in basic medical departments or emerging sub-specialties. More than 800 million disadvantaged populations of the country are at the receiving end of compromised quality of care while the socioeconomically empowered 200 million have access to a reasonable quality. Many dystopian legacies of British colonialism in India have been described in recent years. Colonial gift of healthcare apartheid is one of them.

**POLICY INITIATIVES**

In the last two decades, multiple efforts to modify the fragmented healthcare

system in the country have started. In a paradigm shift, the Vajpayee government in the early years of the present century initiated the establishment of multiple high-technology healthcare institutes (AIIMS) across the country. This was the first effort at de-colonisation to provide state-of-the-art services at the doorstep of many poor and needy individuals in all the states. A second step in this direction has been the starting of government medical colleges in all the districts of the country. It is well-known that medical colleges with teaching and research facilities along with the recruitment of well-trained physicians can improve health care. Multiple examples exist in all the states. For example, in Rajasthan medical colleges were established in divisional headquarters of Jaipur, Bikaner, Udaipur, Jodhpur and Ajmer in the first 30 years post-independence. These colleges created centres of excellence in many fields and are presently well-established institutions providing high-class healthcare besides imparting quality education to medical students.

We believe that a similar glorious fate awaits the recently established district medical colleges in the state established in the past 10 years with centre-state collaboration. These district medical colleges have the potential to provide high-class preventive, promotive and curative healthcare as the vision is to develop the high-class infrastructure is combined with top-class medical faculty and teachers. Some examples of the excellence are already apparent. This shall surely lead to the demise of healthcare apartheid perpetuated by a colonial mindset in the last two centuries.

**THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL**

**IN-DEPTH**

**BEWARE! PRETTY LITTLE OLEANDER CAN BE LETHAL**

**B**eware of oleander, the pretty little flower, which has the potential to kill! The oleander flower, known for its vibrant blooms, harbours a hidden danger. Despite its aesthetic appeal, all parts of the oleander plant contain toxins, including cardiac glycosides, which can be lethal if ingested. Surya Surendran, a 24-year-old Kerala nurse absent-mindedly chewed on the plant's leaves and died due to its toxic effect. Following her death oleander flower offerings have been banned in Kerala temples.

This toxicity poses a significant risk, particularly to children and pets, sometimes even adults, who may be tempted to explore its enticing appearance. Caution is paramount when handling oleander, as even contact with the sap can cause skin irritation.

Despite its dangers, oleander remains a popular ornamental plant in many gardens and landscapes. However, awareness of its toxicity is crucial to ensure the safety of both humans and animals. Always exercise caution and keep oleander out of reach to prevent accidental ingestion or contact.

**CHABAHAR PORT TO GET GOING, FINALLY**



**T**he signing of a long-term leasing agreement between India and Iran to operate and manage the strategic Chabahar port has been eagerly anticipated. Often hailed as India's gateway to Central Asia via Iran, this agreement stands as India's strategic response to China's port at Gwadar in Pakistan. It symbolizes a concerted effort by both nations to fortify trade and connectivity amidst shifting global dynamics, notably the challenge of navigating US pressures on Iran.

The Chabahar port project holds significant promise, especially in facilitating transport cooperation between India, Moscow, and Tehran. India's resilience in withstanding US pressure, as evidenced by its handling of sanctions on oil imports from Russia, instills confidence in its ability to navigate similar challenges with regard to the Chabahar port agreement. This development underscores India's assertiveness in pursuing its strategic interests while navigating complex geopolitical realities.

The primary benefit of the Chabahar port lies in providing India, which has committed approximately \$500 million to the project, with a more direct route to Europe. The International North-South Transport Corridor spans 7,200 kilometers and is projected to reduce travel time by about two weeks compared to the Suez Canal route, effectively bypassing Pakistan.

The deal has come through after a long wait due to some contentious issues, including Iran's refusal to accept the international arbitration framework which India insisted upon for transparent resolution of disputes. Agreement having been reached on the arbitration clause, Union Shipping Minister Sarbanand Sonowal is expected to sign the agreement on Monday after clearance from the Election Commission.

Chabahar is a milestone after the India-UAE pact on trans-continental trade corridor.



**The primary benefit of the Chabahar port lies in providing India, which has committed approx \$500 million to the project, with a more direct route to Europe**

**HEALTHY REVOLUTION**

The universal healthcare program led by multiple National Health Missions focused on rural and urban primary healthcare and was partially successful. The more recent insurance-driven health programs are focussed on government healthcare insurance and subsidised schemes for the below-poverty-line population.

These insurance schemes have led to rapid increase in healthcare utilizations across the country as well in Rajasthan. These schemes should be able to bolster the government healthcare system and provide equitable healthcare to all.

The solutions to the ongoing disparities in healthcare are complex and must involve a focus on social determinants in health, specifically the health-in-all-policies approach. This can be achieved only with a massive increase in healthcare financing using government and non-government sources with a clear focus on high-quality universal healthcare free at the point of delivery.

**TOP TWEETS**



**X** Heartiest Congratulations to this year's remarkable 10th and 12th CBSE students on their impressive results! Once again, the girls have demonstrated their academic brilliance by outperforming the boys. To those who may feel disheartened by their scores today, always remember that life is a journey with countless opportunities and there's more to life than your scorecard. It's just the beginning, not the end. So, keep your head held high and embrace the journey ahead.

Smriti Z Irani (Modi Ka Parivar) @smritiirani



**X** Congratulations to all the students who passed with flying colors in CBSE Class XII exams. Your hard work has truly paid off! A special mention to the extraordinary support system & drivers of this success - families & educators. To those feeling they could have done better, remember, this is just a chapter of your journey. Your potential is limitless. Keep aiming high!

Piyush Goyal (मोदी का परिवार) @PiyushGoyal

**SPIRITUAL SPEAK**

Choose words that bring peace, not conflict.

**BUDDHA**



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## PHASE 4 OF LOK SABHA ELECTIONS



A security personnel keeps vigil as people wait to cast their vote during the fourth phase of Lok Sabha elections, in Khunti district on Monday. **PTI**



## UNITED COLOURS OF VOTING

**T**he voter turnout in phase four of the ongoing Lok Sabha elections stood at 62.84 per cent at 8 pm on Monday against 65.51 per cent in 2019, a dip of over 2.5 percentage points. However, the Election Commission said a large number of voters were still in the queue at polling stations even after 6 pm, indicating the turnout would go up. As many as 96 seats went for polls in the fourth phase. After the latest phase, polling has completed in 379 seats across 23 states and Union Territories. Polling also completed in state assembly elections in Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.



# I.N.D.I.A. bloc leaders scared of Pak's nuclear power: PM Modi

First India Bureau  
Patna

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday attacked the Opposition I.N.D.I.A. bloc, calling its leaders "cowards" who were "scared of Pakistan's nuclear power" and asserted that India would make the neighbouring country wear bangles if it was not wearing any.

Addressing three back-to-back rallies in Bihar's Hajipur, Muzaffarpur and Saran Lok Sabha constituencies, Modi made an apparent reference to a recent statement of National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah that Pakistan has atom bombs and was not wearing bangles.

"The I.N.D.I.A. bloc has leaders who are scared of Pakistan and have nightmares of its nuclear power... They (leaders) say that Pakistan is not wearing bangles, we will make that country wear bangles. Now they (Pakistan) need 'atta' (flour). They also don't have electricity. I didn't know that they do not even have an ad-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a public meeting for Lok Sabha elections, in Muzaffarpur, Bihar on Monday. **PTI**

equate supply of bangles," the PM asserted while taking a jibe at the Opposition leaders. "We must look carefully at the opposition that seems to be full of cowards and timid people. Some give a clean chit to Pakistan on terrorism and others raise doubts on surgical strikes... Their Left allies even want our nuclear arsenal to be dismantled," he said.

## "MUNGERILAL KE HASEEN SAPNE" PM mocks I.N.D.I.A. bloc's rotational PM idea

Chapra: Highlighting the achievements of the BJP-led NDA government, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday mocked at the 'Rotational PM' idea of I.N.D.I.A. bloc. Addressing a rally in favour of BJP candidate in Chapra, Modi said coming to power at the Centre was like "Mungerilal Ke Haseen Sapne" for I.N.D.I.A. bloc. Dubbing the I.N.D.I.A. bloc as Bhanumati ka Kunba, Modi said, "Bhanumati ka kunba ekattha Nahin hone waala" (Bhanumati's clan will never come together). Mocking at their 'Rotational PM' idea, Modi ridiculedly said the leaders of I.N.D.I.A. bloc have project a formula of a new Prime Minister every year during five years of rule and have planned for 5 prime ministers in 5 years. Considering people as a fool, the I.N.D.I.A. bloc leaders were projecting the formula of rotational PM, Modi said "Ye Public Hai Sab Janti Hai (people know everything)" and no one can make the people fool. Modi said Congress and RJD were struggling to save their existence for which they were sticking to appeasement policy. He suggested RJD to seek a vote on his work.



