



FIRST INDIA

RNI NUMBER: RAJENG/2019/77764 | VOL 6 | ISSUE NO. 165 | PAGES 12 | ₹3.00

Rajasthan's Own English Newspaper



PERSPECTIVE P4

IN BRIEF

CBSE Board exams for classes 10 and 12 to begin from February 15
New Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education has announced the examination schedule for the upcoming CBSE Board Exam 2025. As per the schedule, exams for CBSE Secondary School Examination 2025 (Class 10) will commence on February 15 till March 18, 2025.

● CBI lodges FIR into Maharashtra bitcoin ₹6,600 crore 'scam'; six booked.

● Justice D. Krishnakumar appointed Chief Justice of the Manipur HC.

● Video journalist moonlighting as Rapido rider killed in BMW crash.

Modi becomes first Indian PM to visit Guyana in 56 years

Guyana's President hails Modi as 'Champion Among Leaders'

Modi: 'Jan Aushadhi Kendra' will be set up in Guyana in the next few months

First India Bureau
Georgetown

PM Narendra Modi, on Wednesday, announced that India's pharmaceutical products initiative 'Jan Aushadhi Kendra' will be set up in Guyana in the next few months. Modi made announcement during a joint press address along with Guyana President Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali in Georgetown after holding a bilateral meeting. Meanwhile, Ali praised PM Modi & said, 'Thank you very much PM Modi. It is our greatest honor to



President of Guyana Mohamed Irfaan Ali along with his wife and kids, welcomes Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Georgetown at Guyana on Wednesday.

have you here. You are a champion among leaders. You have led incredibly. You have shown

light to the developing world and you have created development metrics and framework that

many are adopting in their own country. And much of it are relevant to us here in Guyana.'

INDIA AND GUYANA SIGN MAJOR PACTS

India and Guyana have signed key MoUs to strengthen cooperation across multiple sectors. These include hydrocarbons, agriculture, cultural exchange, recognition of the Indian Pharmacopoeia. Partnerships will also focus on digital solutions, and the deployment of a UPI-like system. Collaborations in broadcasting between Prasar Bharti and Guyana's National Communications Network, along with defence were established.



EK PED MA KE NAAM GOES GLOBAL!

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of Guyana Mohamed Irfaan Ali plant a sapling under PM Modi's inspiring 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative, in Georgetown at Guyana on Wednesday.

INDIA EAGER TO DEEPEN COOPERATION WITH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES: PM

PM Modi stated that India is eager to deepen its cooperation with Caribbean countries across various sectors. Modi, who arrived in Guyana on Wednesday — marking 1st visit by an Indian head of state in over 50 years — made remarks as he was set to join leaders from Caribbean partner countries for 2nd India-CARICOM Summit. "I am humbled to have received a 'Key to the City of Georgetown' by the Mayor of Georgetown," PM Modi said.

TWIN WINS FOR BJP AND ALLIES

● Exit polls predict victory for BJP-led alliances in Maha, Jharkhand

● Assembly bypolls in four states see over 50 to 70 percent turnout

● The results for all the elections will be declared on November 23

First India Bureau
Mumbai/Ranchi/New Delhi

Exit polls released on Wednesday have predicted a clear advantage for the Mahayuti alliance in Maharashtra, with BJP, Ajit Pawar's NCP, and Eknath Shinde's Shiv Sena likely to retain power in the state. Exit polls indicate that the BJP and its allies may have the edge in both Maharashtra and Jharkhand following victories in April-June Lok Sabha elections and last month's Haryana polls. In Jharkhand, Matriz's exit polls predict a strong showing for the BJP-led NDA, with the alliance expected to win a majority in the 81-member Assembly. The Hemant Soren-led INDIA Bloc alliance is projected to face a setback, particularly in North and South Chotanagpur, while the Santhal Pargana is expected to yield more seats for the INDIA Bloc. The results for all the elections will be out on November 23. P6

ASSEMBLY ELECTION EXIT POLL				
MAHARASHTRA		Seats: 288 Target: 145		
Source	BJP	MVA	OTHERS	
Chanakya Strategies	152-160	130-138	6-8	
Peoples Pulse	175-195	85-112	7-12	
Matriz	150-170	110-130	8-10	
P-Marq	137-157	126-146	2-8	
JHARKHAND		Seats: 81 Target: 41		
Source	NDA	L.N.D.I.A	OTHERS	
Chanakya Strategies	45-50	35-38	3-5	
Peoples Pulse	42-48	16-23	8-14	
Matriz	42-47	25-30	1-4	

Source: Regional and National Channels
Health Warning: Exit polls are not always accurate

MAJOR HAPPENINGS

- Amid complaints of harassment of voters in UP bypoll, the ECI orders suspension of five cops
- BJP writes to EC, alleges "fake voting" in Kundarki, Sisamau; SP claims police affecting voting in 9 seats
- Voting picks up after sluggish start, stone pelting reported in UP constituency
- An incident of stone pelting was reported in Kakroli village during voting after a confrontation two groups

ASSEMBLY BYPOLLS HELD IN 4 STATES

→ A voter turnout ranging from 50 to 70 percent was recorded in the bypolls to 15 assembly seats spread across Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Kerala and Uttarakhand on Wednesday amid stray incidents of violence and complaints of irregularities against police officials and misuse of government machinery. BJP's Manish Shukla said SP is scared of losing the UP bypolls. P6

FINGERS OF POWER!



(T-B) RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat shows ink-marked fingers after casting vote in Nagpur on Wednesday. Mukesh Ambani, Anant Ambani, Nita Ambani, Akshay Kumar and Salman Khan cast vote in Mumbai. Eknath Shinde in Thane. Tribal voters show inked fingers in Ranchi on Wednesday.

Education promotes equality in society: VP

Pradeep Gadhwal
Jhunjhunu

VP Jagdeep Dhankhar said that education is the biggest centre for change and establishing equality in society. He said, "Education promotes equality in society and eliminates inequality. The character that education gives us defines us." Addressing students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Kajra in Jhunjhunu district on 'World Children's Day', VP Dhankhar



VP Jagdeep Dhankhar with wife Sudesh Dhankhar lights lamp, as Jhabbar Singh Kharra looks on, at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in Kajra, Wednesday. stressed the importance of discipline, culture and human development. P8

Champions Again!



Indian players celebrate with trophy after winning Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024, at Rajgir, in Nalanda, Bihar, Wednesday. Young striker Deepika turned out to be star once again with fine reverse hit goal as India retained their women's Asian Champions Trophy title after edging past Olympic silver medallist China 1-0 in pulsating final. P7

MISSION RISING RAJASTHAN

We strive to make Rajasthan Atmanirbhar in the energy sector, stresses CM Sharma

Our aim is to double state's economy from \$180 bn to \$350 bn in 5 yrs: CM

MoUs worth ₹6.57L crore exchanged with the investors from energy sector

Vikas Sharma
Jaipur

Investment MoUs worth ₹6.57 lakh crore were exchanged with the investors from the Energy sector on Wednesday at the Energy Pre-Summit in the presence of CM Bhajan Lal Sharma. The



MoUs signed have proposed to set up projects across various segments of the renewable energy and power generation sector including solar,

wind, green hydrogen, hybrid, pump storage, battery storage and green ammonia projects among others.

Giving a call to investors to work in making Rajasthan Atmanirbhar in the energy sector and making it energy-surplus, the CM said, "Rajasthan hosts world's largest solar park with a capacity of 2245 MW, gets over 325 days of sunshine and presents limitless opportunities in the solar and wind energy sector." P8

Aishwary Pradhan
Jaipur

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma on Wednesday said that his government's aim is to double the state's economy from 180 billion dollars to 350 billion dollars in the next 5 years.

"As per vision of PM Narendra Modi for Viksit Bharat-2047, we are also working for Viksit Rajasthan-2047 and Singapore can become our very im-



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma along with Diya Kumari, Dr Prem Chand Bairwa, Gajendra Singh Khimsar, Sudhansh Pant, Shikhar Agrawal, Abhay Kumar, Akhil Arora and others, interacting with a delegation from Singapore at the Secretariat Conference Hall in Jaipur on Wednesday.

portant partner in this," he said. Sharma was addressing a meeting with a delegation from Singa-

pore in conference hall of Secretariat on Wednesday. He said that Singapore is a very important

partner of PM's 'Act East Policy' and Singapore has inspired world with its economic model. P8

Rajasthan winters begin: Mount Abu chills at 6.8°C

Dry weather forecast over next six days by the Meteorological Department; low visibility due to light fog in parts of Rajasthan

Shivendra Parmar
Jaipur

The winter season has started in Rajasthan with minimum temperature ranging between 7 degrees and 16 degree Celsius on Wednesday. The lowest minimum temperature was 6.8 degrees in Mount Abu, while the highest minimum temperature was 16.2 degrees at Phalodi. Parts of state were also covered in light fog.

According to the meteorological department, the weather would remain dry in Eastern and Western Rajasthan for next six days.

The department also stated that there will not be much fog for the next two days in the state.

The maximum temperature was between 20 degrees and 32 degrees in the state. Maximum of 31.9 degrees was recorded in Barmer. Meanwhile, the Tibetan Market has started in Mansarovar in Jaipur with the onset of winters. This time the sales during the winter season is expected to be Rs 5 crore, said Lhamo, the chief of Tibetan Refugee Hosiery Seller Union.



A faded view of the cityscape from the famous Galta Gate in Jaipur. With the increasing cold, pollution levels have also surpassed dangerous thresholds bringing in thick smog cover at places.



Raj High Court orders ignored in Ring Road compensation

Abhishek Shrivastava
Jaipur

Nearly two hundred land owners from Abhayapura and Abhayapura in Diggi Malpura area, whose land were acquired for the construction of the Ring Road, are yet to receive compensation.

Despite their land being acquired for the Southern Ring Road project, these individuals have not been compensated. They could not surrender the land within the designated timeframe which is the reason for the delay in compensation disbursement.

However, their land was still taken for the project. Now, the remaining portions of their properties are being included in the Land Pooling Scheme (LPS), causing further complications. They are demanding that the compensation for the Ring Road land be settled at the earliest.

According to their claims, the HC has issued orders in the past, directing Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) to pay compensation in two dozen cases. Despite orders, there has been significant delay in disbursing the compensation.

Gogunda: Leopard caught in trap; Seventh in nearly 45 days

Gopal Lodha
Gogunda

In a significant development from Gogunda, Udaipur, a leopard was successfully trapped in a cage set up by the Forest Department in Rana village. The trap was placed following complaints from villagers after two sheep were killed by the wild animal.

