



FIRST INDIA

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IN SHORT



REMEMBERING INDIRA

Celebrating the 107th birth anniversary of former PM Indira Gandhi today.

● Anmol Bishnoi, the 25-year-old younger brother of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, was detained in California by the US Immigration Dept.

● VP Jagdeep Dhankhar will visit Jhunjhunu dist on November 20. During this one-day visit, he will engage in a dialogue with students at JNV in Kajra.

● Former home minister of Maharashtra Anil Deshmukh was seriously injured this evening after stones were thrown at his car in Nagpur district.

● President Droupadi Murmu appointed K Sanjay Murthy as next Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), Dept of Economic Affairs said.

● Campaigning for the 2024 Assembly polls in Maharashtra & Jharkhand concludes. ECI gives BJP, Cong one week's time to respond to poll violations.



PM Narendra Modi with (L-R) French President Emmanuel Macron, US President Joe Biden, Brazil's President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa and Chinese President Xi Jinping during the G20 Summit at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro at Brazil on Monday. Also present here are EAM S Jaishankar, NSA Ajit Doval and Amitabh Kant and others.

MODI FLAGS FOOD, FUEL & FERTILIZER CRISIS AT G20

PM Modi's 'One World' vision echoes in Brazil

First India Bureau

Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

PM Narendra Modi on Monday addressed a G20 session in Brazil's Rio de Janeiro on "Social Inclusion and Fight Against Hunger & Poverty," emphasising India's transformative achievements over the past decade.

Congratulating President Lula, Modi lauded arrangements made for G20 summit and continuation of people-centric decisions taken during India's G20 Presidency in Delhi. "It is a matter of great satisfaction that we prioritised SDG goals. We focused on inclusive development, women-led development, youth

PM MODI HIGHLIGHTS INDIA'S PROGRESS IN WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION

At G20 Summit, Modi highlighted India's efforts in social inclusion and women's empowerment, noting that 300 million women micro-entrepreneurs now have bank credit access. He also mentioned world's largest crop insurance scheme benefiting 40 million farmers and India's focus on nutrition for vulnerable groups through initiatives like Saksham Anganwadi.



We have developed over 2,000 climate-resilient crop varieties and started Digital Agriculture Mission. Our talks can be successful when we keep in mind priorities of the Global South.
NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

power, and gave wings to hopes and aspirations of Global South," he said. Modi reiterated the enduring significance of

India's G20 theme, "One Earth, One Family, One Future," asserting that it remains as relevant today as it was last year. **P7**

'Breathless' Delhi @ AQI >728!

First India Bureau

New Delhi

The SC bench of Justices AS Oka and AG Masih criticised authorities for delaying GRAP restrictions. Court questioned delay in implementing GRAP 3 of plan after AQI crossed 300 and ordered the GRAP 4 restrictions remain in place, even if AQI falls below 300. It also directed NCR states to enforce and monitor stricter compliance. **P6**



Supreme Court orders that State and central governments must file the compliance affidavits by Thursday

SC'S GRAP 4 PLANS

- Stop VI-IX & XI classes, instead teach them online
- Allow 50 percent office staff to work from home
- Construction & demolition including linear public projects have been banned
- Only essential goods trucks allowed entry into Delhi; LNG, CNG, electric, BS-VI trucks permitted
- Diesel medium/heavy goods vehicles, except essentials have been banned

OTHER COURT NEWS

- The SC Collegium, in its first resolution after Justice Sanjiv Khanna took over as CJI on Nov 11, recommended appointment of Madras HC judge, Justice D Krishnakumar, as Manipur HC CJ.
- The SC to hear plea of Balwant Singh Rajoana on Nov 25. Meanwhile, SC also urged President Droupadi Murmu to decide mercy plea of Balwant Singh Rajoana in 2 weeks.

Kailash Gahlot transforms from 'aam' to 'khaas'



ML Khattar welcomes Kailash Gahlot to BJP in Delhi, Monday.

First India Bureau

New Delhi

Former Delhi Minister and AAP leader Kailash Gahlot joined the BJP on Monday, a day after resigning from AAP over 'embarrassing controversies'. 'AAP has disconnected from its original mission, with its leaders transforming from 'aam' to 'khaas', Gahlot said.

Widely publicise Rising Raj: CM directs officials

Aishwary Pradhan

Jaipur

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma said on Monday that the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit will prove to be an important milestone in journey to make Rajasthan's economy 350 billion dollars in the next 5 years. He said that this summit to be

held from 9 to 11 December will open new doors of possibilities in state and will play an important role in establishing the state as a major investment centre in the country and the world. Sharma also directed the officials to widely publicize the organization of Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit.



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma with (L-R) Shikhar Agrawal, Sudhansh Pant, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Ajitabh Sharma and others during review meeting of Rising Rajasthan in Jaipur on Monday.



Shah reviews Manipur crisis

First India Bureau

Imphal/New Delhi

A protester was killed in firing during a clash between security forces and a mob vandalizing property in Manipur's Jiribam district. Internet services were suspended and curfew imposed in more areas. Union Home Minister Amit Shah reviewed the security situation, with the central government deploying 50 additional CAPF companies.



RISING RAJASTHAN
9-10-11 DEC 2024 • JAIPUR

REPLETE • RESPONSIBLE • READY

TRENDS, INNOVATIONS, IDEAS, OPPORTUNITIES...

A key highlight of Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit will be the Thematic Sessions, bringing together visionary thinkers, policymakers, subject experts and practitioners driving change across sectors.

Be witness to insightful, thought provoking dialogue on emerging trends & challenges, transformative innovations and new opportunities. Connect with key stakeholders, and discover pathways to growth in the ever-evolving global business landscape.

Secure your spot at the Summit today.



SCAN TO REGISTER
rising.rajasthan.gov.in

सत्यमेव जयते
Government of Rajasthan



SH. BHAJAN LAL SHARMA
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Rajasthan

SH. NARENDRA MODI
Hon'ble Prime Minister

9 DEC	HerStory: Advancing Inclusive Societies	01	Transforming Manufacturing with Industry 4.0	02	Regional Water Security: Technology and Governance	03
	Transition towards a Sustainable Energy Economy	04	Embracing Diversity: Promoting Inclusive Tourism	05	Sustainable Mining: Safeguarding the future	06
	Digital Transformation: Shaping the Future of Startups	07	EduRevolution: Bridging Education and Opportunities	08	Sustainable Finance: Public and Private Investment	09
10 DEC	Agri-Business Innovations: Moving up the Value Chain	10	FutureCare: Transforming Healthcare Through Innovation	11	Infrastructure: An important link in the Supply Chain	12

9 DEC
Inauguration & Opportunity Showcase

10 DEC
Pravasi Rajasthani Conclave

11 DEC
MSME Conclave

All Days
Rajasthan Global Business Expo

Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Rajasthan

Summit Industry Partner
CII Confederation of Indian Industry

Nodal Offices
Bureau of Investment Promotion Rajasthan

RIICO
Rajasthan Foundation

RAJASTHAN

f FIRST INDIA | 02

JAIPUR'S GRAND DAY

Jaipur celebrated its 297th Foundation Day with a blend of religious ceremonies and cultural performances. The day began at Ganesh Temple, where Mayor Dr Somya along with Jaipur MP Manju Sharma offered prayers to Lord Ganesha and performed aarti. Many women in red chunris participated in Mahaarati and Gaj Puja was also performed. The Mayor later visited Gangapol Gate and Govind Dev Ji Temple to offer prayers and attended Shehnai Vadan at Moti Dungri Temple. She also highlighted that the first week of the festival focused on cleanliness.



L-R: Cultural Committee President Durgesh Nandini, Jaipur MP Manju Sharma and JMC Mayor Dr Somya offer prayers at Moti Dungri Temple on Jaipur's Foundation Day, on Monday.



JMC Mayor Dr Somya offers garland to elephant to mark the beginning of Jaipur Foundation Day celebrations on Monday.



Foreign tourists try their hands at beating a nagada outside Moti Dungri Temple on Monday.



JMC Mayor Dr Somya and Jaipur MP Manju Sharma along with women of Jaipur and tourists participate in a puja outside Moti Dungri Temple on Monday.

SUNIL SHARMA



Tourists dance with Rajasthani folk artists as they visit Hawa Mahal, seen on the foundation day of the 'Pink City', in Jaipur, Monday.

PTI

Raffles University tragedy: Student stabbed to death



First India Bureau
Neemrana

In a tragic incident at Raffles University, Neemrana, a violent altercation between student groups led to the death of Nitesh Mahawat, a final-year D-Pharma student from Munda-



A large number of policemen have been deployed at the university gate.

war, Behror. Nitesh was fatally attacked with a screwdriver, allegedly by Ashish Grewal, a student

from Haryana, during a confrontation on campus.

Preliminary reports suggest the attack stemmed from long-standing grudges and student rivalry. Nitesh was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital but was declared dead upon arrival. Meanwhile, Ashish and his accomplices have fled the scene. Police have launched a man-hunt.

JAIPUR HOTEL RAIDED, 7 GIRLS, 5 BOYS HELD FOR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

Jaipur: Police conducted a raid at Hotel Hari Villa and arrested seven girls and five boys involved in illegal activities. ACP Malviya Nagar Aditya Poonia confirmed that the girls are from Tajikistan and Mumbai. ACP Poonia said that he had been receiving complaints for the last several days about illegal activities. Poonia took action and the hotel manager was arrested.

COP'S ACTION IN BANSWARA: LOOT GANG UNDER GUISE OF FINANCE STAFF EXPOSED

Banswara: The Sadar Police have dismantled a gang operating under the guise of finance workers, arresting two suspects, Jitendra Katara and Sunil Yadav. The duo was apprehended in connection with the recent theft of a motorcycle from a youth in Sagadod. The breakthrough came after swift action by the police, who not only arrested the accused but also recovered 11 stolen motorcycles from their possession. Authorities believe the suspects may be linked to several other major criminal activities, and further investigations are underway. The operation was executed under the leadership of Superintendent of Police Harshvardhan Agrawal, with Circle Inspector Budharam Bishnoi playing a key role in unearthing the gang's activities. The police's prompt response has been widely praised.

42 KG OF POPPY HUSK SEIZED AT RAJ-GUJ BORDER, 2 ARRESTED



Dungarpur: In a major crackdown on drug trafficking, Bichwada Police in Dungarpur intercepted a truck carrying over 42 kilograms of poppy husk at the Rajasthan-Gujarat border near Ratanpur. The contraband was cleverly concealed under sacks of wheat and was reportedly being smuggled from Chittorgarh to Gujarat. The operation, led by Station House Officer Kailash Soni, resulted in the arrest of two individuals, including the truck driver. Authorities have described the seizure as a significant step in disrupting cross-border drug smuggling networks.

Congestion relief: NHAI plans wider path to junction 14

Abhishek Shrivastava
Jaipur

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has unveiled a series of initiatives aimed at reducing traffic congestion in the capital. A key highlight is the expansion of the 200 Feet Road to Junction 14, where a six-lane highway will replace the existing four-lane configuration.