Palghar: Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde during a public meeting for Lok Sabha polls, at Vasai in Palghar district, Maharashtra on Monday. **PTI**

# BJP will get huge win in South India: Shah

Agencies  
New Delhi

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday reiterated claims of BJP's 'solid' performance in the ongoing polls and claimed the party is awaiting a 'huge victory' in the Southern states.

In an interview with a TV new channel, the Home Minister said that the BJP is moving towards big victory in four Southern states including Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

Notably, 'Mission South' is one of the key thrusts of the BJP this time, as the party aims to

## RAHUL GANDHI DIDN'T VISIT RAM TEMPLE FOR FEAR OF LOSING VOTE BANK, SAYS SHAH

Mumbai: Union HM Amit Shah on Monday said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi did not visit the Ram temple in Ayodhya as he feared losing his vote bank. Addressing a rally in Maharashtra's Dhule district, Shah also said Gandhi opposed the abrogation of Article 370, which provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir, and sought to know the views of Shiv Sena (UBT) head Uddhav Thackeray on the Congress leader's stand. The Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT) and the Sharad Pawar-led NCP (SP) are constituents of the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) in the state and the I.N.D.I.A. alliance at the national level.

cross past the '400 mark', a goal set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Amit Shah predicts 'huge victory' in South, names four states where BJP will bag seats

The four states - Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu together sent 109 seats to Lok Sabha, out of which BJP won 29 in 2019 elections.

## PM PERFORMS SEWA

# PM Modi pays obeisance at Gurudwara Takat Sri Patna Sahib



PM Narendra Modi pays obeisance at Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib, in Patna, on Monday.



PM Modi performs 'sewa' at the Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib, in Patna, on Monday.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi performs 'sewa' of making langar at the Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib, in Patna on Monday.

First India Bureau  
Patna

**P**M Narendra Modi went to Gurudwara Takat Sri Patna Sahib in Patna, on early Monday morning.

The Prime Minister paid his obeisance in Darbar Sahib, Birthplace of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji. He joined Ardaas and listened to Live Kirtan there as well. PM also did Darshan of the rare 'shastras' (weapons) used by Guru Gobind Singh ji.

Prime Minister did seva of Chaur Sahib and sat in Paath for "Sarbat Da Bhala". Prime Minister also visited Langar kitchen

(Community Kitchen) there, prepared daal, served Food to Sangat present in the Gurudwara. PM took "karah prasad", for which he paid through digital payment mode.

Prime Minister was presented "Sanmaan Patra" by Gurudwara Committee and portrait of Mata Gujri ji by Sikh bibis.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi serves 'langar' at the Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib, in Patna on Monday.

## When will RaGa get married? "Soon", replies the Cong MP

'Ab jaldi karni padegi,' Rahul Gandhi replies to question on marriage

PTI  
Rae Bareilly

At a rally in Rae Bareilly for the first time after his nomination, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday faced a familiar query. When is he getting married? Soon, he assured, as he ended his speech. "Shaadi kab



Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi at a rally in Rae Bareilly, on Monday. **PTI**

karoge (When will you marry)," somebody asked. Rahul assured it will have to be soon now.

## Preneet Kaur, others file nominations in Punjab

PTI  
Chandigarh

A number of candidates, including BJP's Preneet Kaur and AAP's Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal, filed their nominations on Monday for June 1 Lok Sabha polls in Punjab.

Preneet Kaur and her AAP challenger Balbir Singh filed their nominations in Patiala while the AAP's Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal filed his papers



BJP's Preneet Kaur files her nomination papers for LS polls, in Patiala on Monday. **PTI**

from Amritsar. BJP candidate Arvind Khanna filed his papers from the Sangrur parliamentary seat.

## IN BRIEF

**8 dead, 24 injured in 3 accidents in Seoni, Rajgarh, Chhindwara**  
Seoni/Rajgarh/Chhindwara: Eight persons were killed and more than 20 injured in separate road accidents in Madhya Pradesh in the last 24 hours, police officials said on Monday. In Seoni, three persons were killed and five injured.

**Three killed in road accident in UP's Moradabad**

Moradabad: Three bank employees died after a speeding tanker collided with a car on the Moradabad-Aligarh National Highway in UP. The victims have been identified as Axis Bank manager Saurabh Srivastava, cashier Divyanshu & another individual named Amit.



**SC rejects plea to remove Kejriwal as CM**  
New Delhi: The SC, in its order on Monday, refused to entertain a plea seeking the removal of Arvind Kejriwal as Delhi CM following his arrest by the (ED) in the liquor case. SC noted that it was a matter of propriety.

**Two drones, 560 gm 'suspected heroin' seized in Amritsar**

Punjab: Two China-made drones and around 560 grams of suspected heroin were seized in two separate operations near the border areas in Punjab's Amritsar on Monday, (BSF) said. The likely dropping zone was cordoned and an extensive search was conducted.

**Man killed after being hit by police vehicle in Sarojini Nagar**

New Delhi: A 58-year-old man was mowed down by a recklessly driven Delhi Police vehicle in Sarojini Nagar area here on Monday, police said. A PCR call regarding the incident was received at 3.27 am, at Sarojini Nagar police station, DCP (south-west) Rohit Meena said.

**6, including 3 juveniles, nabbed for stabbing man to death in Delhi**

New Delhi: Six people, including 3 juveniles, have been nabbed in connection with a man's killing by stabbing him more than 100 times allegedly by a group of individuals in north Delhi, police said on Monday. The teams traced the location of the other accused & nabbed them.

## IMD forecast

The MeT dept forecasts light rains with thunderstorms in several districts for next three days

# Unseasonal rains hit parts of Gujarat

PTI  
Ahmedabad

Unseasonal showers were witnessed in parts of Gujarat on Monday, while strong winds accompanied by a duststorm hit Ahmedabad, inconveniencing commuters returning home from work.

The meteorological department has forecast light rains with thunderstorms in several districts in the next three days, and the state agriculture department has issued an advisory for farmers to take precautionary measures to protect their crops from unseasonal rainfall.

Ahmedabad witnessed a sudden change in weather on Monday evening, as strong winds and a duststorm accompanied by light rainfall in the evening reduced visibility in the city. Hoardings were damaged in Ahmedabad, and a mobile tower got uprooted in Gandhinagar, with no report of casualties. The sudden change in the weather also brought respite from the sweltering heat. According to the Met



A woman rides past during rain, in Bhopal, Wednesday.

FILE

dept, the maximum temperature in Ahmedabad will drop to 41 degrees Celsius. Strong winds and duststorms were witnessed in other parts of the state, including Amreli, Banaskantha and Sabarkantha, while in some regions, rains were accom-

panied by hail showers.

A police post collapsed due to strong winds at Vadia in Banaskantha district. According to the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC), parts of Surendranagar, Botad, Navsari, Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Bhavnagar,

Dangs, and Gandhinagar received showers in the late afternoon and evening. Sayla in Surendranagar received 21 mm rainfall and Botad 20 mm rainfall during this period, they said. In its latest forecast, the India Meteorological Department (IMD)

said light thunderstorms with lightning were likely at isolated places in Aravalli, Dahod, Mahisagar, Dangs, Valsad, Surendranagar, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Anand, in the next two days.

Unseasonal rainfall prompted the state agri-

culture department to issue an advisory for farmers to take precautionary measures to protect their crops, an official said. Given the forecast, the state agriculture department has advised farmers to take measures to avoid crop loss.

**FLIGHT OPERATIONS AFFECTED AFTER RAIN AND STORMS LASH MAHA CAPITAL**

Flight operations at Mumbai airport remained suspended for more than one hour on Monday due to inclement weather and dust storms, the private airport operator said. This resulted in as many as 15 flights getting diverted to different airports, it added. Operations later resumed at 5.03 pm, the airport operator said in the statement. "Due to the inclement weather and dust storms in the city, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) temporarily suspended flight operations for around 66 minutes due to low visibility and gusty winds," the airport operator said in a statement. Stating that the operations resumed at 17:03 hours, the statement added, "during this period, the airport witnessed 15 diversions".