The capture has brought relief to the locals, who had been living in fear. A large crowd gathered to view the trapped leopard. This marks the seventh panther captured in the Gogunda area in recent weeks. Notably, Gogunda has been a hotspot for leopard activity in last two months.



Leopard was caught in cage set up by forest dept on Wednesday.

RESCUE EFFORTS: FOREST DEPT TRACKING TIGER FALLEN IN A GORGE IN SARMATHURA

In Sarmathura, experts have been unable to reach a tiger, believed to have fallen in a crevice in Bhedeki Ka Nala area. The team is trying to facilitate its rescue. Despite ongoing surveillance by expert trackers and forest teams from Ranthambhore, the tiger is yet to be found. The roars of the tiger can be heard in nearly 1-hr intervals. However, efforts are being made to track the feline.



Local body polls to conclude by Dec: SEC

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Confusion prevails over the future of 49 local bodies in Rajasthan, whose terms are set to end on November 25. The State Election Commission has already initiated preparations for elections to these bodies, with letters sent to the respective district collectors. According to the Commission's communication, the elections are scheduled to take place by the end of this year. The Local Self-Government Department had sought guidance from the Law

Experts have indicated that no significant movement on related files has been observed so far

Department on whether to extend their tenure in line with the "One State, One Election" principle. However, the Law Department has yet to provide any clarity on the matter. As per the rules, the terms of these local bodies will automatically expire on November 25. The Local Self-Government Department has not yet made a decision.

EXCISE DEPT IN ACTION

Heavy penalties for illegal liquor sale

Vinod Singh Chouhan
Jaipur

Excise Commissioner Shivprasad Nakate has issued a stern reminder to hotel, restaurant, and club bar operators in Rajasthan to avoid selling illegal liquor.

In a letter sent to license holders, Nakate warned operators to refrain from serving alcoholic beverages from other states without proper authorisation.

"There have been repeated complaints that

The Sabarmati Report made tax free; CM Sharma lauds the film

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The Rajasthan government has declared the film 'The Sabarmati Report' tax-free in the state. The government will reimburse an amount equivalent to the State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) for the film's screening. However, there will be no increase in ticket prices at cinema halls and multiplexes. The SGST amount will



Our Government has taken a meaningful decision to make the film "The Sabarmati Report" tax free in Rajasthan. This film realistically depicts that horrific period of history, which some selfish elements tried to distort to fulfill their vested interests. This film not only effectively exposes the reality of the then system, but also refutes the misleading and false narratives propagated at that time. This unfortunate and heartbreaking incident has been presented with utmost sensitivity in the film. This film must also be watched because only a deep and critical study of the past can help us understand the present and provide guidance for the future.

BHAJAN LAL SHARMA, CHIEF MINISTER

be deducted to facilitate ticket sales, and registered taxpayers will be required to deposit the

tax collected into the state treasury. The reimbursement will only apply if SGST amount has

not been collected from the audience. The order, will remain in effect for six months.

Kunjilal Meena gets clean chit in bribery case

First India Bureau
Jaipur

IAS Kunjilal Meena, the former Principal Secretary of the Urban Development and Housing (UDH) Department, has been given a clean chit in a bribery case. The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) cleared Meena and other officials, including Joint Secretary Manish Goyal and Assistant Section Officer Hari-mohan Meena, of any wrongdoing. However, the ACB's charge sheet identified Udaipur-based broker Lokesh Jain as the main accused.



Giriraj Singh Malinga surrenders in Dholpur

Vinod Tiwari
Jaipur

Former MLA and BJP leader Giriraj Singh Malinga surrendered at the SC-ST Court in Dholpur on Wednesday evening. The court sent Malinga to judicial custody till December 2.

Following his surrender, the police escorted Malinga, the former MLA of Bari, on foot for about half a kilometer to the Kotwali police station. From there, he was transported in a police vehicle to Dholpur Jail.

The surrender stems from a two-and-a-half-year-old case involving

the assault of AEN Harshadapati and JEN Nitin Gulati on March 28, 2022, at the Bari Discom office in Dholpur. The incident led to a police complaint on March 29, accusing Malinga (then a Congress MLA) and others of assault, obstructing official duties, and violations under SC-ST Act. Five individuals were arrested in the case.

On November 8, SC lifted stay on Malinga's bail. The apex court also directed Malinga to surrender within 14 days. The case is scheduled for a hearing four weeks after his surrender.

Natn'l Lok Adalat postponed to December 21

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The National Lok Adalat, which was scheduled for December 14, has been postponed. The date of the National Lok Adalat has been changed due to the Bar Association elections on December 13. Now, the National Lok Adalat will be held across the state on December 21. The revised date was announced by Hariom Atri, Member Secretary of State Legal Services Authority. Lok Adalat is an alternative dispute redressal mechanism, where cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled amicably.

Kalwar police arrests two criminals involved in kidnapping and ransom



Satyannarayan Sharma
Jaipur

In a major breakthrough, Kalwar police arrested two criminals involved in a kidnapping and ransom case. The accused, Prabhudayal alias Babu Shooter and Aseem Khan, were apprehended after CCTV footage helped trace their movements. Four days ago, the duo had abducted a young man from Bhambhori area and demanded ransom. During the arrest, police seized two pistols from the suspects. The operation was led by SHO Ratan Singh, with constable Heeralal.

125 LITERS OF HOOCH SEIZED, SIX ILLEGAL DISTILLERIES RAIDED BY THE EXCISE DEPT

The Excise Department has carried out a major operation in Aandhi, destroying 6,000 liters of illicit wash and dismantling half a dozen illegal distilleries. Additionally, 125 liters of hooch was seized during the crackdown, which took place in the areas of Kankarel, Toda Meena, and Dantala Meena. The operation was led by Jogendra Singh Rajawat, Assistant Excise Officer, Jaipur Rural. The raid has sent shockwaves among hooch manufacturers, as authorities continue their fight against illegal liquor production in the region. This significant action aims to curb the illegal liquor trade and ensure public safety.

SIROHI POLICE ARRESTS TWO; SEIZES VEHICLE CARRYING 22 COWS, CASE FILED

In a swift action, the Swarupganj police in Sirohi arrested two individuals after seizing a pickup truck loaded with 22 cattle. The vehicle had been pursued by 'Gau Rakshaks' who reported the incident to authorities. The driver, in an attempt to escape, also broke through a toll plaza barrier but later was intercepted by the police.

POLICE ARRESTS ONE WITH OVER 6 KG MARIJUANA

In a significant drug bust, the Madanganj police in Kishangarh arrested Govind Ram Gurjar with 6.34 kg of ganja, valued at several lakhs. The operation was carried out under the guidance of SP Vandita Rana and CO City Mahipal Chaudhary, with Madanganj Police Station Officer Shambhu Singh Shek-hawat leading the team. The arrest was made after thorough surveillance and investigation. A case has been registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. The investigation will be handled by Gandhi Nagar Police Station Officer Suresh Soni. Special contributions during the operation came from police personnel Shri Ram, Ramraj, Vinod Chaudhary, and Bajrang Yadav.

4-yr-old dies after falling into Barmer borewell

First India Bureau
Jaipur

A 4-year-old boy, Nar-esh, tragically died after falling into a borewell near Arjun Ki Dhani in Nokhada, Barmer. The child was rescued six hours later in a lifeless state by Madharam Su-thar and his team from Meda village, Sanchore, using indigenous rescue techniques.

Various methods were employed during the operation. SP Narendra Singh Meena and SDM Keshav Meena were present at the site.



liquor from other states has been found without paying Rajasthan's excise duty," the Commissioner noted, highlighting the department's ongoing efforts to address the issue.

Under the Excise Act of 1950, violations of the liquor rules and norms can lead to a penalty and a prison sentence of up to three years. The Commissioner also asked the

The Excise Department has already confiscated huge cache of illicit liquor in multiple raids across Rajasthan and filed cases against license holders violating the rules

public to report any activity regarding illegal liquor to the department at the official toll-free number 18001806436 or through the control room at 0294-2525154.

Tourism Decline

Number of tourists reduced, revenue declines by ₹3.35 cr

Tourist footfall at monuments across Rajasthan drops by 13%

Nirmal Tiwari
Jaipur

Despite improved facilities at Rajasthan's monuments, tourist footfall has significantly declined, causing a drop in revenue. In the current financial year, the income from tourism of Department of Archaeology has reduced. There has been reduction of 13.13% tourists in 33 monuments in the state and income from tourists has reduced by 12.39%. Maximum tourists have declined in the Amber.

Out of 33 monuments, tourists have reduced in 24 monuments. The revenue has dipped by Rs 3.35 crore. The number of tourists has dipped by over 5.62 lakh from April to October this year.

In Amber, the tourists dipped by 2.25 lakh,



Amber Fort sees sharp dip of 2.25 lakh visitors in past 6 months, impacting Jaipur's tourism revenue. Traffic, touts, and mismanagement to be blamed for declining tourist numbers in Jaipur. **FILE**

while around 1.17 lakh in Albert Hall, 1.05 lakh in Jantar Mantar, around 88,000 in Nahargarh and more than 38,000 in Hawa Mahal.

The local administration's inability to address key issues like traffic congestion, inadequate parking, and the menace of touts is affecting tourism in the capital. Mis-

management, jams, and rude behavior of touts are deterring visitors, raising concerns about Jaipur's tourism future.

FOOTFALL OF TOURISTS REDUCED DUE TO JAMS, POOR PARKING IN JPR



Jaipur being the hot destination for both domestic and foreign tourists is slowly fading away. The reason behind the decline in number of tourists is due to the permanent traffic jam in the walled city along with poor parking arrangements. The tourists face long queues of vehicles, frequent disruption of server for online tickets, no ambulance and fire tenders at the monuments, lakpa menace among others at the five important monuments. Till these issues are tackled properly, the tourists will lose their interest in coming to Jaipur.

Kidney Transplant Case: SC denies anticipatory bail to Dr Bansal of Fortis

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The Supreme Court has denied anticipatory bail to Dr Jyoti Bansal of Fortis Hospital in Jaipur, an accused in a high-profile illegal kidney transplant case. The court deemed the matter highly sensitive and refused to hear her plea. Dr Bansal was implicated in a major organ transplant scandal that came to light in Jaipur. The case involved allegations of bribery in organ transplants and led to charges being filed against numerous individuals. The Rajasthan High Court had earlier rejected Dr. Bansal's anticipatory bail plea, and the Supreme Court's decision now reinforces the seriousness of the case.