An elevated road is also planned at the Nindar Turn, which is expected to streamline vehicular movement in the area. The 200 Feet Road will see comprehensive junction development to improve connectivity and reduce bottlenecks.

As part of the project, new underpasses will be constructed to connect Mansarovar with Delhi Road and vice versa.

Furthermore, two flyovers and underpasses are in the pipeline for the Jaipur-Ajmer and Ajmer-Jaipur routes, promising smoother intercity travel.

Car runs over wedding guests in Lalsot, 1 dead, several injured

The car's owner has been held & police are searching for the driver

Suresh Bihari
Dausa



The bride's cousin, Golu Meena (inset), tragically lost his life after being struck by a car.

A tragic incident occurred during a wedding ceremony in Lalsot's Ladpura area when a car ran over several people, leaving one dead and seven injured late on Sunday. The injured were referred to Jaipur for treatment. One of them succumbed to the injuries during treatment and one injured is critical. Sadly, the deceased, Golu Meena, is the cousin of the bride.

The wedding ceremony, however, was completed with relatives struggling to cope with the tragedy.

Dausa District Collector Devendra Kumar visited the district hospital to meet the injured.

Meanwhile, the car's owner has been arrested and police are searching for the driver.

Bus hits car, nine pilgrims injured on way to Ajmer dargah

Vimal God
Ajmer



Mangled remains of the car on Ajmer highway.

Nine pilgrims in a car were injured when a bus hit the vehicle from behind in a road accident in Kishangarh on Ajmer road highway. The victims are from Jaipur in Uttar Pradesh and were going to Ajmer dargah.

The injured were rushed to the Kishangarh's Govt Yagnanarayana Hospital. Among the injured are three children. According to police a trailer in front of the car

suddenly applied brakes and the bus behind the car hit it.

After the accident, the people trapped in the car were taken out with the help of passersby. Police reached the hospital & are investigating the matter.

Bhiwadi's AQI hits 579 amid severe air crisis



Persistent pollution in Bhiwadi city shrouded the sky in haze all day, significantly reducing visibility.

First India Bureau
Jhunjhunu

Jhunjhunu is grappling with hazardous air pollution as the (AQI) soared to a record-breaking 432. The toxic air, primarily attributed to crop residue burning in Punjab and

Haryana, has caused health concerns among residents. In neighboring cities like Alwar, Bhiwadi, & Jaipur, pollution levels remain alarming. Bhiwadi, with an AQI of 579, has been identified as one of the world's most polluted cities.

JEE Advanced: Attempt limit cut to twice in 2 yrs

First India Bureau
Kota

Significant changes have been introduced in the provisions for the JEE Advanced examination. Students will now be allowed to attempt JEE Advanced only twice within two consecutive years. The earlier decision permitting three attempts has been rolled back by IIT Kanpur. Students who passed Class 12 in 2023 will no longer be eligible to appear for the exam. These changes are expected to impact thousands of students.

Laxman Raghav
Bikaner

The 1993 batch of Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers has carved a niche for itself, earning widespread admiration for its leadership and administrative prowess, both in Rajasthan and on the national stage.

Known for their exceptional calibre, this batch often inspires intrigue among bureaucratic circles about the distinct training and insights they gained at the academy.

In Rajasthan, the batch dominates key govern-

1993 IAS Batch

A Beacon of Excellence in Governance



Tanmay Kumar



Akhil Arora



Shikhar Agarwal



Alok

ance domains, with officers like Akhil Arora, Alok, and Shikhar Agarwal spearheading critical portfolios such as finance, energy, and the Chief Minister's Office (CMO). Their consistent excellence has been instrumental in driving the state's administrative efficiency.

On the national front, Tanmay Kumar, a Rajasthan cadre officer, has emerged as a central figure in shaping India's environmental policies. Additionally, officers like Aparna Arora and Sandeep Verma have made notable contributions through various pivotal

roles, underscoring the batch's versatility and commitment.

Widely celebrated for their diligence, adaptability, and excellence, the 1993 IAS batch has solidified its legacy as one of the most formidable cohorts in Indian bureaucracy.

Three-day Bundi fest begins with pomp & show

First India Bureau
Bundi

The spectacular three-day Bundi Festival started on Monday with the worship of Garh Ganesha and a procession. Indargarh Fort, historical gates and govt offices have been adorned with lights to mark the occasion.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla congratulated the people on the occasion. He said that the festival will introduce the world to amazing art and traditions and help Bundi create a distinct identity on the tourism map.

JDA Rules Flouted Akshar Enclave project violates court orders

Illegal warehousing scheme coming up at Jpr-Delhi NH

Abhishek Shrivastava
Jaipur

An influential political family is doing illegal warehouse development in Daulatpura along the Jaipur-Delhi National Highway-48 in violation to the master plan.

The project, Akshar Enclave, is situated in front of the Daulatpura Police Station and near the Radha-Swami Sat-sang Ashram. 33 bigha land on which the project is being developed is owned by a well-known family engaged in jewellery & real estate business. The land, located on a prime location, is connected to Todi Harmada Road, which links to Transport Nagar on Sikar Road.

This area falls within an ecological zone and is part of a reserved forest under the Rajasthan Forest Act of 1953. The project is being developed without obtaining the necessary land con-



Property dealers are offering plots at Rs 13,000 to Rs 15,000 per square yard, depending on the block. This illegal development blatantly violates Raj HC's 2017 guidelines.

version approval from the JDA or having the layout plan authorized. The development goes directly against the Jaipur Master Plan and violates the guidelines set forth by the Rajasthan High Court in the Gulab Kothari case in January 2017.

The Akshar Enclave has 117 plots 60 percent of which have already been sold.

JDA CRACKS DOWN ON ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION NEAR ATISH MARKET, ALONG DRAVYAVATI RIVER

Jaipur Development Authority successfully dismantled an illegal colony near New Atish Market in Zone-05, situated on approximately 2 bighas of private agricultural land along the flow area of the Dravyavati River. Acting on a tip-off, the enforcement team, under the supervision of JDA's Chief Enforcement Officer Adarsh Choudhary, demolished unauthorized construction, including gravel roads, boundary walls, and other illegal structures, using JCB machines and laborers. The illegal colony was being developed without JDA's approval or land conversion. Since October 2024, JDA has demolished 58 illegal colonies, thwarting attempts to establish unauthorized settlements.

Jaipur to get largest land pooling scheme

First India Bureau
Jaipur

A major land pooling scheme will be developed over 172.31 hectares of land in the Diggi Malpura Road area of the city. JDA is set to implement the state's largest land pooling scheme.

JDA has released the draft plan for the scheme, inviting objections and suggestions from the public. The scheme will be developed on the lands of villages such as Achrawala, Jaisinghpura (also known as Tejawala), and Abhaypura. The draft plan is available on the JDA website.

BJP chief warns Dheeraj Gurjar over hooliganism

No place for bullies in democracy, says Rathore

Yogesh Sharma
Jaipur

Lashing out at Congress leader Dheeraj Gurjar for his controversial statement, BJP state president Madan Rathore on Monday said that it was an unfortunate situation that people were doing politics on the basis of hooliganism and bullying.

He said that in democracy, the public is supreme and those who serve the public move forward in politics, not the 'Bahubali'.

A video of a public



Madan Rathore during a press conference in Jaipur on Monday.

programme surfaced on social media in which Gurjar is purportedly seen using threatening language to get his work done. Reacting to this, Madan Rathore said that the politics of hooliganism will not work in de-

mocracy. "Our voters should decide whether to give rule to such strongmen, bullies or hooligans or give importance to the people of civilized society who work according to the law," he said at a press conference.

Dilawar cancels 'controversial' essay competition

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Education Minister Madan Dilawar has officially cancelled the essay competition that was scheduled to be held from December 1 to 7, 2024, based on a controversial book about the life of Lord Mahavir, the last Tirthankara of Jainism. The competition,



A delegation from several Jain organizations met Education Minister Madan Dilawar to request cancellation of competition.

intended for students in classes 6 to 12, was planned by the state government's Department of Secondary Education, Bikaner, with an external organization. However, following concerns raised by various Jain organizations, including the Rajasthan Jain Sabha, the Jain community expressed opposition to the content of the book.

Delegation from Singapore to meet ACS water resources

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma will hold a meeting with delegates from Singapore tomorrow at the Secretariat to discuss issues related to the water resources department.

Linking of rivers, water conservation, recharging of tubewells and CM's water self-reliance campaign will be discussed. ACS Water Resources Abhay Kumar will attend the meeting.

The delegation will arrive in Jaipur today and will be here till November 21. Jaipur Rural MP Rao Rajendra Singh will receive the delegation at the airport. They will dine at Chokhi Dhani today. The delegation includes representatives of the political party of Singapore, including five ministers. BJP state president Madan Rathore gave information regarding their visit.

Min Jogaram Patel lays foundation stone of development works worth ₹161 lakh in Pal

First India Bureau
Jodhpur

Parliamentary Affairs, Law and Legal Affairs Minister Jogaram Patel laid the foundation stone for development works worth Rs 161.01 lakh in Jodhpur's Pal gram panchayat on Monday.

The works include the construction of a road connecting the Pal Police Chowki to the Community Health Centre, extending up to Indroka Nada, at a cost of Rs 1.19 crore. Additionally, the construction of a library, science laborato-



Minister Jogaram Patel participated in a tree plantation drive during the foundation stone laying event on Monday.

ry and computer room at the Mahatma Gandhi Government School in Pal was also inaugurated on Monday.

This project is worth Rs 41.76 lakh.

Minister Jogaram Patel said that the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit which will be held in December is looking promising for overall economic development of the state. Patel said that Pal is a densely populated area and urban amenities will be developed there as per public sentiments and demands.

Priyanka Gandhi to visit Ranthambore today

Sandeep Goyal
Jaipur

After the hustle bustle of election season, Congress General Secretary **Priyanka Gandhi Vadra** is set to visit Ranthambore on Tuesday in search of peace amidst serene jungle atmosphere.

As per the programme, Priyanka Gandhi will reach Ranthambore via road. She may be accompanied by her husband, Robert Vadra, and her mother, Sonia Gandhi. The Gandhi family is expected to stay at Hotel Sher Bagh in Rantham-



bore during their visit.

Their Ranthambore trip is likely to last for 2-3 days. Known as one of Priyanka Gandhi's favorite destinations, Ranthambore often serves as a retreat for her to unwind amidst the playful sightings of tigers.

Officials are making necessary arrangements in anticipation of Priyanka Gandhi's visit.

Passing out parade for SI recruits halted by High Court

Kamalkant Sharma
Jaipur

Rajasthan High Court on Monday directed to maintain status quo on Sub-Inspector recruitment exam-2021 and issued notice to the state government and RPSC.