**CBSE board exam results: Over 93 pc clear Class 10**

## Pass percentage at 87.98 in Class 12

Two members of Meitei militant group arrested

PTI  
Imphal

Two members of radical outfit Arambai Tenggol were arrested in connection with the abduction and assault of four police personnel in Manipur's Imphal East district, officials said on Monday. Those arrested were identified as Taibanganba Sanoujamba (25) and Moirangthem Bobo (40), they said. "Search operations are continuing to arrest the other accused persons involved in the incident," police said.

PTI  
New Delhi

Girls continued to outshine boys in CBSE board exams for classes 10 and 12 while pass percentage and the number of students scoring above 90 and 95 per cent witnessed marginal increases from last year.

The pass percentage in Class 10 stood at 93.60, a rise of 0.48 percentage points from last year. The pass percentage in the Class 12 exam saw a marginal increase of 0.65 percentage points from last



REPRESENTATIONAL

year to 87.98. In Class 12, a total of 1.16 lakh students scored above 90 per cent and 24,068 above 95

**PM EXTENDS GREETINGS TO CBSE STUDENTS**

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended congratulations to the students. Taking to the social media platform X, he wrote, "Dear #ExamWarriors, Congratulations to all of you who have successfully passed the CBSE Class XII exams! I am immensely proud of your accomplishment and your relentless dedication. I also acknowledge the efforts of your supportive families."



## 5 states eye Aadhaar-based authentication for GST

PTI  
New Delhi

Five states, including Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Telangana, have shown interest in rolling out Aadhaar-based authentication for GST registration, an official said on Monday.

The biometric-based authentication was discussed at the third National Co-ordination Meeting of senior Central and State GST officers earlier this month.

Currently, two states, Gujarat & AP, & the Union Territory of Puduch-



erry have launched the Aadhaar authentication of taxpayers on a pilot basis. "Around five states, including Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Telangana, have shown interest in implementing Aadhaar-based authentication for GST registration," an official told.

## April CPI inflation eases to 4.83% vs 4.85% in March 2024

PTI  
New Delhi

The Retail inflation eased marginally to 4.83% in April on an annual basis from 4.85% in March last month, as per government data released on Monday, May 10, 2024.

The inflation rate has stayed within the Reserve Bank of India's

(RBI) tolerance range of 2-6%.

According to a survey of 44 economists by Reuters, the expected inflation rate was projected to decrease to 4.80%.

The National Statistical Office (NSO) reported that inflation in the food basket rose to 8.7% in April from 8.52% in March.

## 14 Naxalites, including 11 with cumulative bounty of ₹41 lakh, held in Bijapur

PTI  
Bijapur

Fourteen Naxalites, including 11 carrying a cumulative bounty of Rs 41 lakh on their heads, were arrested in Chhattigarh's Bijapur district, a police official said on Monday.

These ultras, comprising six women and eight men, were part of the out-



lawed Left Wing movement's 'military company number 2' and 'Gangaloor area committee', the official said. They were held on

Sunday from forests of Mutvendi and Pidia villages under Gangaloor police station limits by a joint team of the District Reserve Guard (DRG) and district police, a statement from Bijapur police said.

"Eleven of the 14 Naxalites were carrying cumulative reward of Rs 41 lakh," the release said.

## Indian nursing demand surges at home and abroad



PTI  
Mumbai

Demand for skilled nurses is projected to grow by 17-18 per cent by 2027 in the country but a large number of trained ones are seeking opportunities abroad, drawn by enhanced remuneration packages and facilitative family visa programmes, digital talent solutions provider NLB Services said in a report.

The report said that in India, the demand for skilled nursing talent is on a steadfast trajectory, projected to increase by 17-18 per cent by 2027, and the demand for nursing

roles spans across regions including Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

The nursing profile currently commands annual earnings ranging between Rs 2,50,000 (entry-level) to Rs 7,00,000 (mid-senior level), and employers seek candidates with diverse skill sets including compassionate and competent care.

While the majority of the workforce still has higher female representation, there is a noticeable increase in male nurses as well, it added.

However, the ecosystem also faces concerns with regard to the availability of skilled talent.

**EXERCISE SHAKTI**

## India-France military exercise begins in Meghalaya

PTI  
New Delhi

The seventh edition of the 'Exercise Shakti' between India and France began in Meghalaya on Monday with an aim to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake multi-domain operations in a sub-conventional scenario, the defence ministry said.

The joint military exercise also seeks to enhance the level of defence cooperation between the two friendly nations and boost



India and France military personnel during the 7th Edition of Joint Military Exercise 'Shakti' between India and France, in Umroi of Ri Bhoi district, Meghalaya.

their bilateral ties.

Exercise Shakti, being held from May 13-26, will enable the two sides to share their best practices in tactics, techniques and procedures of conducting joint operations,

the Ministry of Defence said in a statement.

Tactical drills to be practiced during the exercise will include response to a terrorist action of capturing a confined territory, setting

**RAJPUT REGIMENT AND FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION**

The opening ceremony of the joint exercise was attended by Thierry Mathou, Ambassador of France to India and Major General Prasanna Sudhakar Joshi, General Officer Commanding 51 Sub Area, the ministry said. The Indian contingent comprising 90 personnel is being represented primarily by a battalion of the Rajput Regiment, besides personnel from other arms and services. "The French contingent comprising 90 personnel will be represented mainly by personnel from the 13th Foreign Legion Half-Brigade (13th DBLE)," it said.

up of a joint command post, establishment of an intelligence and surveillance centre, securing a helipad or landing site, small team insertion and extraction, special airborne operations,

cordon and search operations besides employment of drones & counter-drone systems among others, it said. Exercise Shakti is a biennial training event conducted in In-

# INDIA KA TYOHAR



## Gujarat Titans knocked out after washout in Ahmedabad



Match referees inspect the ground after rain stop at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Monday.

PTI  
Ahmedabad

Gujarat Titans' hopes of qualifying for the Indian Premier League play-offs was dashed on Monday as rain washed out their must-win match against Kolkata Knight Riders here without a ball being bowled. It meant KKR were assured of a top two finish

**KKR has already secured their place in the play-offs after they defeated MI in their previous fixture. RR are second in the standings with 16 points from 12 games, while defending champions CSK are placed third with 14 points from 13 matches.**

with 19 points from 13 games and a place in the Qualifier 1. GT, the last year's runners-up and 2022 champions, are out

of the play-off race, garnering 11 points from 13 matches. The toss didn't happen at scheduled time of 7 pm

due to incessant lightning, which was followed by slight drizzle that became heavier as time passed by.

The cut-off time was 10:56 PM for a five-over contest but the official decided to abandon the match, a first in this IPL, because of the consistently intensifying rain and wet outfield.

### Rohit Sharma, Jay Shah unveil Team India's new T20I jersey



Agencies  
Ahmedabad

The Indian cricket team will reunite soon for the upcoming T20 World Cup 2024, starting next month in the West Indies and the US. The selectors have announced the names of players who will be flying to the West to participate in the showpiece event. Rohit Sharma & Co will open their campaign against Ireland but the fans are eagerly waiting for the most electrifying clash of the tournament – the India vs Pakistan fixture, scheduled to be played on June 9 at Nassau County, New York.

## “Looking for addl sites for Russia nuke reactors”

PTI  
Mumbai

India is looking for additional sites for Russian nuclear reactors, while the discussion with the French on the proposed Jaitapur nuclear power plant project is underway, External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** said on Monday.

Responding to a query on nuclear collaboration with foreign countries not taking off as expected, he said the manner in which the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act 2010, was framed required a lot of interaction with foreign suppliers to see how their concerns could be addressed.

“This has taken some time and that applies to some countries,” he said in an apparent reference to the US companies, at a presser here. He said with regard to some other countries where the liability issue is better understood or they don't have the same degree of concern, because the nature of their industry is very different.

“We have discussions underway where Kudankulam (by Russians) has progressed. We are actually



**“INDIANS RETURNED SAFELY FROM WAR ZONES DUE TO MODI”**  
Mumbai: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday said PM Narendra Modi had spoken to Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to ensure safe passage for Indian students from war-affected areas of Ukraine. During an interaction with editors in Mumbai, Jaishankar shared minute details of how things unfolded.

**“INDIANS RETURNED SAFELY FROM WAR ZONES DUE TO MODI”**

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looking at additional sites for Russian reactors. With regards to the French we have ongoing discussions with them,” he said.

The EAM was in Russia last December when the two sides signed some “very important” agreements.

## Nepal's Deputy Prime Minister Yadav quits

PTI  
Kathmandu

Nepal's Deputy PM and senior Madhesi leader Upendra Yadav on Monday tendered his resignation and his party pulled out of the government, a setback to PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda-led coalition government.