**Bypolls violence probe**

Dr Kirodi Meena meets accused in Tonk slapgate row

Wajahat Akhtar
Tonk

Kirodi Lal Meena coming out of Tonk jail after meeting the 52 accused and Naresh Meena on Wednesday.

Agriculture Minister Dr Kirodi Lal Meena met 52 accused including the independent candidate Naresh Meena who were involved in the slapgate incident in the Tonk jail on Wednesday. Dr Kirodi said that assault should not have taken place during the voting at the polling booth during the bypolls in Samravata village. He said that action taken by the police in the night was also wrong. He said that if the villagers want then he would also get the judicial investigation done in this case.

MoS for Home Jawahar Singh Bedham was also with Dr Kirodi, but he did not go into the jail to meet the accused. Both went to Samravata to talk to the villagers. Dr Kirodi addressing villagers said,

"I have met everyone in jail and they are not facing any difficulties."

Bedham said that the problem created by Congress is being addressed by this govt. He assured that a detailed investigation into the incident will be carried out. He further mentioned, "The villagers have stated that they will not fall into these traps. They are satisfied with what the CM and the govt have done."

Preps reviewed for foot march to be held on Constitution Day

First India Bureau
Jaipur

A foot march will be organised to mark the 75th anniversary of the Constitution from the Constitution Club to Ambedkar Circle on November 26. Over 15,000 youths are expected to participate in this celebratory event. Niraj K Pawan, Secretary of the Dept of Youth Affairs and Sports, chaired a preparatory meeting on Wednesday at the Sawai Man Singh Stadium with relevant departments. He said to ensure maximum youth in this significant occasion and directed to ensure the arrangement of refreshments, T-shirts,



Niraj K Pawan and Digant Anand and other senior officials during the review meeting in Jaipur on Wednesday.

placards, mobile toilets, and other facilities for event. Responsibilities were assigned to relevant departments.

The event will feature performances by bands from Army, Rajasthan Police, RAC, & private schools. Additionally, cultural programs will be held at various points along the route with the

support of the Tourism Department. Selfie booths will also be installed at multiple locations. Prominent officials in attendance included Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Digant Anand, representatives from the Rajasthan State Sports Council, Rajasthan Youth Board and others were present in the meeting.

Transport dept okays new suburban routes in Raj

Shivendra Singh Parmar
Jaipur

The Department of Transport has approved new suburban routes in 34 districts of the state. In Jaipur, the new suburban route has been approved from Hirapura Bus Stand to Shahpura Bus Stand via 200-foot road, Daulatpura bus stand and Chandwaji Pulia. It is to be mentioned that focus has been kept on opening suburban routes in VIP areas, while essential routes have been overlooked. The Transport Department's new suburban routes have sparked controversy. While over 100-kilometer-long suburban routes have been opened in areas of prominent public representatives, critical routes have been ignored.

Surprisingly, no suburban route has been opened between Jaipur and Khatu Shyam, despite the fact that lakhs of passengers travel on this route regularly. Similarly, the Jaipur-Dausa suburban route has also been left out.

Raj BJP to be 'reshaped' post-bypoll results, hints Agrawal

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The BJP state in charge Dr Radha Mohan Das Agrawal announced that a new Rajasthan BJP team would be formed post bypolls results, with Madan Rathore remaining state

president. Confident of a clean sweep on 7 seats, He praised CM Bhajan Lal Sharma's leadership in the 'Rising Rajasthan' initiative and his election campaign efforts.

Regarding a potential cabinet reshuffle, Agrawal emphasized it is the CM's

prerogative, with decisions made in consultation with the national leadership. He assured that reshuffling and expansion would follow thorough deliberation. Agrawal also expressed optimism about the formation of the "Mahayuti" govt in Maharashtra.

Jaipur airport sees 21% rise in passenger traffic in Oct

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Jaipur International Airport (JAI) continues its impressive growth in passenger traffic during October 2024. JAI Airport recorded passenger traffic of over 4.97 Lakhs, reflecting an increase of approximately 21% when compared to Oct 2023. This includes 4.6 Lakhs domestic travelers and 37,000 international travelers. The significant hike in passenger traffic at Jaipur Airport reflects travelers' confidence in the airport's world-class facilities and services, as well as connectivity that Airport offers.

Compared to the previous month of September 2024, passenger traffic at Jaipur International Airport rose by 9% in Oct 2024. This has increased the ATMs by 21% in Oct2024,

JDA foils attempt to develop 3 illegal colonies in Jaipur

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The Enforcement Squad of Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) successfully foiled attempts to establish three illegal colonies. In Village Pawaliya, located in Zone 11, preparations were underway to develop an illegal colony on 20 bighas

of land under the name of 'Vrindavan Vihar'. In Zone 12, an illegal colony named 'Shyam City III' was being planned on 7 bighas of land. Additionally, on 8 bighas of land on Begas Road, there were efforts to develop a colony called 'Nature Farm'. JDA demolished the construction work at all the three locations.

FM NIRMALA TO ATTEND

Rajasthan to host 55th GST council meeting next month in Jaisalmer

Suryaveer Tanwar
Jaisalmer

Rajasthan will host the 55th GST Council meeting on December 21 in Jaisalmer. The meeting will be attended by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman along with finance ministers from various states.

The council is expected to deliberate on reducing GST rates across multiple categories. Several states have already recommended rate re-



The council is expected to deliberate on reducing GST rates. **FILE**

ductions. A major decision regarding GST on insurance sector may also be taken. Additionally, council may address reducing GST rates on packaged drinking water, bicycles, notebooks, watches, and footwear.

Preparations for the GST Council meeting have commenced in the state, with officers from the Commercial Tax Department (SGST) taking charge. A few officials from Jaipur have already reached Jaisalmer.

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'MODI HAI TO MUMKIN HAI...' UNTOLD STORIES OF PM MODI – PART 106

THE MODI EFFECT
LEADERSHIP
THAT DELIVERS

The narrators share that before becoming Gujarat's CM in 2001, Narendra Modi travelled extensively as a BJP worker, listening to villagers' problems. Modi also initiated several projects to address water challenges in Maharashtra. Despite his busy schedule, Modi is known for his remarkable memory, as well as warmth and sincerity he extends to others and lots more....

Narendra Modi's visionary 'Jyotigram Yojana' transformed rural Gujarat

In 2006, Gujarat launched the revolutionary 'Jyotigram Yojana,' ensuring uninterrupted, high-quality, three-phase power supply to all 18,000 villages across the state. Before Narendra Modi became Chief Minister of Gujarat in 2001, he had travelled extensively in rural areas of the state as a BJP worker, hearing firsthand from villagers about their struggles without reliable and sustained electricity supply. Power outages were common, affecting both daily life and local businesses. After taking office, Modi pledged to bring 24-hour electricity to every village, an ambitious goal amid nationwide power shortages. In rural Gujarat, power cuts were initially aimed at conserving electricity for farmers but ended up affecting entire villages. A single feeder line supplied both agricultural and domestic power, leading to frequent tripping when farmers drew extra power for irrigation, often through illicit connections. Chief Minister Modi's solution was revolutionary: separate feeder lines for agricultural and residential purposes. This way, one line would provide eight hours of power for farming, while the second would offer continuous electricity for households and small businesses. At that time, engineers voiced concerns, saying the work was challenging, which would still take considerable time. However, Narendra Modi was resolute and insisted, 'This reform has to happen across the whole of Gujarat'. And thus, the 'Jyotigram Yojana' was launched in 2006, and 18,000 villages began receiving 24-hour electricity. After his 2002 election victory, Chief Minister Narendra Modi called a meeting and asked the officials, 'Where is the power reform you've been talking about?' We then presented him with a new plan, noting that Gujarat's elec-



PK Pujari
Former IAS officer



Saurabh Patel
Former Minister for Energy, Gujarat

tricity act dated back to 1902, from the time of Lord Curzon. Under Modi's leadership, Gujarat passed the Electricity Act of 2003, which enabled a complete overhaul of the state's power infrastructure. In that meeting, Modi directed, 'Get this act ready within 90 days.' Meeting this deadline was challenging, but Modi regularly reviewed the work and offered guidance. Our first meeting on the act took place in December 2002, and the new Gujarat State Electricity Bill was passed in March 2003—meeting the 90-day target. The Gujarat Electricity Board was divided into seven companies, making Gujarat the first state in India to carry out such comprehensive power sector reforms. When Narendra Modi first announced that Gujarat would provide 24-hour uninterrupted electricity to villages, many people ridiculed the idea, saying it was impossible. However, Narendra

Modi proved them wrong by successfully implementing the 'Jyotigram Yojana' and delivering on his promise. The Chief Minister knew that the scheme will bring revolutionary transformation in Gujarat. He told us that this will help in opening more rural industries. Moreover, he highlighted that women would be able to operate more electronic gadgets like washing machines, water filters, mixers, water pumps etc, reducing their physical burden and save their time for more productive work. Small trades including those of blacksmiths, carpenters, flour mill owners etc. saw increased income, while it made a significant impact on women's health. Modi said, "If we want to make Gujarat villages prosperous and reduce migration to cities, we must provide 24-hour electricity." CM Modi also advocated dividing power distribution into regional companies, which reduced annual losses by nearly Rs 1,000 crore. Bureaucrats initially doubted the feasibility of the plan, but CM Modi's unwavering trust in the scheme led to a huge transformation. The scheme was so successful that it caught the attention of APJ Abdul Kalam, then President of India, who attended the launch event near Vadodara in 2006. Kalam was astounded that all 18,000 villages in Gujarat had been electrified, with the installation of approximately 1 lakh kilometres of power lines and 20 lakh electric poles across the state. The scheme's success brought a new wave of growth, setting a benchmark for rural electrification across India and turning Gujarat into a model for development. Today, Jyotigram's legacy endures, illustrating how visionary leadership and strategic reforms can bring about transformative change in even the remotest parts of India.

Narendra Modi ji's prompt action boosted Maharashtra's readiness against droughts

The drought of 2016, I believe, was no less than a tragedy. It was after many years that a drought of such large scale had struck us. There was literally no drinking water, agriculture was ruined. People were in deep distress during that time. I, as then CM of the state, sought the help of the Centre and went to meet Modi ji in Delhi. I requested Modi ji to provide assistance at this time of crisis but also find a long-term solution to the problem. I told him that we have several small irrigation projects in Maharashtra's Marathwada and Vidarbha regions, which are half complete and deserved attention. I told him we don't have funds to take up these unfinished projects and thin-spreading of resources by previous governments led to this.