There will be stay on the passing out parade and field posting of the trainees recruited in the exam. The single judge bench of Justice Sameer Jain gave these instructions while hearing a petition filed by Kailash Chand Sharma and others. The court issued notices to the principal secretary of the home department, DGP, Secretary of Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) and ADG of Special Operations Group (SOG) to submit their reply on the matter.

"The court has directed to maintain the status quo on the sub-inspector recruitment exam-2021," advocate Harendra Neel said.

Cong to mark Indira Gandhi's 107th birth anniversary today

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Various programs will be organised on Tuesday at the state, district, block, and city Congress Committee levels to mark the 107th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Late Indira Gandhi as per the directives of the Ra-

jasthan Pradesh Congress Committee.

According to the release from RPCC, district, block, and city Congress Committees will host events such as photo exhibitions, seminars, floral tribute ceremonies, and discussions focusing on the life of Late Indira Gandhi.



Excise Action

The excise department on Monday destroyed a stock of illegal liquor manufactured in Haryana seized during raids in 2022. 18,806 pints and 4,890 bottles along with 801 cartons of illegal liquor were destroyed.

SANTOSH SHARMA

FEEDING THE NEEDY

Geeta Sharma's social work inspires many

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Geeta Sharma, wife of Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, is quietly engaged in impactful social work, earning admiration for her humble and selfless efforts.

Geeta Sharma personally prepares food packets in her kitchen and regularly distributes them to children from economically weaker families. Without any publicity or extrava-



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma's wife Geeta Sharma distributing food packets to underprivileged children in Jaipur on Monday.

gance, she consistently carries out these service activities. First India News has obtained images showcasing Geeta

Sharma's social initiatives. In the evenings, she visits underprivileged areas to distribute meals to the needy and takes a

Geeta Sharma prepares food packets in her kitchen and regularly distributes them to children from economically weaker families

keen interest in the education of children in these settlements. She has also provided study materials to many children on her own initiative. For a long time, children in these areas remained unaware of her identity. Gradually, when

they learned that the person feeding them was the CM's wife, they were astonished.

In addition to her social work, Geeta Sharma often visits her Balaji Apartment flat, where she continues her kitchen duties. She is known to personally prepare meals for CM Bhajan Lal Sharma as well. Geeta Sharma's quiet dedication and service have drawn widespread appreciation in political circles, highlighting her commitment to social causes and her down-to-earth approach.

Were RCA selection rules violated? First India accesses secret e-mail!

Nareesh Sharma
Jaipur

The selection process in the Rajasthan Cricket Association has come under scrutiny, with allegations of interference by Ad-hoc Committee Convenor, Jaideep Bihani.

Reports suggest that players are being included in teams on Bihani's orders. First India has accessed a 'secret email' related to these developments, revealing that selectors are allegedly instructed in Bihani's name. As per the rules, player selection is the



FILE

sole responsibility of the Selection Committee, and no member of the Ad-hoc Committee is permitted to interfere in the process. The Selection Committee had ini-

tially shortlisted 35 players, but later, 16 additional names were reportedly added to the list. First India possesses the complete list of these players.

FRESH THAW IN SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS



Col Anupam Jaitly (R)

The writer is defence expert, motivational speaker and corporate trainer

BORDER DISPUTES

Though, historically, the relationship between India & China has oscillated through cooperation and conflicts shaped by post-colonial aspirations and land disputes, this meeting is considered important for it casts a shadow on global outcomes of stability, progress and peace. In spite of a multi-billion trade, the two sides failed in the past to avoid periodic standoffs and skirmishes on the borders

Putting these tensions on back burner, they went on to create a new narrative to strengthen a stable strategic and economic relationship in their own interest. While New Delhi sees its relationship with Beijing as a part of an overall strategy to enhance its influence in Asia and globally, it is also watchful to balancing Chinese influence in the Indo-Pacific region

Both the rival countries now have decided to extend cooperation beyond border disputes to the visions for regional and global leadership.

While the meeting between the two leaders indicate eagerness in resolving LAC tensions, the bigger challenge remains in controlling their strategic rivalry without escalating further posturing on the borders to forge a joint goal towards establishment of a new world order & global peace



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit, in Kazan on October 23, 2024.

In a major diplomatic leap forward, India and China managed to breakthrough the decades old dead lock on border issues and mutually consented to resume patrolling by both countries at disputed points in the area of Eastern Ladakh along LAC. This agreement, nullifies years of military posturing by both sides since the June 2020 clash of Galwan Valley where India emerged as the dominant party. This indeed, is in line with the ongoing diplomatic and strategic dialogue between the two, announced just before the crucial meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese Prez Jinping during the BRICS Summit in Russia.

The new border understanding was marked with exchange of sweets and gifts by the two armies on Indian festival of Dipawali. The exchange of goodies was observed a day after the two armies implemented troops disengagement at the conflicting points of Depsang plains and Demchok ushering in a fresh spell of breeze in Indo - China ties.

Following the standoff at Galwan in Jun 2020, both sides increased the concentration of troops and



In a major diplomatic leap forward, India and China managed to breakthrough the decades old dead lock on border issues and mutually consented to resume patrolling by both countries at disputed points in the area of Eastern Ladakh along LAC. This agreement, nullifies years of military posturing by both sides since the June 2020 clash of Galwan Valley where India emerged as the dominant party. This indeed, is in line with the ongoing diplomatic and strategic dialogue between the two, announced just before the crucial meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese Prez Jinping during the BRICS Summit in Russia

amassed lethal and heavy weaponry along the points of disputes which were Demchok, Galwan Nalah and Pangong Tso in Eastern Ladakh & Naku La, a mountain pass in Sikkim. However, sources have confirmed that patrolling is now expected to retain the status quo of pre-April 2020 which include patrolling point (PP) 14 (Galwan), PP 15 (Hot Springs), PP 17A (Gogra), north and south banks of Pangong Tso, Depsang Plains and Charding Nullah.

In my opinion, as an observer of military matters, the highlights of accord of harmony on the LAC will restore India's rights to patrol our own territory in

Depsang Plains and Demchok resolving controversial inherited issues pre-dating Chinese intrusions of 2020.

Details on the Protocols for implementing these agreements have been worked out and the two sides will now patrol up to the old points along LAC with Indian patrols moving out twice a month. To avoid any possible clashes the strength of patrols will be limited to less than 20 troop strength. A Programming of patrols will be coordinated at local commanders level of the rank of brigadier or equivalent to resolve dates for patrolling so that, any possible confrontation is avoided.

The new thaw in Indo - China talks are seen as Confidence-Building Measures aimed to reinstitute trust and belief in each other through monthly meetings at the level of local commanders on ground. This will obviously result in de-escalation of troops deployment along the line of actual control by year end. In other words, if I may say, this agreement is a significant step towards in resurrecting early fixing of bilateral, strategic and diplomatic dialogue between the two emerging powers of the Asian continent. It also gives us a lead that other border issues may come to table sooner than later which were being avoided by the Chinese for decades.

As a person who has served in this region, this agreement facilitates Depsang Plains in the most significant manner. This area of Depsang lies 30 km southeast of Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) post of India monitoring Karakoram Pass. The plains of Depsang are akin to the Spangur gap in Chushul sub sector of Ladakh that offers a flat surface in rugged mountains for launching any military offensive.

Though, historically, the relationship between India & China has oscillated through cooperation and conflicts shaped by post-colonial aspirations and land disputes, this meeting is considered important for it casts a shadow on global outcomes of stability, progress and peace. In spite of a multi-billion trade, the two sides failed in the past to avoid periodic standoffs and skirmishes on the borders. Putting these tensions on back burner, they went on to create a new narrative to strengthen a stable strategic and economic relationship in their own interest.

While New Delhi sees its relationship with Beijing as a part of an overall strategy to enhance its influence in Asia and globally, it is also watchful to balancing Chinese influence in the Indo-Pacific region.

Both the rival countries now have decided to extend cooperation beyond border disputes to the visions for regional and global leadership. While the meeting between the two leaders indicate eagerness in resolving LAC tensions, the bigger challenge remains in controlling their strategic rivalry without escalating further posturing on the borders to forge a joint goal towards establishment of a new world order & global peace.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL

IN-DEPTH

WITH HYPERSONIC MISSILE, INDIA JOINS ELITE CLUB

India's successful test of its first hypersonic missile marks a landmark moment in its defence capabilities, placing it alongside global powerhouses like China, Russia, and the United States. Hypersonic missiles, capable of travelling at speeds exceeding Mach 5 while manoeuvring, are considered the next frontier in military technology, blending speed, precision, and unpredictability.

This achievement bolsters India's defence deterrence and reinforces its strategic autonomy. As regional security concerns mount, particularly with an assertive China and a volatile Pakistan, hypersonic technology strengthens India's ability to safeguard its interests. The development also reflects India's growing indigenous defence capabilities, an essential element of its broader self-reliance push under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

However, the milestone also highlights the urgent need for robust policies on managing advanced weaponry. Hypersonic technology intensifies the arms race, necessitating international dialogue on its regulation. India's entry into this exclusive club is a moment of pride, but it also brings immense responsibility in shaping a balanced and secure global order.

BIDEN'S RISKY GAMBIT IN FINAL STRETCH



President Joe Biden's decision to allow Ukraine to use U.S.-supplied Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) against Russian and North Korean troops in the Kursk region is a bold, but risky, move in the twilight of his presidency. Coming just two months before he leaves office, this escalation raises significant geopolitical concerns. President Vladimir Putin warned a few weeks ago that the use of ATACMS will tantamount to crossing the red line.

ATACMS, known for their precision and extended range, provide Ukraine with a substantial tactical advantage. By enabling strikes deeper into Russian-controlled territory, the U.S. is signalling an unyielding commitment to Ukraine's defence. However, this decision risks further inflaming tensions with Moscow and Pyongyang, both of whom view such actions as aggressive provocations. North Korea's increasing involvement in the conflict, coupled with its deepening ties with Russia, makes the situation even more precarious.

Critics argue that Biden's timing is questionable. Escalating U.S. involvement in an already volatile conflict may limit diplomatic options for his successor who has promised to stop the war. Moreover, it risks alienating allies who are wary of pushing Russia into unpredictable retaliatory measures. Supporters, on the other hand, see the decision as a necessary step to check Russian aggression and deter authoritarian alliances.

Biden's legacy as a staunch defender of democracy and international norms is evident, but this move could define his foreign policy as one of high-stakes brinkmanship. As the global community braces for potential fallout, the need for restraint grows ever more urgent. Strategic escalation, while impactful, must not come at the expense of long-term stability.



President Joe Biden's decision to allow Ukraine to use U.S.-supplied Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) against Russian and North Korean troops in the Kursk region is a bold, but risky, move in the twilight of his presidency

TOP TWEETS



I am saddened and saddened to hear the news of the demise of former Minister of Odisha and senior leader of our party Sameer Dey. Dada was a multi-lingual and charitable person. He will always be missed by the love and affection he received from his family members whenever they met him.