Yadav submitted his resignation to the PM on Monday, sources said. Along with Yadav, Minister of State for Forest and Environment Dipak Karki, from the same party, has also resigned.

The resignation by Yadav, the Chairman of Janata Samajwadi Party Nepal (JSP-Nepal), comes a week after his party split into two groups with senior leader Ashok Rai forming a new party named Janata Samajwadi Party.



Upendra Yadav. FILE

### NEPAL PREZ'S ECONOMIC ADVISOR PAUDEL QUILTS

**→** Kathmandu: The economic advisor to Nepal's President Ram Chandra Paudel has resigned after his controversial remarks on the government's decision to issue new hundred-rupee notes with a map that includes three Indian territories, a move already rejected by India. The President approved Chiranjivi Nepal's resignation on Sunday, according to a press release issued by the Office of the President on Monday.

## Situation tense as strike in PoK enters fourth day

PTI  
Islamabad

Situation remained tense in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on Monday as the total strike against high prices of wheat flour and inflated electricity bills and taxes entered its fourth day, with Pakistan govt stepping up efforts to de-escalate the situation following deadly clashes between security forces and protesters.

The disputed region witnessed clashes on Saturday between the police and activists of a rights movement, leaving at least one police official dead and injuring over 100 people, mostly policemen. A complete strike has also been observed in the territory since Friday.

The Jammu Kashmir Joint Awami Action Com-



### BILAWAL BHUTTO-ZARDARI CALLS FOR DIALOGUE AMONG POLITICIANS TO STEER PAK OUT OF CRISIS

**→** Lahore: Pakistan Peoples Party chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari has called for dialogue among the political forces to resolve issues such as inflation, unemployment, poverty, and terrorism that the cash-strapped country is facing. Addressing a seminar titled “Bhutto Reference and History” here, he said, “The people are troubled by price hikes, unemployment, and poverty. In addition to these, terrorism is also an issue for the country and the people.”

mittee, which has traders at forefront, has been seeking the provision of electricity as per hydropower

generation cost in the region, subsidised wheat flour and an end to the privileges of the elite class.

## Indian-origin Pillai in cabinet of Singapore PM

PTI  
Singapore

Indian-origin MP **Murali Pillai** will be appointed the Minister of State for Law and Transport in the new incoming cabinet of Singapore's new PM Lawrence Wong.

Pillai, 56, will be appointed and sworn in on July 1, according to a report by The Straits Times newspaper while others will be sworn in on May 15. Pillai, a member of the ruling People's Action Party, is a lawyer.

Among other Indian-origin politicians, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan will remain as Foreign Affairs Minister, K Shanmugam will continue as Minister of Home Affairs and Law.

## More bodies found in Indonesia after floods



Agencies  
Padang

Rescuers recovered more bodies on Monday after monsoon rains triggered flash floods on Indonesia's Sumatra Island, bringing down torrents of cold lava and mud, leaving 43 people dead and another 15 missing.

The heavy rains, along with a landslide of mud and cold lava from Mount Marapi, caused a river to breach its banks.

The deluge tore through mountainside villages along four districts in West Sumatra province just before midnight Saturday. The floods swept away people and submerged hundreds of houses and buildings, while forcing more than 3,100 people to flee to temporary government shelters in Agam and Tanah Datar districts, said National Disaster Management Agency spokesperson Abdul Muhari.

## DESTINATION WEDDINGS IN ABU DHABI

### UAE announces visa support for Indians

PTI  
Abu Dhabi

**T**o establish Abu Dhabi as a premier wedding destination, the Abu Dhabi Convention and Exhibition Bureau (ADCEB) has announced an initiative to extend visa support to Indian nationals hosting weddings across the Emirate. The ADCEB, which is a part of the Department of Culture and Tourism Abu Dhabi, is undertaking this initiative to establish the UAE capital as a premier wedding destination, a statement released here said.

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The recently announced new visa initiative contributes to Abu Dhabi's tourism strategy 2030, which aims to boost visitor numbers to 39.3 million by 2030. The des-



ination wedding segment is among the newest verticals to join the ADCEB as part of an overarching

objective to attract domestic and international visitors and increase the sector's contribution to

the GDP to AED 90 billion as per the 2030 strategy, the statement said.

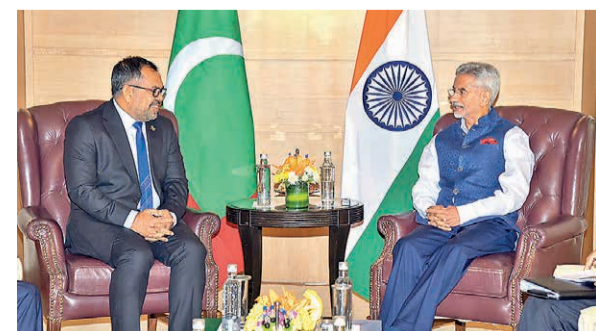
The destination wedding segment is among the newest verticals to join the ADCEB as part of an overarching objective to attract domestic and international visitors and increase the sector's contribution to the GDP to AED 90 billion as per the 2030 strategy, the statement said. India is recognised as one of the largest markets for destination weddings globally, making it a key target market for Abu Dhabi.

## India extends budgetary aid to Maldives with US\$ 50 mn rollover

PTI  
Male

In a goodwill gesture, India has decided to extend vital budgetary support to the Maldives government with the rollover of a USD 50 million Treasury Bill for another year on the Maldivian government's special request, it was announced by the government on Monday.

The State Bank of India has subscribed for one more year to the USD 50 million Government Treasury Bill, issued by the Ministry of



EAM S Jaishankar with Maldives Foreign Minister Moosa Zameer.

Finance of Maldives, upon maturity of the previous subscription, the High Commission of India said in a brief statement on Monday.

The Indian government took this decision despite the bilateral ties experiencing turbulence since Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu, a pro-China leader, assumed office six months back.

# FIRST INDIA 2ND FRONT

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY

We all forget a simple truth that it is only our own perspective, which makes the world appear beautiful or dark!

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



08

## AAP represents 'Thugbandhan,' not 'Gathbandhan,' asserts CM

Development will accelerate with a double-engine govt in Haryana, asserts CM during the 'Vijay Sankalp rally'

Ashvini Yadav  
Karnal

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, during his visit to Punjab's Karnal on Monday, launched a scathing attack on AAP regarding corruption, stating, "These are bigger thugs than Congress. Whoever commits corruption will go to jail. You had come to eradicate corruption with the support of Anna Hazare, but now you have stooped to such lows yourself. These individuals represent 'Thugbandhan' rather than 'Gathbandhan.' Development will accel-



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma being felicitated during the 'Vijay Sankalp Rally' held in support of BJP candidate ML Khattar at Assandh in Karnal district on Monday.



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma addresses the gathering during the 'Vijay Sankalp Rally' in Assandh in Karnal district.

ate with a double-engine government in Haryana. Even during the country's independence, there were more spectators than fighters. Today, many remain passive observers. Swami Vivekananda prophesied that the 21st century would belong to us. Have you

witnessed the transformations? Highways, railway stations, everything is evolving. From 11th position, we have ascended to third in the economy. We are on the path to becoming a superpower. Narendra Modi deserves to be PM for the third time."

Atal ji advocated for imposing essential restrictions. Nuclear testing in Pokhran took place on May 13. The opposition appears nostalgic for Pakistan. If you admire Pakistan, obtain a visa and relocate there. PM Narendra Modi ji celebrates Diwali with the Army, unlike Congress leaders who often vacation abroad. Vote on May 25th. Ask all your contacts in the mobile phone to vote for BJP.

BHAJAN LAL SHARMA, CHIEF MINISTER

## Diya at blood donation camp held to mark Jaipur bomb blast anniversary

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Deputy CM Diya Kumari participated in a blood donation camp organised by the Santokba Durlabhji Memorial Hospital on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the Jaipur bomb blast.

Diya Kumari expressed her condolences for all those who lost their lives in the tragedy, including Mahak and her sister Diya, students of The Palace School. "My heartfelt condolences are with the families of all the victims," she said.



Diya Kumari interacts with a donor during the blood donation camp held to mark the 16th anniversary of the Jaipur bomb blast, by the 'Mahak-Diya Memorial Charitable Trust' at the Santokba Durlabhji Memorial Hospital in Jaipur on Monday.

## Meet and Greet!



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra greets Sanjay Prasad, also seen are Shishir and Mritunjay Kumar.

BJP, allies will win over 400 seats, asserts RS MP Rathore

First India Bureau  
Pali

Returning from his South India tour for the LS polls, Rajya Sabha MP Madan Rathore asserted that the BJP is poised to emerge victorious on more than 400 seats in collaboration with its allied parties.