Devendra Fadnavis
Deputy CM, Maharashtra

Funds were allocated here and there in bits and pieces and this led to a plethora of incomplete projects. Had these projects been completed, we could at least sustain even in no-rain or less rain scenario instead of suffering like this. Modi ji immediately took this up and instructed to prepare the

project plan for at least 119 such incomplete irrigation schemes in the state. We told him that the government can provide 25 per cent grant to the state and the rest 75 per cent could be managed with loan. We told him that Maharashtra was financially and logistically a capable state and it would be able to handle this kind of an arrangement and repay the loans in time. The PM went out of the way to approve the project and so far we have been able to complete at least 80 of the incomplete projects. Today in case a drought strikes us, we will be able to sustain and stave off any largescale tragedy as we have been able to set up ample water storage facility now. It all came through because of the alacrity and involvement of PM Modi.

Surprised by Modi ji's warmth and camaraderie

The serial Tarak Mehta ka Ooltah Chashmah was at its peak in 2008 as it hit homes across India that year. It was in 2019, a year after the sop had become a TV rage, that a small event was organised in Ahmedabad by the writer of the story in which Modi ji was invited as chief guest. A book by the author was to be launched by then state CM Narendra Modi, and he was supposed to be there in attendance for only a few minutes. We actors were set to perform an act for 40-45 minutes on stage. But Modi ji, once he arrived, became a part of the Tarak Mehta family and mingled with all of us like our very own. He stayed on for quite some time, beyond his schedule, just to be with us and share his warmth and camaraderie. About two years later, in 2011, I had another opportunity to meet Modi ji in Ahmedabad. The event was



Dilip Joshi
Actor

Sadbhavana Mission and we were to meet him on stage by turn. In the meantime, I had shed some weight in those two years. As soon as I was in front of him, he recognised me immediately and said, 'Arre Jethalal, wajan ochu karu che?' (hey Jethalal, are you losing weight?) I was surprised by this remark. How could a man, who meets lakhs of people daily and remains occupied with so much work, remember what I

was like two years back? He could instantly recall that I was plumpier in 2009 and had reduced some extra flab by 2011. This is remarkable and shows not only his sharp memory but also the depth and sincerity of his warmth and camaraderie despite being such a busy leader.



You read **PART 105**
on **NOVEMBER 14, 2024**

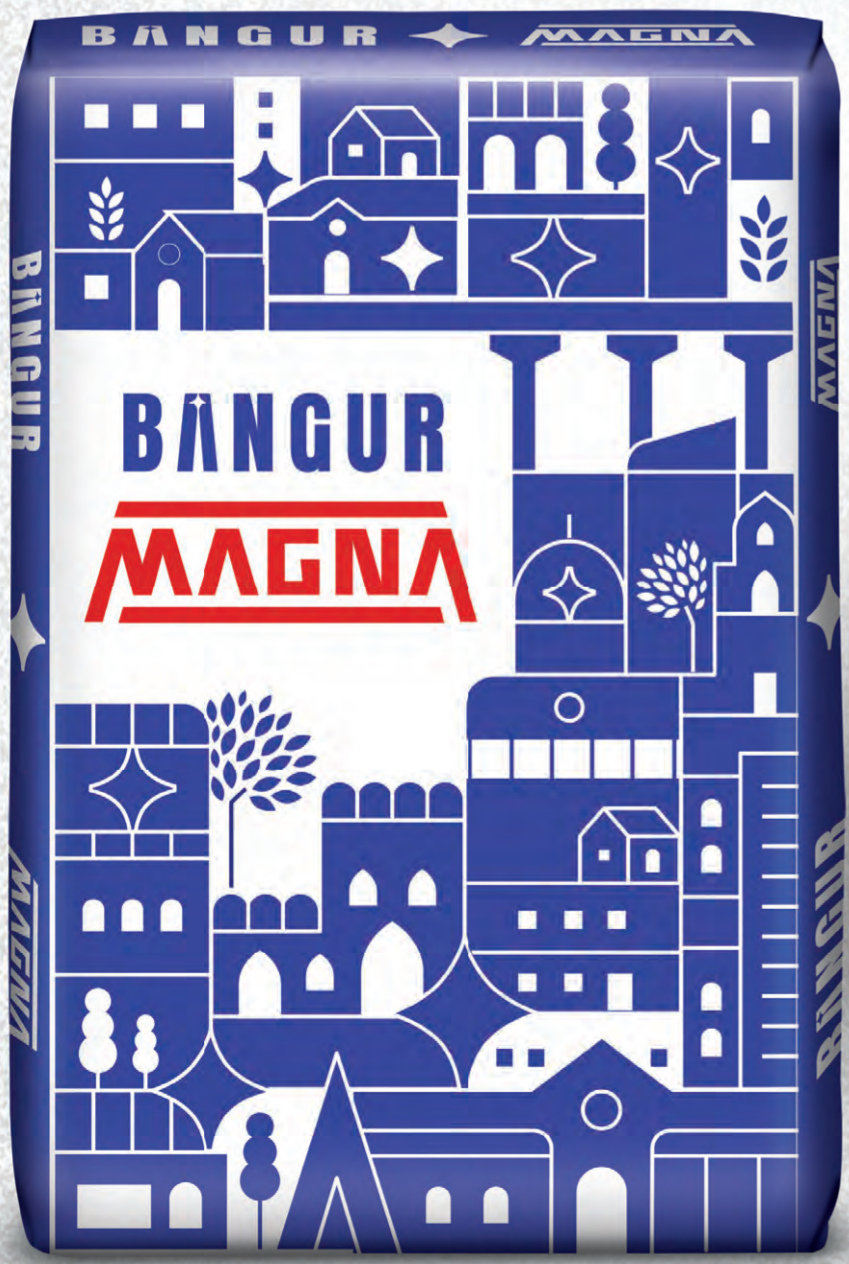
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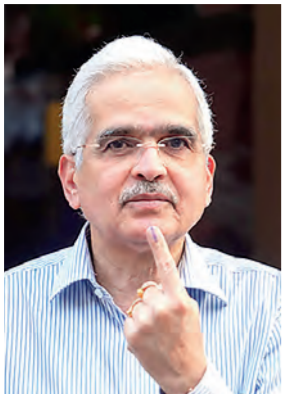
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BANGUR

CEMENT



MAHARASHTRA & JHARKHAND ASSEMBLY POLLS



Shaktikanta Das casts vote in Mumbai.



Devendra Fadnis casts vote in Mumbai.



Sharad Pawar casts vote in Mumbai.



Ajit Pawar casts vote in Mumbai.



Babulal Marandi casts vote in Jharkhand.



CP Rdhakrishnan casts vote in Mumbai.



Hema Malini casts vote in Mumbai.



Vinod Tawde casts vote in Mumbai.

Maha records 58.43% turnout, 68% in J'khand

ANI

Mumbai/Jharkhand

Polling for 288-seat Maharashtra assembly elections concluded on Wednesday, with an approximate voter turnout of 58.22 per cent recorded till 5.00 pm.

According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), the highest turnout was seen in Gadchiroli district at 69.63 per cent, while Mumbai city recorded the lowest at 49.07 per cent. Thane recorded 49.76 per cent.

Meanwhile, polling for the second phase of the Jharkhand Assembly elections across 38 constituencies in 12 districts concluded on Wednesday, recording an approximate voter turnout of 67.59 per cent till 5.00 pm. According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), Jamtara recorded the highest turnout at 76.16 per cent, followed by Pakur with 75.88 per cent, and Deoghar with 72.46 per cent.

MAHAYUTI WILL GET THUMPING MAJORITY, SAYS CM SHINDE

Mumbai: Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde expressed confidence that the Mahayuti government will get a thumping majority as people will vote for development and work done by his dispensation. Shinde, who heads the ruling Shiv Sena and seeking his re-election from the Kopri-Pachpakhad assembly constituency in Thane, was talking to reporters after casting his vote along with his family members. Shinde urged voters across the state to actively participate in the electoral process.



Voters wait in queues to cast votes at a polling station during the second and final phase of Jharkhand Assembly elections, at Naxal-affected Tundi constituency in Dhanbad district of Jharkhand, Wednesday.



Shah Rukh Khan with wife Gauri Khan and daughter Suhana Khan in Mumbai, Wednesday.



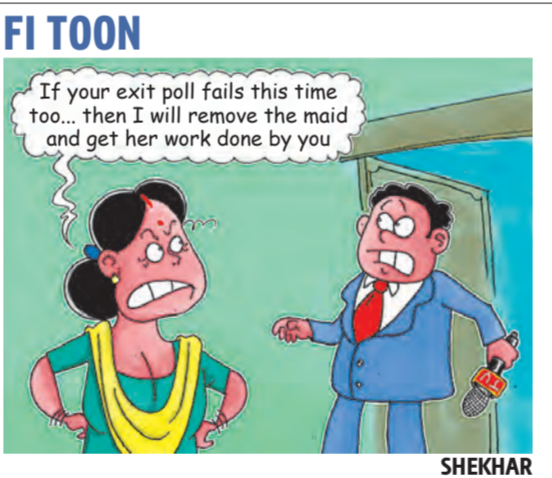
Shaina NC and her daughter Shanaya cast vote in Mumbai.



Akash Ambani with wife Shloka Ambani get inked in Mumbai.



Former cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, wife Anjali and daughter Sara show their fingers marked in Mumbai.



SHEKHAR

UP BYPOLLS

Stone pelting in Meerapur, policemen use mild force

PTI

New Delhi

An average voter turnout of 20 pc was recorded in the first four hours of voting in the bypolls to 15 assembly seats spread across Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Kerala & U'khand on Wednesday amid an incident of stone pelting in a village in UP's Meerapur & allegations of police personnel deterring voters from casting their ballot. Voting for bypolls in nine assembly seats of Uttar Pradesh picked up pace after a sluggish start, with over 20 per cent voters turning up to exercise their franchise by 11 am.



Security personnel keep vigil near a polling booth during UP's Sishamau Assembly constituency bypoll, in Kanpur, Wednesday.

BJP PRESSURING ADMINISTRATION TO WIN 'THROUGH MANIPULATION', ALLEGES AKHILESH

Lucknow: (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday accused the ruling BJP of misusing the administrative machinery to win the Uttar Pradesh Assembly bypolls "through manipulation". He said his party has complained to the Election Commission (EC) about "irregularities" in various constituencies.

UP DALIT WOMAN'S BODY FOUND IN SACK, FAMILY SAYS KILLED FOR BACKING BJP

Lucknow: A 23-year-old Dalit woman's body found in a sack in Uttar Pradesh's Karhal constituency this morning has sparked a political storm after her family alleged that a local Samajwadi Party worker had been pressuring her against voting for BJP in the bypolls being held today.