Dharmendra Pradhan
@dpradhanbjp



Rahul Gandhi and Congress leaders are full of hatred. First they divided the country on the basis of religion and now they want to break the country into pieces by dividing it on the basis of castes. But the people of India will answer this hatred.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan
@ChouhanShivraj

SPIRITUAL SPEAK

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.

BIBLE

JAISHANKAR SPEAKS

EAM: Nigeria's award to Modi recognition of his leadership

ANI
New Delhi

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Monday that conferment of Nigeria's national award 'Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger' on Prime Minister Narendra Modi was a recognition of PM Modi's leadership in furthering partnerships with the Global South and also underlines the special ties between India and Nigeria.

Jaishankar said he was privileged to witness the conferment of the 'Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger' on Modi.

"A recognition of PM Modi's leadership and commitment in furthering partnerships with the Global South. Also underlines the special ties of friendship between India and Nigeria," he said in a post on X.

In a ceremony at the State House, Nigeria



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar

A recognition of PM Modi's leadership and commitment in furthering partnerships with the Global South. Also underlines the special ties of friendship between India and Nigeria.

S JAISHANKAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu conferred "Grand Commander of the Order of Niger" on PM Modi

for his statesmanship and stellar contribution to fostering India-Nigeria ties. The award citation

notes that under Prime Minister's visionary leadership, India has been positioned as a global powerhouse, and his transformative governance has fostered unity, peace and shared prosperity for all.

While accepting the award, Prime Minister dedicated the honour to the people of India and to

PM DEDICATES THE HONOUR TO THE PEOPLE OF INDIA

While accepting the award, Prime Minister dedicated the honour to the people of India and to the longstanding, historical friendship between India and Nigeria. He further stated that the recognition underscores the Strategic Partnership between the two countries and their shared commitment to the aspirations of the Global South. PM visit provided an opportunity to build upon Strategic Partnership that is based on shared belief.

the longstanding, historical friendship between India and Nigeria. He further stated that the recognition underscores the Strategic Partnership between the two countries and their shared commitment to the Global South aspirations. PM Modi is the first foreign leader to be conferred with this award since 1969.

'MVA speaks about religion-based quota'

ANI
Navi Mumbai

BJP National President JP Nadda on Monday took a jibe at the Maha Vikas Aghadi, accusing them of doing "appeasement politics" and providing reservation on the basis of religion if they came to power in the upcoming assembly polls in Maharashtra.

While speaking to ANI following his public address in Navi Mumbai, Nadda targeted the MVA coalition for promoting divisive politics and being primarily focused on gaining power.

The BJP leader contrasted the MVA's approach with that of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's governance model, emphasising the principles of unity and inclusive development.

"As far as Maha Vikas Aghadi is concerned, they have no issues. They are just eager to come to power. They form all their schemes for that. They have divided people. Those who do not believe in the Constitution of Ba-



Union Minister and BJP National President JP Nadda addresses a public meeting at Nerul in Navi Mumbai on Monday. PTI

MVA DOES APPEASEMENT POLITICS, SPEAKS ABOUT RESERVATION BASED ON RELIGION: JP NADDA

Nadda slammed the Congress party and its allies in the upcoming Maharashtra polls, accusing them of not providing any "report card" while they were in power. Addressing a public rally in Navi Mumbai, Nadda said that the Mahayuti and the NDA were practising a "politics of report card," asserting that they had done what they promised and even accomplished things they hadn't committed to. Campaigning for the 288 assembly seats in Maharashtra has intensified, with both the ruling Mahayuti and the opposition MVA making efforts to win over voters. The polls are scheduled for November 20.

basaheb Ambedkar, those who do appeasement politics, and those who speak about reservation on the basis of religion—they divide people. PM Modi's mantra is Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vish-

was, Sabka Prayas," Nadda said.

The BJP leader pointed out that the people of Maharashtra have recognized that only the Mahayuti would be able to meet their expectations for progress.

AAP has broken record of graft set by Cong: Thakur

ANI
Hamirpur

After senior AAP leader Kailash Gahlot joined the BJP on Monday, Hamirpur MP and former Union Minister Anurag Thakur slammed the Aam Aadmi Party, saying it has even broken the "corruption record" of Congress and hence its ministers are leaving the party one by one.

"AAP made big promises to the public which it could not fulfil, it could not live up to the expectations of the public. Aam Aadmi Party has only done corruption. There is hardly any party more corrupt than AAP in the country," he said

"Corruption started with Kejriwal, which has gradually reached its MLAs and minister" the Thakur added.

"The name of this party is definitely Aam Aadmi Party, but it has nothing to do with the common man. The one which has broken even the record of Con-



AAP made big promises to the public which it could not fulfil, it could not live up to the expectations of the public. Aam Aadmi Party has only done corruption. There is hardly any party more corrupt than AAP in the country.

ANURAG THAKUR, BJP MP

gress in corruption is Aam Aadmi Party. This is the reason why the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister of Aam Aadmi Party, which is embroiled in corruption, have resigned from their posts and one by one their other ministers are leaving the party," Thakur said.

Rahul mocks 'ek hain to safe hain' remark

ANI
Mumbai

With the Maharashtra elections just around the corner, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, in his final attempt to land a final blow at the BJP and its Mahayuti alliance, mocked Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remark of "ek hain to safe hain" by bringing out a safe during a press conference on Monday.

During the press conference, Rahul outlined Congress's key poll promises and further criticised corporate influence in the elections.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses a press conference, in Mumbai on Monday.

The LoP in the Lok Sabha framed the election as a contest between the aspirations of the common people and the influence of a few wealthy in-

dividuals, particularly industrialist Gautam Adani, who he accused of trying to take control of Mumbai's land and resources. He claimed that Rs 1 lakh

crore could be directed to a single billionaire, a move he argued would disadvantage farmers, workers, and the unemployed.

"The Maharashtra poll is an election of ideologies and an election between 1-2 billionaires and the poor. The billionaires want the land of Mumbai to go into their hands. The estimate is that Rs 1 lakh crores will be given to one billionaire. Our thinking is that Maharashtra, the farmers of Maharashtra, the poor, the unemployed, and the youth need help," Gandhi added.

14 Delhi-bound flights diverted to Jaipur, Dehradun

...weather conditions result in poor visibility

ANI
New Delhi

Amid enforcement of "low visibility procedures" at the Indira Gandhi International Airport here, 14 Delhi-bound flights have been diverted to Jaipur and Dehradun so far on Monday as bad weather conditions result-

ed in poor visibility impacting aircraft operations in the national capital.

The Delhi Airport in the morning issued an advisory for passengers and informed that flight operations may get affected but the 'Low Visibility Procedures' are still in progress at the airport.

The advisory requested the passengers to contact their respective airlines



for 'updated information' about their flights.

"Low Visibility Procedures are still in progress at Delhi Airport and flight

operations may get affected at the Delhi Airport. Passengers are requested to contact the airline concerned for up-

dated flight information. Any inconvenience caused is deeply regretted," the advisory reads.

The air quality level in the national capital has plunged to 'severe plus' levels. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the Air Quality Index (AQI) recorded at 12 pm was 489 in the national capital.

According to the data of the CPCB, the Air

Quality Index (AQI) recorded at Dwarka Sector 8 is 500, Ashok Vihar is 497, Mundka is 495, Patparganj is 495, Anand Vihar is 495, Sonia Vihar at 491, RK Puram is 483, Chandani Chowk is 466 and ITO is 447, as of 12 pm.

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) imposed the GRAP Stage 4 in Delhi NCR from Monday.

NO ILLEGALITY

HC upholds EC's ban on cellphones at booths

PTI
Mumbai

The Bombay High Court on Monday said there was no illegality in the Election Commission of India's decision prohibiting the use of mobile phones at polling booths in the upcoming state assembly elections.

A division bench of Chief Justice D K Upadhyaya and Justice Amit Borkar dismissed a public interest litigation filed by city-based lawyer Ujala Yadav against the



The high court bench said the ECI has powers to introduce any measures for smooth functioning of the election process.

ban on mobile phones at polling booths in the Maharashtra assembly elec-

tions scheduled on November 20.

The PIL had urged the

HC to direct the ECI and the State Election Commission to allow voters to carry phones and to show their identity proof through the DigiLocker app introduced by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.

The bench said the ECI has powers to introduce any measures for smooth functioning of the election process.

"As it is the process of holding elections is a cumbersome process. And in this you (petitioner) are saying show docu-

ments in digilocker," the court said.

The bench said no right is vested in any person to only show their document for verification on their phones via digital lockers.

"We do not find any illegality (in ECI's decision)," the court said dismissing the petition.

The PIL had also claimed voters would be discouraged from exercising their franchise as arrangements are not made for phones to be deposited at the polling booths.

Protest against Manipur killings



Members of Manipuri Sahitya Parishad Assam take part in a protest against the recent killing of three women and three children in Manipur's Jiribam in Guwahati on Monday.

Shah to inaugurate Golden Jubilee Police Conference in Guj

- The conference will host 250 participants, including police, prisons, forensic experts, academicians, & other stakeholders
- CBI Director Praveen Sood will be the chief guest for the valedictory function on Wednesday

PTI
Ahmedabad

Themes ranging from community policing to AI in the criminal justice system and from the future of blockchain technology in policing to radicalisation in prisons will be discussed at the 50th All In-

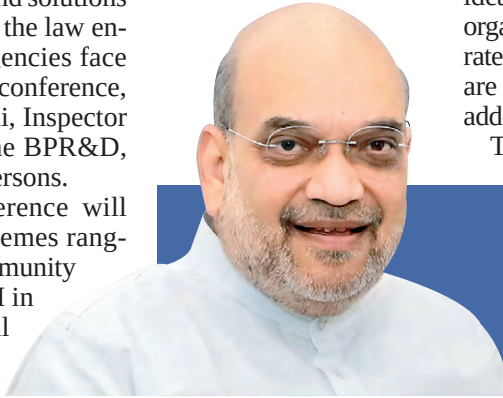
dia Police Science Conference in Gandhinagar over the next two days. Union Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the golden jubilee edition of the conference, organised by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) and hosted by Rashtriya

Raksha University, an official said on Monday.

Experts from various fields come under one platform to find solutions to challenges the law enforcement agencies face at the annual conference, Rekha Lohani, Inspector General in the BPR&D, told media persons.

This conference will have eight themes ranging from community policing to AI in the criminal justice system, and

from the future of blockchain technology in policing to radicalisation in prisons, Lohani said.



"The themes are selected after consulting various stakeholders, and only after we get suggestions and ideas from a spectrum of organisations, we collaborate to finalise themes that are deliberated," Lohani added.

The application of fo-

rensis in new criminal law, policing in smart cities and community policing in tribal and border areas as well as the role of police in disaster risk reduction are among other themes that will be discussed at the event. Shah will attend the in-

augural event as the chief guest with Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel as the special guest.