Rathore predicted BJP's dominance in Telangana and Andhra, noting the growing support for the party among the South Indian public. He highlighted the rejection of Congress' appeasement policies, evident in the opposition to their election manifesto.

Looking ahead to 2024 LS polls, Rathore underscored the electorate's trust in BJP under PM Modi's leadership. He cited past corruption scandals under UPA govt & stressed people's trust in Modi's commitment to good governance.

## Raj courts clear way for new sand mine auctions

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

With decisions from the Rajasthan High Court's Jaipur bench and the High Court's Jodhpur division bench on Monday, the path has been cleared for fresh auctions of sand mines in the State.

The Jaipur bench of the High Court ruled in favor of the State government, dismissing five petitions related to the sand auction.

Simultaneously, the division bench of the High Court in Jodhpur dismissed all three petitions from Satya Swaroop



Singh Jadaun and disposed of them.

Due to consistent monitoring of pending cases in the courts related to the Mines Department by Secretary of Mines, Anandhi at the State government level and by DMG at the department level, the department's arguments were effectively presented in a timely manner, leading to positive outcomes.

## Gehlot: INDI alliance will save the country and democracy

Dinesh Dangi  
Amethi

Senior Congress leader and former CM Ashok Gehlot has assumed the responsibility for poll management in the crucial Amethi constituency of UP. In a meeting held at party office in Gauriganj, Amethi, Gehlot discussed campaign strategies with prominent leaders from Congress and Samajwadi Party. "It is now clear to public that INDI alliance will save the country & democracy. BJP isn't even able to talk about its manifesto and entire discussion is



Ashok Gehlot welcomes Priyanka Gandhi upon her arrival in Amethi district on Monday.

about Congress's manifesto. This is a clear indication of BJP's defeat," he said. Gehlot provided feedback to Priyanka

Gandhi on Amethi campaign. Gehlot is actively engaged in rallying support for Congress candidate Kishori Lal Sharma.

## Birla meets young minds...



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla met and interacted with the students of Vasant Valley School and Surajmal Jain Public School at the Parliament House in New Delhi on Monday. "It's always insightful to hear the perspectives of students. I extended my best wishes to them in their endeavours to achieve their goals & encouraged them to work hard," shared Birla on his social media account.



## Devnani's 2-day tour to Ayodhya begins today

First India Bureau  
Jaipur

Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani will embark on a two-day visit to Ayodhya today. He will fly from Jaipur to Lucknow today afternoon, from where he will reach Ayodhya by road. Devnani, along with his family, will perform Aarti by lighting lamps on the banks of Saryu river.



Vasudev Devnani on Monday, releases the poster of Shri Hanuman Katha to be held in Jaipur from May 30 to June 1.

Devnani will offer prayers at the Ram Temple, Hanumangarhi, and

Kanak Mahal on Wednesday. He is scheduled to return to Jaipur on

Wednesday night. Devnani released the poster of Shri Hanuman Katha at State Assembly on Monday. He extended best wishes for the Shri Hanuman Katha and 108 Kundak Shri Ram Mahayaga, to be performed by Dharendra Krishna Shastri from May 30 to June 1. The Katha is being organised by Pithawas Sarpanch Santosh Yadav & Sitaram Yadav.

## On CS Pant's vigil, Collectors are focused on their work!

Rajendra Chhabra  
Jaipur

A major change has come about with the formation of the new government last year in the state, as the frequent visits of District Collectors to the state capital, Jaipur, have stopped. Over the past five months, Collectors have visited Jaipur only a handful of times, and that too regarding only the state work. Most of the Collectors have not visited Jaipur even once since the new government was formed.

In this regard, Chief

Secretary Sudhansh Pant has given strict directions to Collectors. Last week, when a Collector from the Kota Division sought time from the Chief Secretary, he was enquired as to the reason for which he wanted to meet the CS. In response, the Collector informed that he wanted the state government's direction on three matters. Post this, CS did not call the Collector to Jaipur but gave guidance and direction through video conferencing.

CS has given a general direction to Collectors in this regard that they should not visit without



Sudhansh Pant

any reason and unless called for. Collectors have been given appropriate powers and guidelines for all district-related works, and thus they can make decisions on their level. Apart from this, on a need basis, they can interact with senior officials and

### WHEN KARALI COLLECTOR GOT SCOLDED!

An old instance of Collectors frequently visiting Jaipur is worth mentioning here. At that time, Anand Mohan Lal was the Chief Secretary. One day, the then Karali Collector reached CS's office at around 1 pm and when asked, he said that he had come for a 'courtesy call' and had no important work in Jaipur. CS Anand Mohan Lal became furious upon hearing this, and giving him a piece of his mind, asked the Collector to immediately head back to Karali and inform him from there that he had arrived. This incident was much talked about in the state's bureaucracy.

hold discussions via VC. CS Pant believes that Collectors should focus their attention on the districts and should have complete control over the district's administration. Since a need has not arisen so far, hence, the government has not

called collectors even once to Jaipur.

Notably, in the previous government, Collectors used to frequent Jaipur every other day on one or the other pretext. Some Collectors used to spend their weekends and holidays

in Jaipur itself and during the VC meetings of the then CS, they used to get their attendance registered while being in the state capital itself! Interestingly, one Collector, who was purportedly close to the government, didn't even stay in his assigned district, and at that time, no one would question them.

But now everything has changed and the 'good governance initiative' can be felt in districts too. But all this has happened due to CS Pant's marathon monitoring and he is vigilant about what is happening where!

## Rally splendour



Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat participates in the nomination rally held in support of BJP candidate Anita Som Prakash in Hoshiyarpur district of Punjab on Monday. "The rally exuded grandeur at first sight. With unparalleled enthusiasm among the party workers, the public's outpouring of affection was equally remarkable," posted the Union Jal Shakti Minister on his social media account.



# City First

JAIPUR, TUESDAY | MAY 14, 2024



## RAJASTHAN'S MUSICAL MAGIC

In a monumental leap towards musical excellence, the auditions for Super Singer + Rajasthan soared to heights as they ventured beyond national borders to captivate the vibrant city of Dubai. P10



# DEFYING FASHION!



**Mohit Choudhary**

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CITY FIRST SHEDS LIGHT ON PARIDHI SHARMA'S INSPIRING JOURNEY FROM BHILWARA TO MISS RAJASTHAN RUNNER-UP, DEFYING ODDS AND BREAKING BARRIERS IN THE FASHION WORLD WITH PASSION, PERSEVERANCE AND UNWAVERING DETERMINATION

**H**ailing from the textile city of Bhilwara, Paridhi Sharma's journey from a small-town girl to a renowned super-model is nothing short of inspirational. With a myriad of talents including dancing, piano playing, and a keen eye for artistic beauty, Paridhi's story is one of passion, determination, and relentless pursuit of her dreams.

Growing up in a traditional Brahmin family, Paridhi faced initial skepticism from her loved ones regarding her aspirations in the fashion industry. However, fueled by her unwavering resolve, she embarked on her journey into the world of pageantry, determined to carve a niche for herself. Despite the challenges and societal pressures, Paridhi's meteoric rise in the pageant cir-

cuit marked a turning point in her life. Winning accolades such as Miss Rajasthan Runner-Up 2022 and Miss Cosmos Queen India Winner 2022, she shattered stereotypes and proved that dreams know no boundaries.

Navigating the complexities of balancing her burgeoning career with academic pursuits, Paridhi emerged victorious, showcasing resilience and determination at every step. With the unwavering support of her family and the guidance of mentors like Yogesh Mishra and Nimisha Mishra, founders and directors of Miss Rajasthan, Paridhi blossomed into a formidable force in the modeling world.

Looking ahead, Paridhi envisions herself as a successful artist, with her proud parents and mentors by her side. While the path ahead may be uncertain, Paridhi remains steadfast in her belief that the courage to begin is far more powerful than the desire to succeed. As Paridhi continues to defy odds and break barriers, her journey serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration for aspiring models everywhere, reminding us all that with passion, perseverance and unwavering determination, anything is possible.