AMID COMPLAINTS OF HARASSMENT OF VOTERS, EC ORDERS SUSPENSION OF FIVE POLICEMEN

New Delhi: At least five police personnel were suspended and many others removed from poll duty in Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday for flouting Election Commission guidelines and stopping electors from casting votes in the ongoing assembly bypolls, officials said. The action by the poll authority came amid complaints by opposition parties, mainly Samajwadi Party that people from a particular community were being prevented from casting vote. SP president Akhilesh Yadav urged the EC to suspend all police officers who are checking voter cards and Aadhaar IDs on basis of video evidence.

POLL BODY ACTION AGAINST UP COPS

New Delhi: The (EC) has taken action against Uttar Pradesh police personnel accused of violating its guidelines during the ongoing bypolls. Acting on complaints, including allegations of voter obstruction, the EC ordered the suspension of several officers, including those deployed in the Sisamau assembly constituency of Kanpur.

Vaishnav highlights India's creative revival

Agencies
New Delhi

"The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) has become a significant milestone in the development of the Indian film industry. India is focused on developing a content creators' economy, which is vibrant and rapidly growing," said Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Ashwini Vaishnav, in a video message during the vibrant Opening Ceremony of the 55th IFFI held in Goa on Wednesday.

He also highlighted India's creative sector as a dynamic force contributing to economic growth. "People are coming up with innovative content that showcases India's diverse cultures, cuisines,



rich heritage, and gems of Indian literature and languages in interesting and creative ways as the country continues to empower creators, foster innovation, and drive cultural diplomacy on the world stage," he added. He also called upon creators to leverage cutting-edge technologies to craft stories that resonate with global audiences while reflecting India's unique identity.

BILATERAL TALKS

Singh meets Chinese counterpart amid LAC disengagement progress

PTI
New Delhi

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will meet with his Chinese counterpart Admiral Dong Jun Wednesday, the first day of his visit to Vientiane in Laos. They will review ongoing efforts to ease military tensions between the two countries. The meeting between Singh and Dong will come just two days after External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi on the margins of the G20 summit in Brazil. The meeting between the two foreign ministers



Rajnath Singh with other delegates during a bilateral meeting with Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun, unseen, in Vientiane, Laos.

is the first since the disengagement process began at the (LAC) late October. In his remarks, Jaishankar noted the "importance" of India and China's relations and their role in international politics.

The minister added that he was "glad to note that on the ground, the implementation of that understanding has proceeded as planned". He also wrote a post on X praising the progress in

the process of disengagement at the LAC.

Singh and Dong are expected to discuss the LAC situation more deeply and work towards arriving at a convergence regarding de-escalation.

Both the Indian and Chinese militaries had on 21 October assigned an agreement to disengage from the Depsang Plains and Demchok. They had also agreed to restart patrolling. On 12 November, India and China completed their first set of patrols in the Depsang Plains. In China, the defence minister is a largely ceremonial role and is the public face of military diplomacy with other countries.

Cong to launch Bharat Jodo Samvidhan Abhiyan

PTI

Chandigarh

Senior Congress leader Ajay Singh Yadav on Wednesday said the party will launch the 'Bharat Jodo Samvidhan Abhiyan' next week, as he targeted the ruling BJP, alleging they were depriving everyone of their rights by not conducting the caste census.

The campaign will be launched at Delhi's Talkatora Stadium on November 26 and continue till January 26, said Yadav, the chairman of AICC's OBC wing. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and senior party leader Rahul Gandhi, along with other Congress leaders will participate in the event, he added while speaking



to reporters here. Yadav said the 'abhiyan' will be conducted by Congress' SC, ST, OBC and Minorities wings. He alleged that the BJP dispensation at the Centre is extending benefit to a few industrialists, who are holding most of the country's wealth and controlling assets such as mines, gas mines, and irrigation projects, among others.

G20 Summit PM highlights India's advancements in leveraging technology

Modi offers India's digital tech, AI expertise to drive global progress

First India Bureau
Rio de Janeiro

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has offered to share with the world India's expertise in using the power of digital technology and artificial intelligence to improve the lives of people.

Speaking on Tuesday at an event organised by India at the G20 Summit on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Data for Governance (DiG), he said, "We will continue the focus on the transformative potential of DPI, AI and data-driven governance to advance the SDGs and enhance lives globally."

"This is an area where India stands ready to contribute actively and share our best practices with the world," he said.

India has deployed one of the largest digital payment systems in the world and created the infrastructure to deliver government benefits and other payments directly to recipients.

PM Modi posted after the meeting that India was "partnering to leverage the power of technology for a greener world".

He wrote, "Technology holds immense potential for driving progress on the SDGs (United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) and empowering lives globally. May humanity harness it together for a brighter and better future."



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Prime Minister of Singapore Lawrence Wong and other dignitaries during a meeting on the sidelines of the G20 Summit, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. PTI

The event was attended by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, World Bank President Ajay Banga, International Monetary Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, World Trade Organisation Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, and World Health Organisation Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, among others.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

- PM announced India has achieved 200 Gigawatts of renewable energy out of the target of 500 Gigawatts by 2030
- India will work towards efforts to boost global health, said PM Modi while pledging his support to World Health Organisation chief Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who he addressed as 'Tulsi Bhai'
- He said this in response to Ghebreyesus' post on X, thanking PM Modi and others for their support and contributions during the first-ever WHO Investment Round held in Brazil

INDIA, AUSTRALIA LAUNCH RENEWABLE ENERGY PARTNERSHIP DURING MODI-ALBANESE MEETING

Rio de Janeiro/New Delhi: India and Australia launched the Renewable Energy Partnership to boost two-way investment in the renewable energy sector, during the bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro. The two leaders met at the second bilateral Annual Summit, and they were meeting for the 11th time in the past two years. "The Prime Ministers welcomed the launch of the India-Australia Renewable Energy Partnership (REP) which would provide the framework for practical cooperation in priority areas such as solar PV, green hydrogen, energy storage, two-way investment in renewable energy projects and allied areas; and upgraded skills training for the renewables workforce of the future," the joint statement said.



Five IAS officers to attend Mid Career Training Programme from January 6

Five IAS officers have been selected to attend the Mid Career Training Program, scheduled from January 6 to January 31, 2025, at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration in Mussoorie. The officers participating in the program include Bhanu Prakash Yeturu, Neeraj K Pawan, V. Sarwan Kumar, Archana Singh, and Vishwa Mohan. The Personnel Department has issued official orders for the training, which is designed to enhance the administrative skills and leadership capabilities of mid-level officers in the Indian Administrative Service.

A retired IAS officer may join RERA soon
The Rajasthan Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) is set to appoint a new member soon, with the possibility of a retired IAS officer being selected. Following the appointment of former IAS officer Sudhir Sharma, who joined RERA after taking voluntary retirement, the state government is considering similar appointments for recently retired IAS officers. The move is expected to bring experienced administrative professionals into the regulatory body, enhancing its effectiveness in overseeing the real estate sector in Rajasthan.

A new move to streamline medical services

In response to Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma's displeasure, the Rajasthan Medical Education Department has sent 15 doctors on deputation to the Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS). This decision follows the department's correction of an earlier mistake in doctor placements. The doctors being transferred include specialists from various fields such as cardiology, gastroenterology, surgery, neurosurgery, ENT, paediatrics, gynaecology, and radiodiagnosis. The department has cancelled the previous transfer orders and ensured that the new appointments align with the working system at RUHS. The move is expected to streamline medical services and improve healthcare delivery.

Issue over 'Gaumata', 'Rajmata' status in Raj

The Gopalan Department's Directorate has written to the state government expressing that no significant change is expected by granting cows the status of 'Gaumata' or 'Rajmata' in Rajasthan. The letter, written by Director Prahlad Sahay Naga, references the Maharashtra government's decision, which was an administrative order based on public sentiment rather than a formal act. The letter also emphasizes the need for better cow protection and improvement in their conditions. Minister Zoraram Kumawat has instructed the department to continue efforts to protect cows, but no formal legislative move has been made.

Political elites to gather for wedding

A grand wedding ceremony is set to take place today at Hotel Rambagh in Jaipur, with several prominent political figures expected to attend. Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi, and former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav are among the guests. There are speculations that Sonia Gandhi may also join the celebration.

Deadline extended to hire cleaning workers

The Department of Local Self-Government has extended the deadline for applications for the recruitment of sanitation workers. Candidates can now submit their applications until Nov 27. Additionally, applicants will be able to make corrections to errors in their applications submitted online from November 28 to Dec 5. Orders for the extension were issued by Kumar Pal Gautam of DLB.

Israeli strikes kill 33 people in Gaza: Report



A destroyed building that was hit in an Israeli airstrike in Dahiyeh, in the southern suburb of Beirut, Lebanon. PTI

Agencies
Cairo

Israeli forces killed at least 33 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday, including a rescue worker, health officials said, as troops deepened an incursion along the territory's northern edge, bombarding a hospital and blowing up homes.

Medics said at least 12 people were killed in an Israeli strike on a house in the area of Jabalia in northern Gaza earlier on Wednesday, and at least 10 people remained missing as rescue operations continued. Another man was killed in tank shelling nearby, they said.

India to have 350 million children by 2050, faces urgent challenges to secure their future: UNICEF

PTI
New Delhi

India, projected to house 350 million kids by 2050, must navigate critical challenges like extreme climate and environmental hazards to ensure their well-being and rights, as per UNICEF report.

It underlined that although India will see a decline of 106 million children compared to today, it will still account for 15% of the global child population, sharing this responsibility with China, Nigeria, and Pakistan. UNICEF's flagship State of the World's Children 2024 report, The Future of Children in a Changing World, was launched, spotlighting three global megatrends, demographic shifts, climate crises, & frontier technologies that are set to reshape the lives of children by 2050. The report was unveiled by Cynthia McCaffrey, UNICEF India Representative, alongside Suruchi Bhadwal of The Energy Research Institute (TERI), UNICEF Youth Advocate Kartik Verma.



UNICEF Representative to India Cynthia McCaffrey with Director of Climate Change and Air Quality at The Energy & Resources Institute (TERI) Suruchi Bhadwal and others during the release of UNICEF's flagship report, in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

The report pointed out that by the 2050s, children will face dramatically increased exposure to extreme climate and environmental hazards and nearly 8 times more children are expected to be exposed to extreme heatwaves compared to 2000s.