He will also release a compendium a compilation of the best research papers from domain experts - on the occasion, Lohani said.

"There is a wide spectrum of people who will be participating in sessions to brainstorm over various challenges that law enforcement agencies face. We will also organise a police-tech expo in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry," the IG said.

As many as 45 private firms will display equipment & gadgets developed to aid law enforcement agencies in tackling challenges, she added.

UHM Amit Shah will inaugurate the golden jubilee edition of the conference, organised by the Bureau of Police Research and Development and hosted by Rashtriya Raksha University, an official said



Vehicles move on the Delhi-Gurugram Expressway amid low visibility due to smog, in Gurugram, Monday.

BREATHE EASY!

Air purifier sales soar as Delhi chokes on pollution

PTI
New Delhi

With air pollution levels escalating to alarming levels in Delhi and the National Capital Region, the sale of air purifiers and masks have surged significantly, according to traders in the city.

Delhi's air quality plummeted to the 'severe plus' category on Monday, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) soaring to 484 — its worst reading this season, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

As Delhiites struggle to breathe, traders said the demand for air purifiers and masks have increased as many residents see the equipment as a necessity to safeguard their health.

Vijendra Mohan, the owner of Air Expert India, a dealership in Indirapuram, said their air purifier sales have witnessed a significant increase after air pollution breached the 'severe' level.

"Earlier, we used to

BJP SHOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AIR QUALITY INDEX LEVELS: MANISH SISODIA

New Delhi: As the air quality index in Delhi-NCR reached alarming levels, Manish Sisodia, the former deputy chief minister of Delhi, said on Monday that the pollution menace transcends the political divide and the BJP should also take it seriously. "At present, the whole country is suffering from pollution. We have to look at pollution above politics and BJP also has to take it seriously. It is not a subject for which you can blame the Aam Aadmi Party only. At this time the whole of North India is in the grip of severe stubble burning," ANI quoted Sisodia as saying. "BJP must answer for its central government's actions instead of blaming AAP; rhetoric alone won't bring results," he further added.

sell around 20 purifiers a day, sometimes even over two days. Now, the numbers have doubled to 40 per day. Air purifiers have become essential for households, and I am receiving over 150 inquiries daily," he said.

Rakesh Singh, who runs a Blueair air purifier dealership in Pushp Vihar, said, "Last month, I was selling 10 to 12 air purifiers a day. Now, sales have increased to 25 units daily," he noted, adding that the spike in demand has been consistent over

the past few weeks.

Ravi Kaushik, the owner of Airth Air Purifier Company in Vikasपुरi, said he has recorded a 70 per cent jump in sales since late October.

"Normally, sales hover around 20 %, but this time, they have surged drastically by 70 % due to the worsening air quality," he said. Kaushik added that homes near busy roads face higher pollutants, causing respiratory issues. Air purifiers with advanced filters ensure cleaner indoor air.

PTI
New Delhi

The unemployment rate for people aged 15 years and above in urban areas dipped to 6.4 per cent in the July-September quarter, according to the National Sample Survey Survey (NSSO).

Joblessness, or unemployment rate, is defined as the percentage of unemployed people in the labour force.

The unemployment rate in the September quarter of FY24 was 6.6 per cent.

The unemployment rate for people aged 15 years and above in the previous April-June quarter of FY25 was 6.6 per cent in urban areas, the 24th Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) showed.

The unemployment rate among females (aged 15 years and above) in urban areas declined to 8.4 per cent in July-September 2024 from 8.6 per cent in the same quarter a year ago. The rate was 9 per cent in April-June, 2024.

Among males, the unemployment rate in urban areas declined to 5.7 per cent in July-September 2024 from 6 per cent in the same quarter a year ago. The rate was 5.8 per cent in April-June 2024.

Labour force participation rate in Current Weekly Status (CWS) in urban areas for people aged 15 years and above increased to 50.4 per cent in July-September from 49.3 per cent in the same quarter a year ago. The rate was 50.1 per cent in the April-June 2024.

Labour force refers to the part of the popula-



URBAN EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Male unemployment in urban areas declined to 5.7% in July-September 2024, down from 6% a year ago and 5.8% in April-June 2024. Labour force participation (CWS) for ages 15+ rose to 50.4% from 49.3% a year ago and 50.1% in the previous quarter.

SLUMP IN INDIAN STOCKS CONTINUE, INDICES DECLINE FOR SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE SESSION

New Delhi: Benchmark stock indices in India slumped on Monday, extending the losses for the seventh straight session and touching a new multi-month low. Sensex closed at 77,339.01 points, down 241.30 points or 0.31 per cent, while Nifty closed at 23,453.80 points, down 78.90 points or 0.34 per cent.



Among the sectoral indices, Nifty IT, media, & oil & gas were top losers, while metal, PSU bank, & realty were the top movers, NSE data showed. "Market consolidation continued as earnings growth slowed, and a weak rupee due to inflation impacted sentiment. IT stocks declined following reduced expectations of a FED rate cut in Dec, which could delay spending in BFSI segment," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

tion, which supplies or offers to supply labour for pursuing economic activities for the production of goods and services and, therefore, includes both employed and unemployed persons.

The NSSO had launched PLFS in April 2017.

On the basis of PLFS, a quarterly bulletin is brought out giving estimates of labour force in-

dicators namely unemployment rate, worker population ratio (WPR), labour force participation rate (LFPR), distribution of workers by broad status in employment and industry of work in CWS.

The estimates of unemployed persons in CWS give an average picture of unemployment in a short span of seven days during the survey period.

FM calls for steps to make bank interest rates affordable



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addresses centenary celebration of the main branch of SBI Horniman branch at NCPA, in Mumbai on Monday.

PTI
Mumbai

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said people are finding current interest rates "very stressful" and urged banks to make them affordable.

Speaking at an event organised by SBI, the finance minister said that at present, India requires industry to ramp up and invest in new facilities, and added that lowering lending rates can help achieve the "Viksit Bharat" aspiration.

"What is important is when you look at India's growth requirements, and you can have so many different voices coming out and saying the cost of borrowing is really very stressful, and a time when we want industries to ramp up and move (to) building capacities, bank interest rates will have to be far more affordable,"

Trust should be built by the way you offer your portfolios, by the way you offer your service, and by the way you look at each customer's requirement without clubbing them into one class.

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN, FINANCE MINISTER

Sitharaman said.

Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal last week urged the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to cut interest rates to boost economic growth. He also suggested looking through food prices while deciding on monetary policy.

It can be noted that most of the commercial banks are tied directly or indirectly to the RBI's calls on interest rates, with the majority of loans using the repo rate as an external benchmark to which loan prices are pegged.

Prepping for Maha Kumbh 2025



Workers construct a temporary pontoon bridge over the Ganga river as part of preparations for the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025, in Prayagraj on Monday.

Maharashtra Muslim quota talks after new govt forms, says Reddy

PTI
New Delhi

Amid the political controversy between the BJP and Congress over Muslim reservation in Maharashtra, Congress leader and Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy said that the issue will be addressed after the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) forms the government post the November 20 elections.

Referring to Muslim reservations in Telangana as a precedent, Reddy added that it is the Congress party's "responsibility to ensure justice for the poor and needy". His com-



Revanth Reddy

"In Telangana, 11,000 teachers were recruited, with 720 Muslims selected under quota. It's Cong's responsibility to ensure justice for the poor & needy," the CM said

ment came amid the issue of reservation taking centre stage in the Maharashtra polls, where BJP leaders have taken a stand opposing calls for a Muslim reservation, which was scrapped in 2021. "After forming the government in Maharashtra, we

will discuss it (Muslim reservations). A 4 per cent reservation has already been implemented in Telangana. We had 5 per cent, but since it led to a breach of the 50 per cent cap, the Supreme Court ordered it to be reduced," the Telangana Chief Minister said.

Glimpses from Rio's G20 Summit



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed by President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva upon his arrival to attend the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on Monday.



Chile's President Gabriel Boric, right, and India's PM Narendra Modi.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with US President Joe Biden.



PM Modi with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.



China's President Xi Jinping with Germany's Chancellor Olaf Scholz.



US President Joe Biden, right, and France's President Emmanuel Macron.

Post Sri Lankan Mandate

Prez Dissanayake appoints Cabinet with Harini as PM



Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, center, poses with his newly sworn in cabinet ministers in Colombo on Monday. PTI

ANI
Colombo

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Monday sworn in a new 21-member Cabinet, following landslide win for his party in the recent parliamentary elections.

Dissanayake will directly oversee key ministries, including Defence, Finance, Planning, and Digital Economy. Harini Amarasinghe was appointed as the Prime Minister of the new government.

Sharing a post on X, Dissanayake wrote, "This morning, at the Presidential Secretariat, I had the honour of swearing in the new Cabinet of the National People's Power (NPP) government. The Cabinet is made up of 21 members, with the Ministries of Defence, Finance, Planning, and Digital Economy coming under my direct responsibility."

He added, "I am pleased to announce that Dr. Harini Amarasinghe has been sworn in as the

Prime Minister of the new government." Unveiling the full list of Cabinet ministers, Dissanayake announced Harini Amarasinghe as the Prime Minister, who will also be the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education.

Vijitha Herath as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism and Chandana Abeyratne as Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils, Local Government among others.

62nd Martyrdom Anniv of Major Shaitan Singh celebrated

First India Bureau
Jodhpur

The 62nd Martyrdom of the Hero of 1962 Sino Indian war Major Shaitan Singh, Param Veer Chakra was celebrated with full Military Honours on Monday at

Param Veer Circle, Pao-ta, Jodhpur.

A brief of his heroics was given out to the audience.

He was paid floral tribute by Military officers, retired Defence personnel and civilians. 40 students of Chaupasani

Jaipur finish runner-up at shooting Ball Championship

First India Bureau
Jodhpur

The 43rd Sub-Junior State Shooting Ball Championship concluded in Jodhpur, with Jaipur's girls' team finishing as runners-up in the Under-17 category, according to Dr. OP Machra, General Secretary of the Rajasthan Shooting Ball Association. The Jaipur boys' team secured 4th place in their respective category.

The Jaipur girls' team was captained by Khushi Sherawat, with Mona Jat



as the coach and Anju Sherawat as the manager.

Ajmer claimed the championship title, while Jhalawar secured third place. In the boys' category, Ganganagar emerged as champions, Churu finished as runners-up, and Ajmer took third place.



Brain-dead youth saves three lives

In a selfless act, 26-year-old Shubham, declared brain dead after an accident, saved three lives through organ donation. A resident of Ramgarh, Shubham was brought to SMS on November 13, where doctors couldn't save him. After counseling, his family agreed to donate organs. SMS Medical team, led by Dr. Deepak Maheshwari and Dr. Sushil Bhati, transplanted both kidneys, while his liver was sent via a green corridor to AIIMS Jodhpur for further transplant procedures.