MUKESH KIRADOO





(L-R): Ridhi Jain, Ranjita Jain, Jaya Chatwani, Alok Sharma, Jitendra Jangid, Krishan Kumar, Poonam Kumar, Anu Bafna, Anshul Purohit, Dilip Jain, Jyoti Jain, Prami Jain, Prachi Jain & Saurabh Saxena



(L-R): Vijay Solomon, Poonam Kumar, Dr Swati Malik, Alok Sharma, Rekha Agrawal, Mradula Saxena, Dilip Jain, Jyoti Jain, Gopi Narayan, Sunil Pareek, Vandana Jain, Krishan Kumar and Mohan Bhadreacha

# RAJASTHAN'S MUSICAL MAGIC HITS DUBAI

**Pranjal Jain**  
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**F**ollowing an extensive odyssey spanning a dozen vibrant municipalities across Rajasthan, the highly anticipated auditions for Super Singer Plus Rajasthan have culminated, heralding an epochal chapter in the pursuit of unearthing the region's preeminent vocal virtuoso. In a monumental leap towards musical excellence, the auditions for Super Singer Plus Rajasthan soared to unprecedented heights as



they ventured beyond national borders to captivate the vibrant city of Dubai. On the auspicious date of May 11, following an exhilarating voyage across the picturesque landscapes and bustling boulevards of 12 beautiful cities of Rajasthan, the stage was set for an international showcase of talent.

From the enchanting Al Seef to the iconic Dubai Frame, and from the majestic Burj Khalifa to the opulent Burj Al Arab, the Super Singer Plus Rajasthan team traversed Dubai's diverse tapestry of landmarks, infusing each location with the resplendence of Rajasthan's musical heritage. Set against Dubai's resplendent skyline, the auditions unfolded as a testament to the enduring spirit of musical innovation and excellence.

The venue, embellished by the Metta Yoga team's meticulous attention to detail, radiated an atmosphere of elegance and charm, providing the perfect backdrop for an unforgettable evening of musical brilliance. Attendees were treated to a delectable selection of specially curated Indian cuisine, expertly crafted to tantalize their taste buds and complement the vibrant energy of the event.

Under the unparalleled guidance of Dilip Kumar Jain, (Project Head Dubai) the Super Singer Plus Rajasthan Auditions in Dubai flourished, enriched by the steadfast support of Rekha Agarwal (Director, Metta Yoga), Alok Sharma, Sunil Pareek, Desna Jain, Siddhi Agarwal & Ve-



(L-R): Saurabh Saxena, Pratishtha Lohani, Gaurav Kumar, Sunil Pareek, Vandana Pareek, Dilip Jain, Kanak Sharma, Mradula Saxena & Alok Sharma

dika Jain. Jain's visionary leadership, coupled with the support team unwavering commitment, culminates in a spectacular showcase of talent, igniting a spirit of innovation and excellence.

Dr. Bu Abdullah's esteemed status and discerning eye elevate the competition, inspiring both contestants and audiences. He extends his hand for future collaborations, promising exciting opportunities for the growth of this groundbreaking initiative.



Participant during the Dubai audition

The discerning judgment of Alok Sharma, Rekha Agarwal, and Mradula Saxena (Hindustani Classical Singer) along with Poonam Kumar, Jyoti Jain, Gopi, Narayan, Sunil Pareek, Vandana Jain, Krishan Kumar, Mohan Bhadreacha as the Guests of Honor added prestige to the event, and played a pivotal role in identifying two shining stars emerged from the pool of talent: Gaurav Kumar from Jaipur, honed under the tutelage of renowned Suresh Wadkar for five years, and Pratishtha Lohani from Bhilwara, now making waves in Dubai. These winners, among 28 contestants hailing from Dubai, embody the essence of musical mastery and promise a future bright with harmonious melodies.

This outstanding initiative, championed by the visionary CEO of First India Plus Entertainment, Pawan Arora, has earned widespread acclaim for its steadfast dedication to nurturing and showcasing the rich musical heritage of Rajasthan. Arora's foresight in propelling the Super Singer Plus Rajasthan platform onto the global stage reflects his unwavering commitment to furnishing aspiring artists with extraordinary opportunities to shine on the world stage.

First India Plus Entertainment deserves commendation for their groundbreaking initiative of Super Singer Plus Rajasthan in Dubai, a move that sets them apart as a regional channel with a vision for global exposure, filling a void left untouched by oth-

er national networks.

Moreover, the presence and contribution of the Rajasthan Business And Professional Group, boasting highly qualified CAs and CSs, enriches the event with unparalleled expertise.

Special mention goes to the exceptional camera crew and production team, led by Jitendra Jangid, whose expertise and dedication ensured a seamless takeover of the stage. Their collaboration, under the guidance of Sanjeev Kumar, Hemant, Ghanshyam, and Ashok, brought the event to life with unparalleled professionalism and precision.

The seamless execution of the event was attributed to the dedicated efforts of the First India OTT team including,

Dr Swati Malik (General Manager), Vijay Solomon (Chief Grievance Officer), Shantnu Varshneya (IT Head), Pranjal Jain, Vaibhav Sharma, Shubhanshi Pathak, Mini Arora, Pratiksha Kanwar & Manish Beniwal (IT Team) and Pan-kaj Punjabi (Event Coordinator). The event was made possible through the generous support of sponsors including Wonder Cement (Powered by), AU Small Finance Bank (Co-Powered by), Bricks n Woods (Co-Powered by), Jaipur National University (Associate Sponsor), Spring Board Academy (Associate Sponsor), Competishun (Associate Sponsor), JK Masale, since 1957 (Associate Sponsor), Shri Mahaveer College, Jaipur (Associate Sponsor), Dr Kamdar Eye Hospital (Supported By), Eakia X Orab-Couture House (Supported By), Metta Yoga & Music Centre (Supported By), RNG Auditors (Supported By), Uni-Hawk (Supported By), NOAF Group (Supported By), KBC Unisex Salon (Supported By), HOTS-MAN (Supported By) and Devranjani Music School (Supported By).



(L-R): Rekha Agarwal, Dr Swati Malik, Dr Bu Abdullah, Dilip Jain and Vijay Solomon



(L-R): Rekha Agarwal, Dilip Jain, Gaurav Kumar, Alok Agarwal and Mradula Saxena



Pratishtha Lohani, Dilip Jain & Gaurav Kumar



(L-R) Rajesh Jangid, Jitendra Jangid, Lala Ram Suthar, Dilip Jain, Krishan Kumar and Mohan Bhadreacha

CBSE RESULTS REFLECT STUDENTS' GRIT AND DETERMINATION

# Trailblazers of Tomorrow!



Anubhav Dusad (Class 10-97.6% Maheshwari Public School) & Gokul Dusad (Class 12-95% Jayshree Perival High School) celebrate the success with elder brothers Prakhar and Bhavya



Anjana Poddar, Class 10-95.2% Dharav High School



Riddhima Aman, Class 10-93.2% Maheshwari Girls Public School



Ranya, Class 10-96.8% Dharav High School



Aadish Jain, Class 12-96.2% Cambridge Court High School



Manan Garg, Class 12-98% Delhi Public School



Viraj Sharma, Class 10-96% Cambridge Court High School

**Mitali Dusad**  
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**I**n an eagerly awaited announcement, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) unveiled the results for the class 10th and 12th examinations on Monday. Across the state of Rajasthan, students showcased remarkable performances, eliciting joy and pride among their families and educators. Amidst the jubilation, students expressed gratitude towards their parents and teachers for their unwavering support throughout their academic journey.

Some attributed their success to their relentless self-efforts, underscoring the importance of determination and hard work in achieving one's goals. In an exclusive feature, City First presents the inspiring tales of triumph shared by our readers. From rural hamlets to bustling urban centers, students from diverse backgrounds have left an indelible mark with their exceptional achievements. One such student, Anubhav Dusad from Jaipur, a Class 10 student

of Maheshwari Public School, credited his success to the unwavering support of his parents, Mahesh & Suneeta, and the guidance of his teachers. "Their belief in me propelled me forward, enabling me to overcome challenges and achieve my dream. I have pursued PCM and wish to devote sincere hours to my studies as well as actively keep myself aware of the general knowledge and extra curriculars. I personally feel, keeping everything balanced helped me stay more focused and dedicated," he shared. Similarly, Riya a class

12 student from Jayshree Perival School emphasized the significance of self-motivation and perseverance. "While guidance from mentors is crucial, it is our inner drive and determination that ultimately pave the path to success," she affirmed. As these bright minds embark on the next chapter of their academic journey, their accomplishments serve as a testament to the resilience and dedication of students in Rajasthan. With aspirations as high as the sky, they are poised to conquer new horizons and make their mark on the world stage.