INDIA STRUGGLES WITH LIMITED EFFECTIVENESS OF GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING: UN REPORT

Bangkok: India struggles with limited effectiveness of its Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) due to the exclusion of key programmes that benefit women and lack of sex-disaggregated data, said a new report. The report which analysed how countries in the region are placed compared to the Sustainability Development Goals (SDG) adopted in Beijing 30 years back noted the adoption of gender-responsive budgeting by Asia-Pacific countries like India demonstrates their strong commitment to ensuring the efficient allocation of resources based on the identified needs of women and girls, but there are challenges.

India defend women's ACT title, beat China



Indian players acknowledge fans after winning the Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024, at Rajgir, in Bihar, Wednesday. PTI

PTI
Rajgir (Bihar)

Indian women's hockey team retained the Asian Champions Trophy title with a narrow 1-0 win over Olympic silver medalist China in a pulsating final here Wednesday. Young striker Deepika scored the winner for India from a penalty corner in the 31st minute to finish as the tournament's highest goal getter with 11 strikes.

India had earlier stunned China 3-0 in the league stages of the tournament. It was India's third ACT title after winning the top honours in 2016 and 2023.

SANTOSH TROPHY

After winning final, Raj advance to next round

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Host Rajasthan qualified for the next round of the Santosh Trophy after a decisive victory in their final match at the Royal Football Ground in Jaipur.

Dilip Singh Shekhawat, Secretary of the Rajasthan Football Association, said that the two matches were played on Wednesday in Group I.

The first match between Gujarat and Maharashtra ended in a goalless draw. In the second



Roshni Tak Chairman Rajasthan Football Women Wing, Mahipal Singh senior Vice President Hockey Rajasthan, General Secretary Ddileep Singh Shekhawat along with the winning team.

and final match of the group, Rajasthan defeated Daman and Diu 4-0.

On behalf of Rajasthan, the first goal was scored by captain Altaf in the

44th minute, just before halftime. Vishal netted the second goal in the

52nd minute, followed by Imran Mani's third goal in the 54th minute, and Yash Sahni sealed the victory with the fourth goal in the 85th minute.

Players Vishal, Amit Godara, Imran Mani, Yash Sahni, Mukesh, and Altaf delivered stellar performances. Vishal was awarded the Man of the Match. With this win, Rajasthan topped the group and advanced to the next round of the Santosh Trophy registering a historical victory and entering the Santosh trophy group for the second time.

Raj Pickleball Association concludes successful State Tourney in Udaipur

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The Rajasthan Pickleball Association (RPA) proudly hosted the State Pickleball Tournament on the 16th and 17th of November in Udaipur.

With impressive performances and exceptional sportsmanship on display, the tournament highlighted the rapid growth and enthusiasm for pickleball in Rajasthan. Aditya Chandrawat claimed gold in both the Under-14 and Under-16 Boys' Singles, while Vansh Ruhela se-



The event brought together over 150 participants from across the state, competing fiercely in various categories.

cured silver in the Under-16 Boys' Singles and teamed up with Yogansh to win gold in the Under-16 Boys' Doubles. In the Under-19 Boys' Singles, Harshvardhan clinched gold, followed

by Harsh Rawat and Sachin Chaudhary, who won silver and bronze, respectively. Sachin and Harshvardhan also earned a bronze in the Under-19 Boys' Doubles.

FIRST INDIA 2ND FRONT

THOUGHT OF THE DAY
The way of life is that many burdens will weigh us down but we should sort which are ours to carry.
Dr JAGDEESH CHANDRA, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



Raj will soon launch Integrated Clean Energy Policy 2024: CM

CM URGES INVESTORS TO MAKE RAJASTHAN A GLOBAL RENEWABLE ENERGY HUB DURING THE ENERGY PRE-SUMMIT

MOUS WORTH ₹6.57 LAKH CRORE SIGNED, EXPECTED TO GENERATE 70,000 NEW JOBS

Vikas Sharma
Jaipur

Addressing during the Energy Pre-Summit, CM Bhajan Lal Sharma at the Pre-Rising Rajasthan Summit of the Energy Department, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma announced the upcoming launch of the Integrated Clean Energy Policy 2024, which will introduce new incentives in renewable energy sectors like pump storage, green hydrogen, battery storage, and bioenergy.

MoS for Energy, Heeralal Nagar, emphasised the govt's commitment to quickly implementing investment MoUs with comprehensive monitoring and support for investors. CS Sudhansh Pant expressed his satisfaction with the substantial investments flowing into the energy sector, particularly in new renewable energy areas.

ACS Energy Alok emphasised Rajasthan's investor-friendly policies driving energy transition and national goals. With over Rs20 lakh crore in MoUs, the state hosted investor meets in Mumbai, Delhi, and globally, including South Korea, Japan, UAE, Qatar, and Singapore.



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma during the Energy Pre-Summit in Jaipur on Wednesday. Heeralal Nagar, Sudhansh Pant, Alok, Alok Gupta and others were present during the programme.



Officials of Insolation Green Energy Pvt. Ltd. sign a significant MoU worth ₹10,000 crore at the Energy Pre-Summit.

RISING RAJ: DUTY ASSIGNED TO 22 RAS OFFICERS

A total of 22 RAS officers, including Avdhesh Singh, JK Meena, Aslam S Khan, Gaurav Chaturvedi, Sunil Bhati, Arvind Saraswat, Jai Singh, Neetu Rajeshwar, HS Mathur, Bhagwat Singh, PS Naga, Tulika Saini, Neelima Takshak, MD Ratnu, LK Meena, AK Chaturth, RK Pratham, K Sharma, Ashok Yogi, Narendra Verma, and Renu Saini, have been assigned add duties. They will assist Industries Dept and handle protocols, coordination, and arrangements for Rising Rajasthan Summit.

Energy Sector to drive Rajasthan's industrial growth, asserts ACS Alok

First India Bureau
Jaipur

In a special conversation with First India following the success of the Rising Rajasthan pre-summit on the energy sector, ACS Alok shared key insights. He emphasised that every investment, no matter how small, is backed by a strategic plan. Hundreds of companies are currently investing billions in Rajasthan, attracted by the

He emphasised that every investment, no matter how small, is backed by a strategic plan. Hundreds of firms are investing billions in Rajasthan

state's favourable environment. ACS Alok highlighted the transformative impact of the 'KUSUM Yojana' on Rajasthan's agricultural landscape. The initiative will enable

farming through renewable energy, directly benefiting farmers. This will not only give Rajasthan's agriculture a unique identity but also lead to significant growth in the food processing industry.

With these advancements, farmers' incomes will rise, resulting in increased purchasing power. ACS Alok stated that the energy sector will play a crucial role in driving Rajasthan's industrial growth.



V-P Jagdeesh Dhankhar addresses during the World Children's Day celebrations at JNV at Kajra in Jhunjhunu on Wednesday. Dr Sudesh Dhankhar, Jhabar Singh Kharrar & others were present.

NEP 2020 will empower children with skills, says V-P

Pradeep Gadhwaj
Jhunjhunu

Addressing the students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Kajra, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, on the occasion of World Children's Day, Vice-President Jagdeesh Dhankhar, "All of you are the backbone of rural India. Remember, the soul of India lies in the rural areas. Our roots are strong in rural India. Our food provider farmers also live in rural areas." He said that through institutions like Panchayat Raj and Nagar Palika, India has strengthened democracy at the grassroots level.

Praising the National Education Policy 2020, the Vice-President called it a 'game-changer.' He

said, "After three decades, India has got a new education policy which aims to free students from the burden of only books and degrees and make them skilled. This policy will help India to establish itself as a developed India by 2047."

While making the students aware of the environment, he urged them to plant trees in the name of their grandparents. The Vice-President said, "When you go out of this school, you should show such exemplary conduct that will enhance the glory of this school."

In the end, the Vice-President wished the children for their bright future and praised the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi.



V-P Jagdeesh Dhankhar during a photo session with journalists at Kajra village in Jhunjhunu. Dr Sudesh Dhankhar, Jhabar Singh Kharrar were also present. The event was also attended by Jhunjhunu Collector Ramavtar Meena, Himanshu Singh, Vikas Chahar, Pitambar Sharma, Pradeep Gadhwaj, Vinod Puri, Rajendra Sindhi, Rajesh Sharma, Ashok Sharma, and other journalists.

CM hosts delegations



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma met a UK delegation on Wednesday, inviting them to partner in the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit (Dec 9-11). The CM highlighted Rajasthan's historic forts and expanding exports of stones and jewellery. The delegation, including Sharon Hodgson and Shivani Raja, attended a traditional dinner at CMR with the Singapore delegation. Ministers Janil Puthuchery and Desmond Tan, along with KK Vishnoi, CS Sudhansh Pant, and others, were also present.

'Better road network in state our priority'

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The Public Works Department (PWD) will construct 270 km of roads across 158 urban local bodies as part of the 2024-25 budget implementation. Administrative and financial approvals have been issued for 728 road construction projects in these areas. Deputy Chief Minister Diya

Kumari stated that developing the road network in the state—including national highways, state highways, district roads, rural roads, and urban local body roads—is a top priority. She emphasised that the goal is to make Rajasthan the leading state in road connectivity. Under the budget announcement, the PWD will construct roads in 295 urban local bodies at an investment of Rs 317.50 crore.

Kovind delights in cultural performances at Jodh School

Rajeev Gaur
Jodhpur

Former President Ram Nath Kovind, accompanied by his family, attended the 12th Annual Day and cultural programme at Mayur Chopasni School in Jodhpur as the chief guest. The event was chaired by former Maharashtra Gaj Singh, with former Punjab Governor VP Singh and former Maharani Hemlata Rajee also in attendance.



Ramnath Kovind addresses during the Annual Day of Mayur Chopasni School in Jodhpur.

Kovind and his family were deeply impressed by the vibrant cultural performances presented by the students, including dance, music, drama, and a performance by an orchestra and bagpiper band, showcasing Rajasthanian culture. The students also staged a play titled "Bahut Der Na Ho Jaye," which highlighted the importance of balancing screen time with physical and mental development. Kovind praised the students' efforts and expressed his gratitude for the invitation. Kovind also visited the Rajasthan Judicial Academy in Jodhpur.