Housing cooperative societies' fraudulent activities under lens

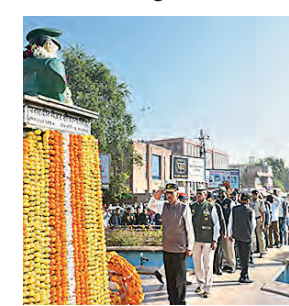
The Jaipur Lokayukta Secretariat has initiated an investigation into fraudulent activities involving housing cooperative societies. The Lokayukta has asked the Cooperation Department for a detailed report outlining the actions taken under Section 25 against erring societies. The report is expected to cover a range of issues, including how many housing societies have held general meetings in the last six months, how many are not operating from their registered addresses, and how many have violated compliance regulations under Section 54. The investigation also includes societies that have failed to submit required audits.

Green belt dismantled for shopping malls

In Bhiwadi, a city once known for its well-planned beautification efforts, there is growing discontent as officials have allowed alterations that damage the city's aesthetic improvements. The green belt has now been dismantled, and trees uprooted to benefit two shopping malls. Local residents, particularly from the Konark Society, have voiced their protests by submitting a memorandum to authorities.

Jaipur's timeless charm endures

Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan, is a city where history and modernity coexist in harmony. Often described as "Bhor Banaras, Prayag Dopahri, Shaam-e-Awadh, Raat Bundelkhandi," it embodies India's rich cultural tapestry. The city blends astrology, religion, and stunning architecture, from grand palaces to intricate temples. While urbanization brings challenges—narrow roads, towering buildings, and increasing traffic—Jaipur's soul remains anchored in its heritage. Despite modern pressures, the city's traditional crafts, architectural wonders, and vibrant markets continue to thrive. Jaipur's timeless charm endures, as its past and present coalesce, proving that even amidst growth and change, the legacy of its rich history lives on.



School, where Major Shaitan Singh, Param Veer Chakra studied in his school days also reached the memorial in saffron turbans and offered tribute to the brave son of the soil.

Grand daughter of Major Shaitan Singh,

PVC was also present to pay tribute to the brave heart.

Immaculately turned out guard of Mechanised infantry organised a wreath laying ceremony and offered a silent tribute to the martyr with inverted rifles.

Rahul's seva at Golden Temple



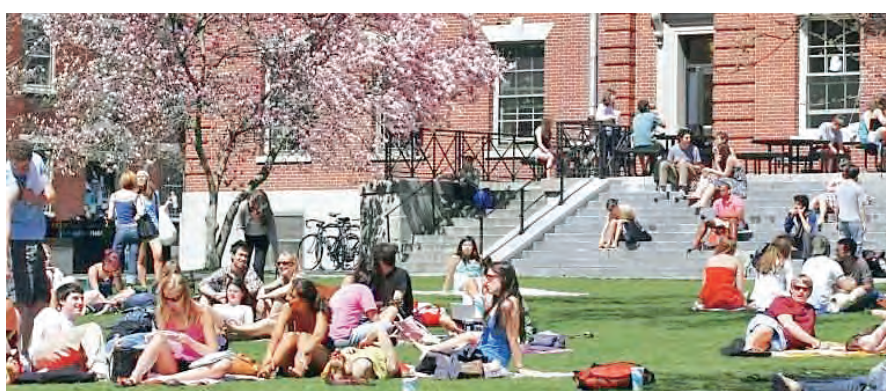
Lop in Lok Sabha and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi performs 'seva' during a visit to Golden Temple in Amritsar on Monday. PTI

AT US COLLEGES

India overtakes China in international student enrollment

Agencies
New Delhi

India has emerged as the leading source of international students in the United States for the first time since 2009, comprising 29% of the total international student population and surpassing China, as per the latest Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange. In the 2023-2024 academic year, more than 330,000 Indian students enrolled in US higher education



institutions, recording a 23% increase from the previous year.

Graduate Programmes And OPT Drive Growth This growth was pri-

marily driven by an increase in graduate student enrollments, which rose by 19%, reaching 196,567 students. Additionally, the number

of Indian students participating in Optional Practical Training (OPT) programmes after graduation surged by 41%, bringing the

China, which had long been the largest source of international students, fell to second place with a 4% decline in enrollment. A total of 277,398 Chinese students pursued education in the US

total to 97,556.

US Ambassador Eric Garcetti expressed his excitement over India's achievement, saying, "I am thrilled to share that,

with over 330,000 students, India has sent more students to the US than any other country this year. This is International Education Week. Let's celebrate the power of education to build tomorrow's leaders and deepen our bonds. I came to India first as a 19-year-old student, and I know firsthand the value of these exchanges."

Overall, US hosted a record 1.1 million international students during the 2023-2024 academic year, reflecting a 7% year-over-year increase.

Santosh Trophy: Gujarat, Raj play goal-less draw



First India Bureau
Jaipur

On the second day of the Santosh Trophy group matches, the first match was played between host team Rajasthan and Gujarat, which ended in a draw. Both teams failed to

score any goals. It is worth noting that in the first match, Rajasthan defeated Maharashtra 2-1. With this result, Rajasthan now has 4 points from 2 matches. Their final match of the tournament will be against Daman and Diu on November 20.

fi FIRST INDIA

2ND FRONT

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

I agree that a good leader leads the team walking ahead but a great leader is one who leads the team from within.

Dr JACDESH CHANDRA, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



08

Making Raj a leader in Sports is State Govt's priority, says CM

State Govt to introduce youth policy for their development & swift resolution of issues, he adds

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, while addressing a review meeting of the Sports and Youth Affairs Department on Monday, emphasised that the youth of Rajasthan is highly talented and capable of excelling at both national and international levels. He stated that the state government is focused on developing world-class sports facilities to help players make the state proud and establish Rajasthan as a leader in sports.

CM Sharma directed officials to ensure the timely implementation of budgetary announcements aimed at the all-round development of



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma chairs a review meeting of the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs at the Chief Minister's Office in Jaipur on Monday. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore and Sudhansh Pant were also present.

youth and the promotion of sports, ensuring the benefits reach players as soon as possible. He also revealed plans to introduce a youth policy that would encourage youth development and resolve their issues quickly. Additionally, the government is preparing a comprehensive Sports Policy-2024 that will focus on sports in-

frastructure, along with science, analysis, counseling, and nutrition.

The Chief Minister also discussed the 'Khelo Rajasthan' Youth Games, aimed at nurturing local talent, and the development of open gyms and playgrounds in 163 rural areas. He instructed that these facilities be well-maintained.

Sharma further men-

tioned that Mission Olympics 2028 would provide world-class training for the state's top 50 athletes, with a Center of Excellence for Sports being built in Jaipur at Rs 100 crore.

The meeting also covered the functioning of the Rajasthan State Sports Council, Youth Board, and other initiatives.

To elevate the state to the peak of sports excellence, the Mission Olympic 2028 has been launched. Through this initiative, 50 of the state's most talented athletes will receive world-class facilities for Olympic sports. A Centre of Excellence for Sports will be built in Jaipur at a cost of 100 crore rupees.

BHAJAN LAL SHARMA, CM

Speaker meets Ambassador, explores India-Japan ties

First India Bureau
Tokyo

Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani, during his visit to Japan, met with Indian Ambassador Sibi George in Tokyo on Monday. The meeting, held at the Indian Embassy, focused on contemporary issues and opportunities for investment and collaboration between India and Japan in sectors such as semiconductors, technology, automobiles, tourism, and exchange programmes.

Ambassador Sibi George provided Devnani with a tour of the embassy, introducing him to officials and showcasing ongoing initiatives. Devnani also discussed the economic, social, and cultural contributions of the Indian diaspora in Japan, particularly in industries, employment, tourism, education, and spiritual connections.

Speaking at the Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh Facilitation Day event at the embassy, Devnani highlighted the impor-



Vasudev Devnani met with India's Ambassador Sibi George in Tokyo on Monday during his visit to Japan.

Devnani is set to return to Jaipur on Wednesday after completing his four-nation tour, arriving via a flight from Tokyo through New Delhi



Vasudev Devnani visits Mount Fuji, Japan's highest mountain.

ance of cultural exchange in strengthening mutual understanding and friendship between India and Japan. He pointed out that despite geographical distance, shared history, values, and collaborative efforts

have solidified the bond between the two nations. He also stressed the contributions of Japan Foundation & the Japan-India Assn in promoting cultural exchange through language classes, workshops, & art exhibitions.

Jaipur's Glorious Milestone



Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari, at the Deepdan and Roshni programme held at Statue Circle, celebrated Jaipur's 297th Foundation Day. She praised Jaipur as one of the best-planned cities in the world, highlighting its historical heritage and architectural excellence. "Jaipur, founded by Sawai Jai Singh II in 1727, still retains its original roads, drainage system, and landmarks like Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar," she said. Kumari spoke about Jaipur's UNESCO World Heritage status and its global tourism appeal. Mayor Dr Somya welcomed Diya with a red chunari. The event featured cultural performances by folk artists, with Padmashri awardee Maya Tandon, Cultural Committee Chairman Durgesh Nandani, and other dignitaries in attendance.

SANTOSH SHARMA



Bharatpur: Jayant Choudhary to distribute offer letters at Skill Festival today

First India Bureau
Bharatpur

The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), is organising the Bharatpur Skill Festival today to highlight opportunities in skills, jobs, and apprenticeships.

Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge) and Minister of State for Education, Jayant Choudhary, will distribute job offer letters at 11:30 am at MSJ College Ground, Bharatpur, Rajasthan.

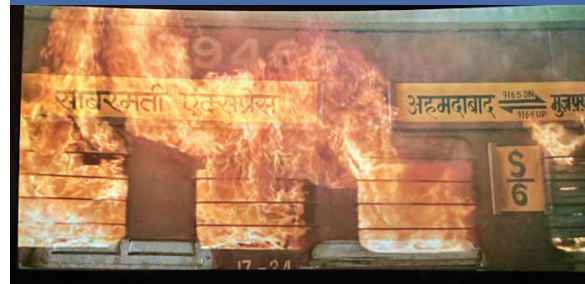
The festival will kick off at 8 am, showcasing various initiatives and programmes to enhance employability and entrepreneurship.

Strategic Outreach



Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat being welcomed by BJP workers at Pune Airport on Monday. "After meeting with colleagues and associates at Pune Airport, there was a discussion with media representatives. The BJP is a party that strives for development by bringing everyone along," Shekhawat posted on X.

Family Time



Union Tourism Minister GS Shekhawat, along with his daughters, Suhasini & Surangma watched the film, The Sabarmati Report. He called it "a commendable effort to uncover the truth behind the Godhra incident" and criticised those tarnishing India's image with deceit. "Through this film, such a group can see itself in the mirror," he said. He also highlighted how the film exposes the dark side of journalism, urging journalists to focus on truth, not creating narratives. Shekhawat congratulated the producer, director, and writer for their work.