Amishi Garg (Science Topper) The Palace School

Mansi Saraf (Humanities Topper) The Palace School

Kushal Sharma, Class 10-91.4% DAV Centenary Public School

Pallavi Sharma, Class 10-96% St Mary School

Reet Bhagchandani (Commerce Topper) The Palace School

Snehal Agarwal, Class-12 97% St Xavier's School

Kirti Sharma, Class 12-97% St Mary School

**SAWAMANI PRASAD AT HANUMANJI TEMPLE**



Jaipur National University, under the leadership of Chancellor Dr Sandeep Bakshi, celebrated receiving the prestigious A+ grade for quality education in health sciences from NABH and NAAC Rajasthan. The university organised Sawamani Prasad at Hanumanji Temple to mark the occasion. Dr Bakshi commended the efforts of all teachers and staff, highlighting the university's excellence in teaching, research, and community engagement. The event fostered inclusivity and growth opportunities for all members, reinforcing a positive work environment.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING!**



Rajasthan's young talents shine bright on national platforms, excelling in TV, ads, and now Bollywood. Act to Action's 'Alumni Meet', at Shanti Juniors, Gandhi Path recently, are poised to share screens with Bollywood's A-listers. Kritesh Aggarwal announces along with the poster launch of Jaipur Summer Camp, which will be organised from May 19 to June 1 a blend of skill-building and artistic exploration across six centres. Dhaniksh Dadhich from Bhilwara lands a role in Nitish Tiwari's 'Ramayana,' while Jaipur's Shaurya Patel, Rudra Sharma, and Devgya Kumawat star in Adani Greens ads. Pranay Malpani, Ananya Galav, and Yatharth make waves in Hyundai, and Zee TV shows, and government ads, exemplifying Rajasthan's burgeoning talent pool.

**ACHIEVEMENT!**



Mohammed Vakil, renowned playback singer and Saregama's 1998 mega-final winner receives accolades at London's House of Lords recently. The World Humanitarian Organisation lauds his musical contributions during the Global Education and Business Summit 2024. Vakil, known for his soulful renditions in "Veer Zara," extends gratitude to Ajay Singh for the recognition. Expressing joy, he pledges to uphold India's cultural legacy. Vakil's honour underscores his dedication to music and his commitment to showcasing India's rich heritage on the global stage.



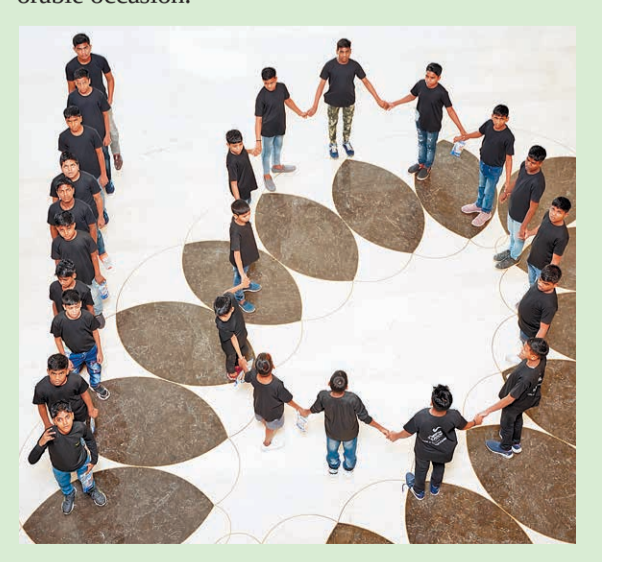
(L-R): Shishir, Alka, Dr Vijay Laxmi, Krishna, Amita, Sangeeta, Dr Rama, Kalpana, Anuradha, Dr Bharti, Jaya, Dr Antoo and Viresh

In a proactive measure to alleviate the effects of the scorching heat, the Abhilasha Women's Welfare Society installed a Pyau for pedestrians in C-Scheme, Jaipur. Dr Rama Mathur, the Chairperson, spearheaded this initiative, emphasising the importance of providing water arrangements during hot weather. The Pyau served as a vital resource for passersby, offering relief and hydration amidst rising temperatures. The installation, aimed at enhancing public welfare, demonstrated the society's commitment to addressing community needs during challenging weather conditions.

**Week long series 'Travel with Purpose' held at Hilton**



Hilton Jaipur concluded its ten-year milestone with a week-long event series titled 'Travel with Purpose.' Activities included community engagements and environmental initiatives like tree planting at Central Park on May 14. Collaborating with 'Dhaga' on May 17-18 empowered women's initiatives. The festivities culminated on May 17 with a dinner for business partners. General Manager Rahul Bhagat highlighted Hilton's commitment to guest satisfaction and community engagement, making the anniversary a memorable occasion.



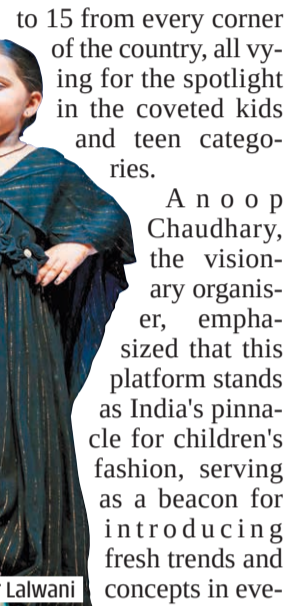
# Enchanting Fashion EXTRA VAGANZA

**I**ndia's Little Fashion Hunters Season 9 unfolded as a dazzling spectacle of style and sophistication. The runway came alive with an array of captivating themes, including summer vibes, vibrant florals, timeless traditions, and innovative theme-based collections, each leaving a lasting impression on the audience.

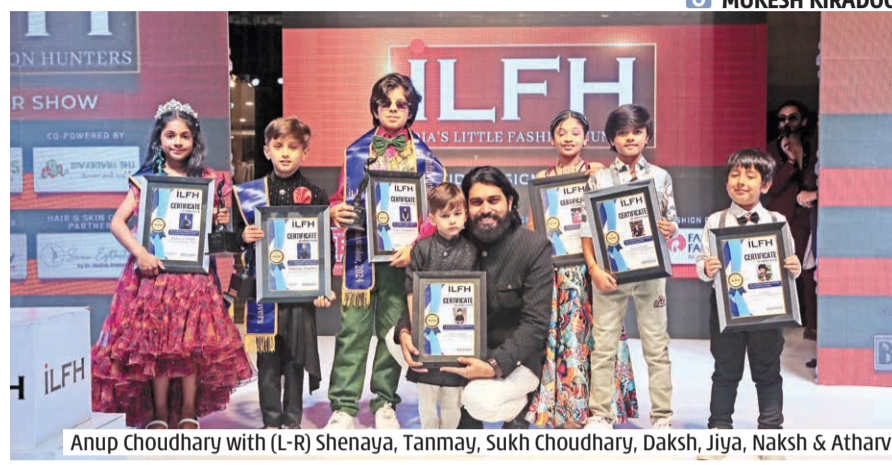
This grand extravaganza took place amidst the opulent setting of Hotel Royal Akshayam on the prestigious New Sangarer Road in the vibrant capital city of Jaipur. Organised by Infinity Techovers and powered by Momatoj, this event attracted over 150 talented children aged 3



Reyansh & Aaradhya



Heer Lalwani



Anup Choudhary with (L-R) Shenaya, Tanmay, Sukh Choudhary, Daksh, Jiya, Naksh & Atharv

to 15 from every corner of the country, all vying for the spotlight in the coveted kids and teen categories.

Anoop Chaudhary, the visionary organiser, emphasized that this platform stands as India's pinnacle for children's fashion, serving as a beacon for introducing fresh trends and concepts in every

season. Beyond mere spectacle, the event serves a noble purpose: to nurture and showcase the innate talents of children, elevating them to both state and national prominence.

The designer ensembles that graced the runway were masterfully crafted by young prodigies hailing from esteemed institutions like Nisha, Saloni, Neha, Ali, and the Poddar Institute. The impeccable makeup and styling, courtesy of the renowned Lakme Academy, added an extra

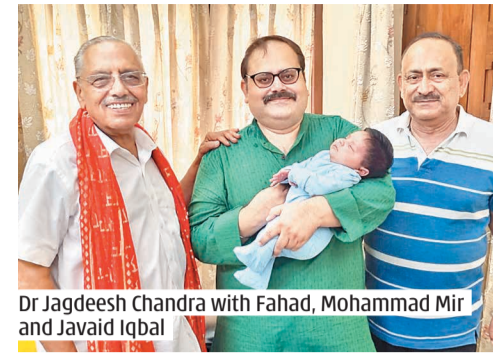
layer of glamour to the proceedings.

Under the meticulous choreography of Rahul Sharma and his talented team, each fashion sequence unfolded with grace and precision, showcasing the latest trends and innovations in kids' fashion with unparalleled finesse.

Among the esteemed attendees were India's Little Fashion Hunters brand ambassadors Sukh Choudhary and Shanaya Singh, exuding charm and sophistication. Also in attendance was Tanmay Sharma, the brand ambassador of A Infinity Techovers, adding an aura of elegance to the occasion.