ORGANISATIONAL INSIGHT

Singapore delegation studies BJP's structure & governance

First India Bureau
Jaipur

A Singapore delegation visited BJP office to understand the policies and organisational structure of the world's largest political party. The delegation, under Rathore's leadership, was welcomed by ex-State President Dr Arun Chaturvedi, MP Ghanashyam Tiwari, & other BJP office-bearers with traditional Rajasthani customs. Rathore explained the party's organisational



Madan Rathore greets members of a delegation of senior leaders from Singapore's ruling party, People's Action Party as part of 'Bhajpa Ko Janein' drive at BJP HOs in Jaipur on Wednesday. Rao Rajendra Singh, Ghanashyam Tiwari & others were present.

framework, and how welfare schemes are executed at grassroots level. Dr.Chaturvedi high-



The members of People's Action Party gather information about BJP's IT and Social Media Department in Jaipur. Pinkesh Porwal, Bhupendra, Hirendra Kaushik, Vikas Sharma & others were present.

lighted BJP's historic initiatives in women's empowerment, including a 33% women's quota within the party & 50% reservation for women in Panchayati Raj polls. MP Rao Rajendra Singh said that the delegation came to study coordination between BJP's organisation and the government.

SINGAPORE DELEGATION VISITS AMER FORT AND HAWA MAHAL

A Singapore delegation, led by Senior State Minister Janil Puthuchery, visited Amer Fort & Hawa Mahal to explore Rajasthan's heritage conservation efforts. Praising the architecture, they highlighted Rajasthan's tourism potential and aimed to strengthen ties between Rajasthan and Singapore. The group included Desmond Tan Kok Meng (Senior Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office), Gan Siow Huang (State Minister for Education) & others.

CS Pant to chair COS meeting today

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Chief Secretary Sudhansh Pant will chair the Committee of Secretaries (COS) meeting at 10am today to address key issues. The agenda includes reviewing cases on the PLS/CLEARs portal, pending PM PRAGATI projects, and department-wise progress on MoUs for the Rising Rajasthan Summit. Discussions will focus on Ease of Doing Business, investment climate, and Budget 2024-25 policy implementation. The meeting will evaluate



Sudhansh Pant

progress on drafting or amending acts, inter-departmental issues, and budget-linked initiatives. Unresolved matters and pending actions will also be prioritised, ensuring alignment with the state's developmental and administrative goals.



REWARDS OF RADIANCE!

The glamour and excitement of beauty pageants in India are set to reach new heights as the upcoming, Ananta Miss and Mrs India Glam Season 6, unveiled its groundbreaking rewards for winners. **P11**



MEVY LUMAMULY ON LIFE, CROWNS AND GIVING BACK

City First highlights Mevy Lumamuly's inspiring journey from a small village in the Netherlands to becoming Miss Teen International Netherlands 2023, a cheerleading champion and a compassionate volunteer.

CROWN OF PASSION



Mitali Dusad

mitalidusad@firstindia.co.in

leged children and dreams of embarking on a volunteer trip soon. "Helping others brings a kind of joy that no trophy or title can match," she said.

A marketing and communication student, Mevy balances her academic pursuits with her love for dancing, acting, tennis and fitness. For her, challenges are not setbacks but stepping stones. "Every obstacle is a chance to grow. Without challenges, there is no success," she emphasised.

Looking ahead, Mevy envisions herself as a strong, independent woman, excelling in her chosen fields. "Whether it's modelling, acting, or hosting TV shows, I hope to inspire others to stay positive because positive minds lead to positive growth."

She travelled to London to attend the highly anticipated Fashion Connect Season 19, an event renowned for showcasing cutting-edge designs and global fashion trends. Excited to be a part of such a prestigious gathering, she was thrilled to witness the grandeur of the fashion extravaganza, featuring a fusion of creativity, innovation, and cultural influences. The experience left her inspired and deeply appreciative of the artistry and talent displayed on the international stage.

Mevy Lumamuly's story is a testament to the power of resilience, passion and a generous heart, making her a true queen of people's hearts. Her journey inspires countless young individuals to embrace challenges, pursue their passions, and give back to society. With her unyielding determination and radiant positivity, Mevy continues to set an example of how beauty, purpose and kindness can create a meaningful impact on the world.

Mevy Lumamuly, crowned Miss Teen International Netherlands 2023, is not just a beauty queen but an embodiment of talent, compassion and determination. Born and raised in the idyllic village of Hellendoorn, Netherlands, Mevy describes her hometown as "a place with welcoming people and scenic landscapes that nurtured my adventurous childhood."

A European and World Cheerleading Champion, Mevy's journey is as dynamic as her accomplishments. From mastering intricate cheer routines in Greece and America to winning hearts on international runways, her transition into modelling began serendipitously. "Two friends nominated me for Miss Beauty of the Netherlands. At the time, I had no experience with makeup or styling. But once I stepped into the world of pageantry, I discovered a passion I never knew existed," she shared. Winning the Overijssel title, followed by the national crown, cemented her path in modelling.

Beyond her accolades, Mevy's heart beats for giving back. She actively volunteers with underprivi-



WHAT'S NEXT?



RESIN ART WORKSHOP
 Resin Art Workshop: Join for an exciting 'RESIN ART Keychain & Coaster Making' workshop. Create your resin art piece, choosing between a keychain/jewellery or coaster. Don't miss out on this hands-on, offline experience.

When: November 24, 11:00 AM
 Where: Core Creator, Jaipur



Prateek Kuhad Silhouettes Tour Jaipur: Prateek Kuhad, singer-songwriter, turns personal experiences into universal tales of romance and heartbreak. With his evocative bilingual storytelling, he has garnered global acclaim. His Silhouettes world tour starts in North America.

When: November 24, 6:00 PM
 Where: Zee Studios, Jaipur



Small World Single's Meetup: Join the 'Singles Meetup'—a space to connect, share, and celebrate the solo journey. No pressure to find "the one," just stories, laughter, and discussions on personal growth and freedom.

When: November 24, 5:00 PM
 Where: Core Creator, Jaipur

BIRTHDAY FORECAST!



Helen Ann Richardson Khan
SCORPIO
 November 21

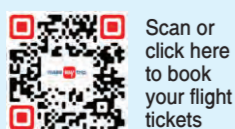
Today could present the opportunity for a trip by air, possibly with friends or a small group. If you've been working on educational projects, it's the perfect time to advance them. Books, TV and the Internet may bring valuable, interesting information your way.

Lucky Number: 6 Lucky Colour: White



Jaipur Flight Plan

- HYDERABAD-** Air India, Air India Express, Indigo
- AHMEDABAD-** Air India, Air India Express, Indigo
- UDAIPUR-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air
- CHENNAI-** Air India, Air India Express, Spicejet
- KOLKATA-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air
- Norfolk, United States- Air India, Air India Express, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Etihad Airways
- SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA-** Air India, Air India Express, Air Asia Berhad, Air Asia X, Cathay Pacific
- ISTANBUL, TURKEY-** Air Arabia, Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, Azerbaijan Airline
- CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA-** Air France, Air India, Air India Express, British Airways, CemAir



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AHEAD OF IND VS AUS SERIES

Battle for Redemption



The Indian Cricket team



Mukesh Sharma

cityfirst@firstindia.co.in



Rohit Sharma & Jasprit Bumrah

The first match of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy between India and Australia is set to take place on the fast-paced pitch of Perth starting November 22. Rohit Sharma will miss the opening Test due to personal reasons, leaving Jasprit Bumrah to captain the side. India has managed to defeat Australia on their home turf in the last two series, raising high expectations for the team's performance in this series. However, following a 0-3 defeat in the Test series against New Zealand, India is on the brink of being knocked out of the World Test Championship final race. To secure a spot in the final without relying on other results, India must win at least four matches in the

Border-Gavaskar Trophy. From the moment the squad was announced for this challenging tour, discussions have centered around the hurdles Team India faces. There are several weaknesses in the team that could lead to defeat. Let's delve into the key issues the team needs to address:

POOR COACHING
 Gautam Gambhir's coaching has been a flop for Team India so far. The series defeat

Sharma and Virat Kohli, but both performed poorly against New Zealand. Captain and opener Rohit managed just 91 runs in three matches, while Kohli scored only 93 runs. Notably, the 36-year-old Kohli has seen a decline in form. Once considered one of the world's most dangerous batsmen, Kohli has scored only two Test centuries in the last five years. Meanwhile, the 37-year-old Rohit hasn't fared much better and will miss the first Test due to the birth of his second child.

BOWLING CHALLENGES

In addition to batting woes, Team India faces challenges in bowling. Mohammed Shami will be unavailable for the first half of the series, putting extra pressure on Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed

Siraj to lead the bowling attack. Siraj has struggled to take wickets in recent matches, and the rest of the pace attack lacks experience. This means Bumrah will have an even bigger responsibility.

OPENING DILEMMA

With Rohit Sharma missing the first Test, there is uncertainty over who will open alongside Yashasvi Jaiswal. KL Rahul

is a potential option, but he too has been struggling with poor form recently.

PRESSURE ON TEAM INDIA

Just before the Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2024, the Indian team suffered a humiliating 0-3 defeat at the hands of New Zealand in a home Test series. The pressure of qualifying for the World Test Championship final could also contribute to India's struggles.

To succeed, Team India will need to address these critical issues during the upcoming series.



Virat Kohli



Police 100	Fire 101	Ambulance 102/108	Child Helpline 1098	Help in Suffering 2760012
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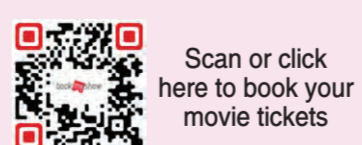
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WHAT'S JAIPUR WATCHING TODAY?

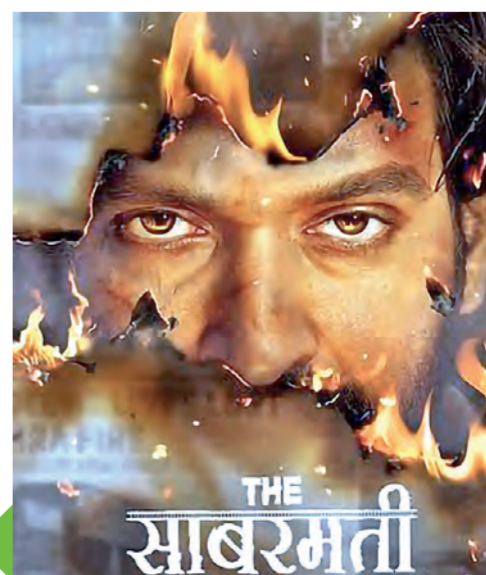
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Movie: Kanguva
 Director: Siva
 Cast & Crew: Suriya Sivakumar, Bobby Deol, Disha Patani



Scan or click here to book your movie tickets



Movie: The Sabarmati Report
 Director: Dheeraj Sarna
 Cast & Crew: Vikrant Massey, Raashi Khanna, Ridhi Dogra



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सबसे पहले सबसे आगे

CROWNING Glory Ahead!