ELEVATED ROAD IN UDAIPUR

Kataria performs Bhoomi Pujan

Ravi Sharma
Udaipur

Punjab Governor and Chandigarh Administrator Gulab Chand Kataria performed the Bhoomi Pujan for the construction of a two-lane elevated road from City Station to the Collector's residence in Udaipur on Monday.

The 2.75 km road, costing Rs 36.89 crore, aims to streamline city traffic and provide significant relief to the public. The project is expect-



Gulab Chand Kataria

ed to be completed within two years.

The ceremony was attended by dignitaries, including Rajya Sabha MP Chunnilal Garasia,

The 2.75 km-long, two-lane elevated road, costing Rs 36.89cr, aims to ease traffic congestion and provide significant relief to the public. The project is expected to be completed within 2 years

Lok Sabha MP Mannalal Rawat, City MLA Tarachand Jain, Rural MLA Phoolsingh Meena, Mayor Govind Singh Tank, District Collector

Arvind Poswal, and Municipal Commissioner Ramprakash, along with public representatives, administrative officials, intellectuals, and local residents.

The Assam Governor also paid tributes to Freedom Fighter Madan Mohan Somtia during his visit to Nathdwara.

He also visited Samore Bagh in Udaipur and paid tributes to late Mahendra Singh Mewar and offered his deep condolences to the former BJP MP's family members.

State Govt's 1st anniversary: ACS reviews key depts

First India Bureau
Jaipur

ACS Abhay Kumar, the Nodal Officer for CM Bhajan Lal's govt's 1st anniversary events, reviewed upcoming programmes. Key departments like Health, Animal Husbandry, School Education, and Home were discussed, with a focus on achievements and potential announcements, including the Gau Kashi Project & Pashudhan Bima Yojana.



Union Minister Meghwal, Sunil Arora launch 'Search, Seizure & Survey'

First India Bureau
New Delhi

The book 'Search, Seizure and Survey' by Chartered Accountant Manoj K Patwari was launched on Monday at India Habitat Centre, Pragati Maidan. Union Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal graced the event as the chief guest.

Upendra Rai, Chairman, MD, and Editor-in-Chief of Bharat Express News Network, also attended the ceremony and shared an intriguing personal anecdote about the



Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal with ex-CEC Sunil Arora, Upendra Rai and others launches a book on 'SEARCH, SEIZURE & SURVEY' under Income Tax Act, in New Delhi.

Income Tax Department. Rai recalled his first office visit to the Income Tax Department in Bombay when he joined the Rashtriya Sahara newspaper in 1999.

The event coincided with 65th Foundation Day of M.C. Jain & Co., & discussions focused on tax reforms & India's growing economic strength in global arena.



UNITY IN CELEBRATION!

The 16th annual Diwali celebration recently hosted by BRUHUD New York Seniors, one of the largest senior organisations within the Indian diaspora in New York, New Jersey & Pennsylvania. P12



Designer duo Siddharth and Jayantika from Beneci pose with models, showcasing their stunning creations



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Rishree Miglani

Fashion

AT ITS FINEST

Fashion Connect Season 19, in collaboration with India Fashion Week London at Novotel London West, featured exceptional collections from designers Seema Kalavadia, Siddharth Sharma & Jayantika, Manven & Arvind Kumar, bringing together global trends and Indian flair in a stunning display of creativity and style. City First infuses the glamorous glimpses of this fashion extravaganza



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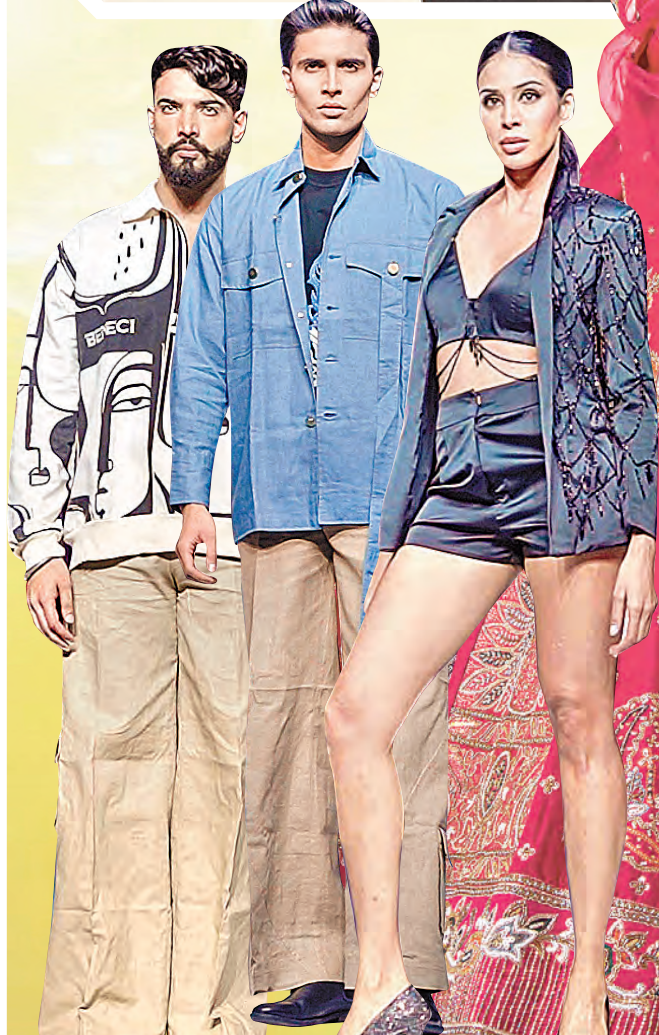
L

ondon became a vibrant hub of style, culture, and innovation on November 16, as Fashion Connect Season 19 took the stage at the prestigious Novotel London West. Presented by First India News and Bharat 24: Vision of New India, in collaboration with India Fashion Week London, the event showcased a breathtaking fusion of global trends and Indian flair, captivating the fashion world with its glamour and creativity. Curated by Manny Singh of Platinum Group, the event was a testament to the dynamic evolution of the fashion industry, with exceptional collec-

tions from renowned designers such as Seema Kalavadia; Sims Studio, Manven & Arvind Kumar; Eakia x Orab, Siddharth Sharma & Jayantika; Beneci.

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, who graced the event as chief guest and a key figure in the event, played an instrumental role in its success. In his address, he congratulated Rishree Miglani, the brand ambassador of the Fashion Connect show, for his incredible efforts in taking the event to new heights. Dr Chandra commended Miglani for his leadership and dedication, which helped elevate the event to a level of prestige and recognition. He also expressed gratitude to Manny Singh, the visionary behind India Fashion Week London, acknowledging his invaluable contributions to the fashion industry. Singh's National Asian Wedding Show has garnered international recognition, and his work continues to inspire and shape the global fashion landscape. Singh, visibly appreciative of the recognition, thanked both Dr Chandra and Miglani for their support. He emphasized how the partnership between Fashion Connect, Season 19 and India Fashion Week London brought immense prestige to the show, inspiring the entire team to strive for excellence and break new ground in the fashion industry.

Turn to pg 11



Models showcased exclusive designer collections by Eakia x Orab, Beneci and The Sims Studio, leaving the audience in awe with their stunning runway presence and bold, innovative designs

Shayari Plus: Rooh Ka Sukoon

A POETIC REVOLUTION FOR THE DIGITAL AGE



Pranjal Jain

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Bulati hai m a g a r jaane ka nahi," and "Roz taron ko nu-maish mein khalal padta hai..." These iconic lines by the legendary Dr Rahat Indori are more than words; they symbolize the soul of Shayari Plus: Rooh Ka Sukoon, a revolutionary show that has transformed how we experience and appreciate poetry in the digital age.



Now marking its 16th episode, Shayari Plus: Rooh Ka Sukoon has solidified its place as the premier platform for celebrating the art of poetry. Since its inception, the show has been graced by some of the most legendary voices in contemporary Urdu literature. From the soul-stirring verses of the immortal Shakil Azmi Sahab, whose words speak to the depths of the human experience, to the thought-provoking poetry of Banaj Kumar Banaj and the dynamic, electrifying performances of Adil Rashid, each episode has brought forward poets whose works continue to shape and redefine the landscape of modern Urdu poetry. Alongside these icons, other distinguished poets like Farukh Engineer, Jyoti Azad Khatri, Suhail Hashmi, and Ana Dehlvi have infused the show with a rich diversity of voices, offering a wide range of poetic forms from ghazals to nazms.

Each episode is an intimate conversation where the poets reveal the stories, emotions, and experiences that have shaped their art, giving viewers a deeper connection to the poetry they love.

And now, the show is set to raise the bar even higher with its upcoming special episode featuring Satlaj Rahat Indori—son of the iconic Dr Rahat Indori. This highly anticipated episode promises to be a game-changer. Satlaj Sahab will share his father's indelible legacy, recounting personal stories and moments that shaped his poetic journey. As he steps into his father's enormous shoes, Satlaj brings his unique voice to the table,



Satlaj Rahat Indori in conversation with Dr Shaista Mehjabeen



Shweta Mishra Awasthi



Deepika Singhal



Dr Shaista Mehjabeen



Shakeel Azmi



Ana Dehlvi



Malka Naseem



Adil Rashid



Farooq Engineer



Suhail Hashmi

performing some of his most celebrated works, including the powerful lines "Ziddi lehren ko fatkar lagayi hai, ye kashti bhi usne paar lagayi hai."

In a true revelation, Satlaj Sahab will also share exclusive unpublished poetry by Dr Rahat Indori—rare and intimate verses like "Muft mein humne kaali ki, raat thi ek Diwali ki," which had never been made public before. These unreleased gems offer

fresh insights into the genius of Dr Indori, providing a glimpse into his creative process and the raw emotions that made his poetry timeless.

The success of Shayari Plus: Rooh Ka Sukoon can largely be credited to Pawan Arora, the CEO and Managing Editor of First India, whose unwavering commitment to preserving and celebrating the beauty of Urdu poetry has made this show an unparalleled

platform for poets. Arora's visionary approach has transformed Shayari Plus



Scan this QR code to watch this OTT show "Shayari Plus: Rooh ka Sukoon"

into a space where poetry is not only celebrated but is accessible to a global audience, bridging the gap between the classical and contemporary world of Urdu literature. His initiative to bring together poets from various walks of life, creating a space to share their voices, makes Shayari Plus a true cultural phenomenon. Each episode is a tribute to the poets who continue to breathe life into the language of emo-

tion, and each performance is a reminder that poetry, like life, is ever-evolving.

With its growing influence and star-studded lineup, Shayari Plus: Rooh Ka Sukoon is poised to become the ultimate platform for anyone who loves the rhythm of language, the melody of verses, and the rawness of unfiltered emotions. As the show moves forward with even more legendary voices, it promises to continue bridging

the gap between past and present, tradition and modernity, and poetry and the audience.

Each week, a new episode of Shayari Plus: Rooh Ka Sukoon is released every Friday on the First India Plus OTT app, making it a must-watch for poetry enthusiasts and cultural connoisseurs alike. Don't miss out on this unique experience download the app and get yourself in the magic of Urdu Shayari.