As the event reached its crescendo, children were lauded and celebrated with trophies, certificates, and mementoes, acknowledging their talent and dedication. The presence of eminent personalities, including the city's elite IAS, IPS officers, social luminaries, and distinguished guests, added a touch of grandeur and prestige to this illustrious affair.

## CEREMONY!



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Fahad, Mohammad Mir and Javaid Iqbal

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra who was on a day's trip to the picturesque city of Lucknow on Monday attended the Aqiqah ceremony held at the residence of Javaid Iqbal, who was recently blessed with a grandson, Mohammad Mir, a bundle of joy for his parents Fahad and Kiran. It was a day of celebration and togetherness as the family gave thankfulness to Allah for the newborn child and Dr Jagdeesh Chandra blessed the lil one as a Grand Godfather.

## NIFD GLOBAL CELEBRATES!



(L-R): Roma Poddar, Abhishek Poddar, Anshuman Sharma, Kamla Poddar and Apra Kuchal



(L-R): Kamla Poddar, Akshay Goyal and JD Maheshwari

The curtains closed on yet another triumphant chapter for NIFD Global Jaipur as it bid adieu to its Annual Design Exhibition 2024 with a grand closing ceremony. Held at the prestigious institution's premises, the event saw a convergence of distinguished guests, industry mavens, and design aficionados, alongside esteemed professors from various educational institutions. The exhibition, a testament to weeks of relentless dedication and creativity by Fashion and Interior Design Students, garnered widespread acclaim and admiration.

Chairperson Kamla Poddar and Director Abhishek Poddar expressed their gratitude to all attendees for their unwavering support and enthusiasm throughout the event. Looking towards the horizon, NIFD Global Jaipur revealed plans for an upcoming Art Conclave on World Environment Day, slated for the first week of June 2024. Set to showcase an eclectic array of creative endeavours, including paintings, product designs, art installations, and more, the conclave promises to be a celebration of innovation and artistic expression by the institution's talented students.

## CONDOLENCE!



Late MM Baig

The late MM Baig Saheb's final gathering will be held on May 19 at 6 pm in Karbala Maida commemorating a life devoted to community service and family. Baig Saheb's

legacy extends beyond his 40-year career in the Irrigation Department he fostered familial bonds with colleagues. Despite his wife's passing 30 years ago, he raised three accomplished sons, including Captain Mirza Baig, Shariq Baig, and Mirza Saqib Baig. Notably, his daughter-in-law, Ruby Khan, a prominent political figure, serves as National Vice President of the All India Congress Committee Minority Department and Secretary of the Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee.

## CONGRATS!

Giriraj Khandelwal was elected President of the Jaipur District Olympic Association on Sunday, marking a significant development in the state's sports landscape. The elections, held at Hotel Regal on Ajmer Road, saw Rajendra K Shekhar appointed Vice President and Jagadish Dhaka as Secretary. Notable figures like Indraprakash Tikkivawal and Mitaranand Poonia were elected as Vice Presidents. This move aims to bolster Jaipur's sports scene, with Khandelwal expressing optimism for a new era of sports development and opportunities for youth.

Giriraj Khandelwal

## MUKESH KIRADOO



Fifty women achievers in various fields of women empowerment will be honoured with the prestigious 'Savarna Shakti Samman' at the 'Savarna Shakti Samman Sammelan' recently, at the Maharana Pratap Auditorium, Vidyashram. In anticipation, a poster was unveiled by Mahila Shakti on the eve of Mother's Day on Saturday. Rahul Dwivedi, Chief of Savarna Shakti Sangh, highlighted women's significant role in nation-building, paving the way for the inaugural Sammelan. Discussions will range from women's empowerment to rural upliftment, aiming at social harmony through initiatives like the upper caste commission.

## EVENTS!



The 50 Diksha Mahotsav of Acharya Shri Mahashraman was commemorated in Jaipur, organised by the Jain Shwetambar Terapanth Women's Wing on Sunday. The event, chaired by National President Sarita Daga, saw participation from 60,000 sisters across 500 branches. As a tribute to Acharya Shri Mahashraman Ji's 50 years of asceticism, the Jaipur Women's Wing organised the 'Aaradhna Aaradhya Ki' program, emphasizing spiritual devotion. The event also focused on contributions to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.



SKIT's IT Department, in collaboration with IEEE Computer Society and Upflairs Pvt. Ltd., orchestrated a comprehensive five-day workshop on cybersecurity and Ethical Hacking on Saturday. Led by Prof Dr Anil Choudhary, the event boasted active engagement from 70+ students. Facilitators Vinod Kumar & Mr Oopps delved into practical cybersecurity topics such as email security and malware. Faculty coordinators Ritu Shukla and Vipin Jain, alongside a diligent organizing team, ensured the workshop's seamless execution.



(L-R): Pallavi Sharma, Priyanka Choudhary & Renuka Mali

CR Production recently hosted the grand finale of Rajasthan's esteemed modelling and beauty contest, Mr, Miss, and Mrs Model Rajasthan 2024, at Jisa Resort recently. Curated by fashion designer Veer Chaudhary and with Mohit Dhingra as the official designer, the event saw Radhika Chaudhary as the makeover and styling partner. Winners Vishnu Choudhary, Priyanka Choudhary, and Anu Rathod will represent Rajasthan in the national finals of Rubaru Mr India, Rubaru Miss India Elite, and Rubaru Mrs India. Jury members included Chena Ram Choudhary, Neil Aryan Thakur, Sukhbir Ashat, Banner Lanmai James, and Pankaj Kharbanda.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING!



Before



After

Manav Seva Trust Rajasthan, with financial backing from Knack Global Private Limited and Bhamashahs, revitalized the Government Senior Upadhyaya Sanskrit Vidyalaya in Bhanpur Kalan recently. Chief guest Sujit and Kaushal Satyarthi lauded the initiative, emphasizing the transformative power of education. Families hailed the Trust's efforts, foreseeing holistic growth for their children. Trust convener Kaushal Satyarthi highlighted the Trust's 8-year commitment to education, health, and more, renovating government schools to enhance rural students' access and quality education, thus fostering overall development.

Renowned actor, director, and writer Rakesh Bedi, famed for TV shows like "Shrimaan Shrimati" and "Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah," will grace the 17th Collage of Clay Modeling event in North India and the Western region. The event, held from May 19 to June 9 in Jaipur, features a personality development-oriented theatre workshop for children and teens. Hosted by the Rajasthan Lalit Kala Academy and the Curio Children's Theater Organisation, the workshop, spanning sixteen years, includes venues like Ravindra Manch and Central Academy.



Rakesh Bedi



NAIM KHAN

On Mother's Day and World Nurses Day, the Aangan Foundation orchestrated a food packet distribution drive on Sunday, providing sustenance to 1100 individuals at JK Lone Hospital. The event saw the presence of esteemed guests like Ravi Nayyar, BJP MLA candidate from Adarsh Nagar Jaipur, Yagamitra from the Commercial Tax Department, and Neeraj Tambolia, Senior Nursing Officer of JK Lone Hospital. Aangan Foundation officials including President Govind Natani and Treasurer Shiv Krishna Gupta spearheaded the initiative, demonstrating their commitment to community welfare.

## SUNIL SHARMA



Jaipur City Councillor Neeraj Aggarwal commemorated the victims of the Jaipur bomb blast by organising a massive blood donation camp on his birthday, amassing 237 units of blood on Sunday. Thousands joined in, extending birthday wishes and commendations to Aggarwal. Notable attendees included Hawamahal MLA Balmukund Acharya, Mayor Munesh Gurjar, BJP leaders, and social workers. Aggarwal, who has been hosting such camps for 16 years, expressed gratitude to donors and attendees for their life-saving contributions.

## NAIM KHAN



(L-R): Atul Padia, Kamlesh, CS Mehta, Suman Gaur, Ashok Gaur, Thakur Dushyant Singh Nayla, Dr Jitendra Kumar Soni, Vijay Kachiya, Tara Chand Jain, Mahesh Swami, Vijay Kumar Sharma

Renowned Baroda painter Vijay S unveiled his latest exhibition, 'Surface', at Jaipur's Kalaneri Art Gallery recently. Presenting a captivating series of abstract paintings, Vijay Kachiya artfully explores life's nuances using diverse mediums like moulding clay and acrylic colours. Inaugurated by IAS officer Dr Jitendra Kumar Soni, the event drew a crowd of artists and enthusiasts. With its rich textures and vibrant colours, Kachiya's exhibition offers a poignant reflection on the human experience.