Designer Seema Kalavadia with models presenting a mesmerizing bridal collection by The Sim Studio



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Parineeta Bakshi

Creative Couture

From Page 09...

Rishee Miglani shared his gratitude for the support of Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, whose belief in his vision was a key factor in the event's success. Miglani acknowledged the power of teamwork, stating, "I believe in my team, and that is how success happens." His words resonated deeply with the audience, reflecting the importance of collaboration and mutual trust in achieving greatness.

The highlight of the evening was Seema Kalavadia's Khwaab collection by The Sims Studio. Crafted from luxurious Muga and Banarasi silk, the collection blended timeless elegance with grandeur, re-

ceiving rave reviews for its intricate designs and stunning bridal appeal.

Siddharth Sharma & Jayantika's streetwear collection for Beneci wowed the audience with bold, contemporary designs. The collection set new fashion standards, embracing youthful energy and edgy pieces that resonated with fashion-forward individuals seeking cutting-edge trends in modern street fashion. Sharma's designs perfectly captured the spirit of modernity, making a strong statement in the world of street fashion. Parineeta Bakshi dazzled on the ramp for brand Beneci, leaving the audience mesmerized with her stunning presence.

Manven and Arvind

Kumar's Eakia x Orab collection transcended traditional fashion, celebrating personal identity and self-expression with bold, vibrant designs that told unique stories through intricate detailing and dynamic colours. The grand finale featured celebrity designer Archana Kochhar, whose signature charisma and intricate, timeless designs captivated the audience, closing the show with grandeur and setting prestigious fashion standards. The pageant was graced by special guests including Mevy Lumamuly (Miss Teen Netherlands), Anshika Choudhary (Miss P&I India), Parineeta Bakshi (Miss Teen Icon India International), Supermodel Nikki, Rayna Sikri (First

Miss India Teen, 2021), Hemanti and others.

Event director Lokesh Sharma ensured a seamless and breathtaking showcase, orchestrating an unforgettable experience for all attendees. The event was a magnificent display of creativity, sophistication, and innovation, blending global trends with rich Indian traditions. With over 500 high-profile attendees, the Fashion Connect Season 19 x India Fashion Week London left an indelible mark on the fashion world. Fashion Connect Season 19 was a grand spectacle that attracted over 400 influential guests, making it one of the most highly anticipated fashion events in London.



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra enjoying a serene moment feeding pigeons by the Thames River in London, capturing the city's timeless charm



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with Mevy Lumamuly, Hemanti & Nikki



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra at the iconic Big Ben in London



Rishee Miglani & Anshika Choudhary



Ameeka, Manny Singh and Lokesh Sharma



Designer Manven, Swapnil Chogle & Neha



(L-R) Raghav, Sunpreet, Yashdeep, Amisha, Swagat Ranjan & Naman Suri



(L-R) Bhavyata, Payal, Siddharth & Rishee



An iconic view of Buckingham Palace, the historic residence of British royalty, standing as a symbol of tradition and grandeur in the heart of London



Rayna Sikri



Designer Manven of Eakia x Orab mesmerizes the runway with a stunning showcase of bold and elegant creations

FESTIVE UNITY IN DIASPORA



Dr Prem Bhandari addressing the audience

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The 16th annual Diwali celebration recently hosted by BRUHED New York Seniors, one of the largest senior organisations within the Indian diaspora in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, attracted over 700 attendees. The event took place at the Ganesh Mandir Auditorium, emphasized community engagement and addressed senior issues,



Dr Prem Bhandari, Ajay Patel and others during the event

with Dr Rekha Bhandari highlighting loneliness as a major concern. Prem Bhandari, Chief

Guest and President of Jaipur Foot USA announced two upcoming Jaipur Foot camps in

Gujarat, sponsored by BRUHED President Ajay Patel. He also praised the "India for Humanity" initiative. Several notable figures, including Dr Varun Jeph, Mohan Nannapaneni, and Girish Salian, were honoured for their contributions.

The event also celebrated the work of past Consulate heads and concluded with a vibrant Bollywood music performance, fostering unity and community spirit among the Indian diaspora.



Dr Prem Bhandari presenting a plaque to Pragya Singh



Ajay Patel addressing the audience

HONOURING HEROES!



(L-R) Subhash Goyal, Arun Gupta, Arjun Gupta, Ajay Chaudhary, Rajendra Gupta & Sumit Gupta

Rajasthan Ratnakar, a prominent social service organization in Delhi, hosted a grand felicitation ceremony at a five-star hotel to honour senior Delhi Police officers and individuals who made exceptional contributions to the Diwali Mela. The ceremony, led by Rajendra Gupta, president of Rajasthan Ratnakar, recognised Special Police Commissioner Law and Order Madhup Kumar Tiwari, Special Police Commissioner Traffic Ajay Chaudhary, and other senior officers with bouquets, shawls and mementoes. Additionally, key contributors to the Diwali Mela, including the organisation's founder president OP Bagla, chairman Rajendra Gupta, and several prominent members, were also felicitated for their dedication and efforts in making the event a success.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!



Sunish Maru, the only senior artist from Jaipur, was recently honoured at the International Art Festival in Tonk, Rajasthan, with the first-ever State Kala Ratna Award.

The ceremony saw the participation of over 500 senior artists from India and abroad, including those from Nepal, Bhutan, Russia, Maharashtra, Punjab, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Rajasthan. Additionally, 300 students displayed their artistic creations. The event, organised by senior artists, celebrated the rich diversity and excellence of the global art community.



Round Table India and Abhilasha Women's Welfare Society Jaipur distributed copy sets and food packages at the Government Upper Primary School in Gandhi Nagar, Jaipur on Children's Day. The event was attended by Dr Rama Mathur, chairperson, Dr Vijay Laxmi Mathur, vice-president Kalpana Mathur, secretary and other members including Dr Antoo Saxena, Dr Renu Kulshrestha, Swati Mathur, Neha Mathur and Dharmendra Mathur. The initiative aimed to support the educational and nutritional needs of local students.



Namrata, Swati, Rashmi, Seema, Suruchi, Shweeta, Ekta, Nitasha, Raghushree, Camilla, Marcella, Surbhi, Rashmi, Payal, Jaspreet, Kritika & others

CREATIVE SOIRÉE!

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The FICCI FLO Jaipur Chapter, led by Chairperson Raghushree Poddar, recently hosted a lively event at White Orchard, Jhotwara, celebrat-

ing creativity and culture. Attendees explored workshops on salsa dancing, mocktail mixing, painting and more, immersed in an enchanting Latin American theme. Brazilian influencer Marcella, the Guest of Honour, wowed participants with dance sessions, adding authenticity to the

vibrant evening. Nitasha Chordia honoured Marcella in a heartfelt felicitation ceremony. Sponsored by Mamu's Infusion, the event blended artistry and gourmet delights, reaffirming FICCI FLO Jaipur's dedication to offering impactful, engaging experiences for its community.



Suruchi, Rinku, Ekta, Rashmi, Jaspreet, Seena, Marcella, Raghushree, Swati, Anushree, Camilla & Namrata

ACHIEVEMENT!



Yashasvi Rathore, a BPES student at Manipal University Jaipur (MUJ), secured two bronze medals at the FISU World University Shooting Championship 2024 in New Delhi on Monday. Competing in shotgun skeet, she excelled in both individual and team categories, bringing pride to India and MUJ. Her achievement reflects hard work and dedication, inspiring fellow students. MUJ President Prof (Dr) NN Sharma, Pro President Karunakar A Kotegar and Registrar Dr Nitru Bhatnagar lauded her success, highlighting the university's growing global reputation.



IN THE CITY!



Jaipur's 297th Foundation Day was celebrated with a Heritage Photo Exhibition at ITC Rajputana, showcasing the city's history, culture and landmarks. College students explored the exhibition, learning about Jaipur's temples, forts and traditions. Later, a cake ceremony marked Jaipur's "birthday," with Mayor Dr Somya, Cultural Chairman Durgesh Nandani, and GM Deependra Rana cutting the cake with children. Mayor engaging with children and encouraging them to protect and preserve Jaipur's cultural legacy.



Jaipur Unfolded hosted its inaugural event, Unfolding Stories, on Sunday, at Paro, Jaipur. The gathering brought together over 30 entrepreneurs, founders and business leaders for a unique networking experience. Unlike typical events, this one featured curated group discussions, interactive activities and a 7-course meal to foster deeper connections. Notable attendees included Varun Kasiwal, Nupur Vijay, and Manu Shukla. The event, held just before Jaipur Foundation Day, aimed to strengthen collaboration and inspire growth within the city's entrepreneurial community.



The poster for the "Jaipur Culture and Spiritual Festival," organised by Dharma Foundation Trust, was unveiled by Jagadguru Rambhadracharya. The festival, scheduled for March 22-23, 2025, at Birla Auditorium, Jaipur, aims to promote Satya Sanatan Dharma and Indian culture. Key figures, including founder Sudhir Jain and General Secretary Gabbar Katara, attended the release event. Special guests such as RAS Officer Pankaj Ojha and Maruti Casting Chairman Rajan Sharma expressed their support. The festival aims to connect spirituality and cultural values with society, especially the youth.

CULTURAL FEST!



Algoja. Attended by officials like Commissioner Arun Kumar Hasija and Mayor Kusum Yadav, the event aimed to promote Rajasthani folk artists and preserve cultural heritage.

To celebrate the 297th anniversary of Jaipur's establishment, the Heritage Corporation hosted a folk cultural program at Tal Katora on Friday. The event featured Ganapati Vandana, the popular Mand Geet "Kesariya Balam Aao Ni Padharo Mhare Desh," and performances by Fakhruddin, Rangeela Bhai and a vibrant Ghoomar dance. The evening also included the traditional Rajasthani music instrument,

MIXING TRADITIONS

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The Lalit Hotel Jaipur recently hosted a grand Christmas cake-mixing event, adding a festive touch to the season. Led by RM Sangeeta Rawat and Marketing Manager Nandini Sharma, the event saw enthusiastic participation from guests, who enjoyed the traditional cake-mixing activity. Renowned chefs Karan, Tariff and Manohar took the occasion to prepare exquisite desserts, offering detailed insights into the cake-making process. The lively event created a warm and welcoming atmosphere, bringing everyone together to celebrate the joy of Christmas. It was an engaging



Chef Tariff, Chef Manohar, Chef Ramesh, Ravi, Chef Karan, Chef Aditi, Ankita, Chef Rajesh, Kajal, Sangita, Rajkamal, Manvinder, Naveen Sharma, Pratab Singh, Dinesh & others

blend of tradition, learning and celebration, offering guests not just a delicious experience but also cherished memories of the festive occasion. The cake-mixing event at The Lalit Jaipur was a perfect way to embrace the holiday spirit, leaving everyone eagerly awaiting the festive season ahead.



During the event