Bhavika Khunteta

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The glamour and excitement of beauty pageants in India are set to reach new heights as the upcoming national-level event, Ananta Miss and Mrs India Glam Season 6, unveils its groundbreaking rewards for winners. This year, participants will compete for a grand prize package

that includes the Automatic VXI Swift car, the latest Jupiter scooters and lakhs in cash rewards. The announcement has already energized contestants and is expected to significantly enhance the competitive spirit among aspiring models.

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra unveiled the prizes showcasing the Swift car and Jupiter scooters that await the winners. Dr Chandra expressed his support for the initiative. "Such impressive rewards not only motivate participants but also elevate the overall standards of competition," he remarked while commending the India Glam platform for its exceptional efforts.

The beauty pageant industry in India has seen various innovations over the years, but India Glam is redefining the landscape. The sixth season of Ananta Miss and Mrs India Glam is set to be held on December 30, 2024, at the luxurious Ananta Resort in Jaipur. This grand finale will host the top contestants from across the country.

The auditions for Jaipur are scheduled for November 24, 2024, at Rosado Luxury Lounge in Vaishali Nagar, starting at 11:00 AM. Aspiring models and married women from Jaipur and Rajasthan can participate, provided they dream of building a career in modelling.

Pawan Tank, Director & Founder of Miss & Mrs India Glam revealed that the pageant will feature participants from across India. "Our goal is to empower women and celebrate Indian beauty," he said. Registrations for the event are free, and interested candidates can apply via Instagram (@indiagram_org).

The competition will include various rounds designed to test and enhance participants' skills. These include talent showcases, drama and comedy performances, physical activities, fitness challenges, and sports



Sushmita Puri, Miss India Glam Rajasthan 2024

events. Finalists will receive specialized training to prepare them for the grand finale, where the winners will be crowned as Miss India Glam 2025 and Mrs India Glam 2025. Additionally, regional titles will be awarded based on performance and state representation.

Beyond the competition, talented participants will have opportunities to appear in movies, music albums, TV serials, and web series. They will also feature in the India Glam 2025 Calendar, offering a platform to showcase their potential in the entertainment industry.

The event is supported by prominent collaborators, including Bharat 24 National News Channel, First India Rajasthan, Ravi Surya Group, Ananta Spa and Resorts, SKJ Jewellers, Mandakini Sarees and Berala Group.

India Glam has made it clear that its mission extends beyond just hosting



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra with (L-R) Somya Gupta, Pawan Tank & Aishwarya Sadh

beauty pageants. By eliminating participation fees and providing high-value rewards, the organization aims to empower women and inspire confidence.

As the countdown begins, the excitement surrounding Ananta Miss and Mrs India Glam Season 6 continues to grow. Aspiring participants and enthusiasts can look forward to an unforgettable celebration of talent, beauty, and empowerment in the Pink City of Jaipur.

of talent, beauty, and empowerment in the Pink City of Jaipur.



Ankita Rathore, Miss India Glam 2023 runner up



Aishwarya Sadh, Miss India Glam 2024 First runner-up

Pink City Jaipur gears up to host the grand finale of Ananta Miss and Mrs India Glam Season 6. City First showcases groundbreaking rewards, including a Swift car, Jupiter scooters and cash prizes, elevating excitement among contestants nationwide.



Somya Gupta, Miss India Glam 2024 Winner

Payal Daryani, Miss India Glam 2024 Second runner up

HERITAGE EXHIBITION!



IPS Hemant Sharma attended the exhibition, admired the creative expressions on display



Mayor Kusum Yadav & Komal

On the occasion of Jaipur Foundation Day, the third season of the Jaipur Heritage Photo Exhibition was held at the Welcome Art Gallery in Hotel ITC Rajputana, under the banner of Rajasthan Tourism. The exhibition, open from November 16-23, offers a visual journey through Jaipur's heritage, showcasing temples, forts, and cultural landmarks. On Wednesday, notable visitors including IPS Hemant Sharma, Heritage Mayor Kusum Yadav and Tourism Deputy Director Dalip Singh attended, praising the city's beauty. Renuka Kumawat, the program Patron, emphasized the importance of preserving and promoting Jaipur's heritage to today's youth. The exhibition is free to all.

A Canvas of Hope



Minister Avinash Gehlot addressing the audience. Also seen are Dr Meena Sharma, Aarif, Rushabh Hemani and Ankush



Minister Avinash Gehlot engaged with a young artist as she explained her artwork during the exhibition

City First
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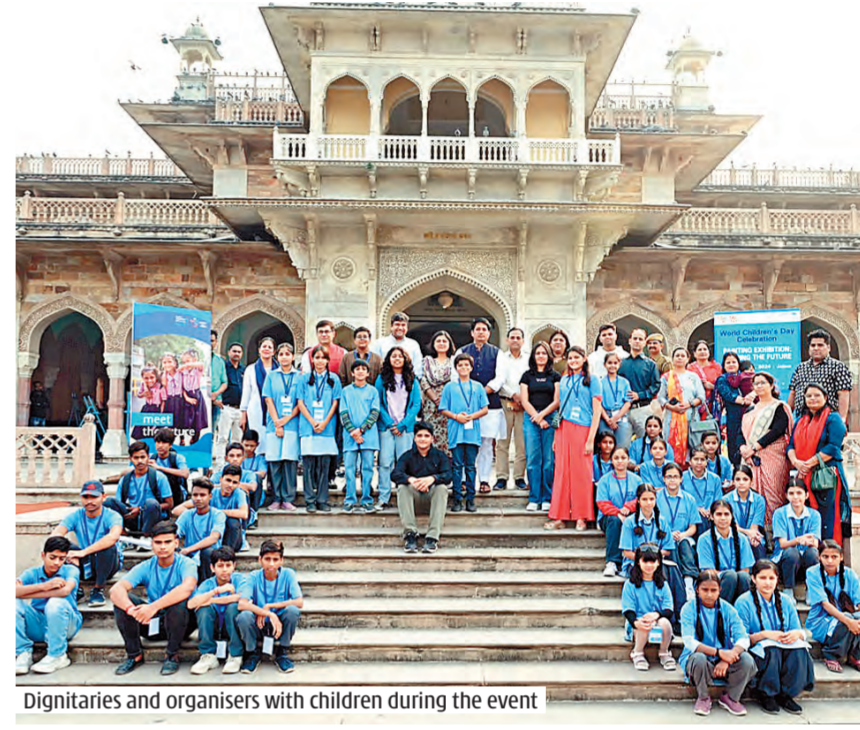
World Child Day was celebrated with a vibrant painting exhibition organised by Digital Bal Mela and UNICEF at Albert Hall. Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Avinash Gehlot was the chief guest, inaugurating the exhibition and interacting with the children. Reflecting on his school days, Gehlot emphasised the importance of setting goals, especially amidst fierce competition in exams.

The event also featured the release of the State of World Report by UNICEF, with Rushabh Hemani, UNICEF Rajasthan Chief, explaining this year's theme: Climate Change. Hemani highlighted

UNICEF's upcoming collaborations with Future Society to raise awareness and increase children's participation.

The paintings created by children depicted issues such as child rights, employment opportunities, climate change, and the vision for India's development in 2047. The exhibition showcased imaginative perspectives on topics like environmental protection and artificial intelligence.

The event also served as a platform to reinforce the importance of securing children's rights. In the past, Digital Bal Mela has organised initiatives like India's first Bal Vidhan Sabha in 2021, and Blue Street programs in 2023, continuing its mission to empower young voices. The Future Society concluded the event with words of thanks.



Dignitaries and organisers with children during the event

IN THE CITY!



Ratan Sharma, Chairman of Satyam Group and Mayfair Spring Valley, was honoured with the NEF Achievement Award at the 12th North East Festival 2024 in Delhi on Tuesday. Known for establishing Northeast India's largest Mayfair Resort, Sharma's contributions were celebrated during the event. The award was presented by Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal. Representing Ratan Sharma, his son Kanishka Sharma accepted the prestigious award on his behalf.



On the final day of the three-day classical music festival, Sangeet Ashram Sanshan hosted a special evening dedicated to Bollywood music legends Salil Chaudhary and Roshan. Directed by Vatsal Anupam, over 20 artists performed timeless songs, including renditions by Tanvika Dixit, Vanita Hirani, Kashish Kanwar and others. Instrumentalists Suleman Khan, Vatsal Anupam and others accompanied the performances, creating a melodious atmosphere. The event concluded with Amit Anupam, the institute secretary, thanking the attendees.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!



At the Rising Rajasthan 2024 Summit on Tuesday, Datta Power Infra Private Limited announced a landmark ₹5000 crore investment to boost Rajasthan's renewable energy infrastructure in New Delhi. Led by CEO & MD Varchasvi Gagal, Datta Infra aims to develop 1,000 MW of solar, wind, and hybrid projects across districts like Bikaner and Jodhpur under the KUSUM Scheme, generating 500-750 jobs. CFO Rajeev Kumar Bansal highlighted the strategic investment's role in advancing India's renewable energy capacity and fostering economic growth.



Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad organised a self-defence training camp on Wednesday, under the Swayamsiddha program for over 600 girls from Saraswati Senior Secondary School, Government Senior Secondary School and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya in Phalodi. Self-defence instructor Ghanashyam Thanvi trained students on using everyday items like pens, keys and mobile phones for safety in emergencies. Emergency helpline numbers were provided and the program received support from local school staff and ABVP members Vikram Singh and Ghevar Khara.

The Centre for Energy and Environment, MNIT Jaipur, hosted a Joint Indo-Russian Workshop on "Enhancing the Efficiency of Clean Energy Generation" on Tuesday. The event was part of an ongoing Indo-Russian Research Project on Bio-energy. Prof AB Gupta and Prof Dilip Sharma welcomed Russian delegates, including Dr Yuriy Littl from the Russian Academy of Sciences. Sessions included discussions on bioenergy potential and hydrogen production. The workshop concluded with hands-on training at MNIT's Bio-fuel lab.



MUKESH KIRADDO

SPIRITUAL CANVAS

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Manjit Bawa, born in Dhuri, Punjab, drew inspiration from Sufi poetry, spirituality and music, which influenced his signature rounded forms set against rich backgrounds. After studying at Delhi Polytechnic, Bawa moved to England in 1964, where he worked as a silkscreen printmaker. Upon returning, he taught at Delhi's College of Art and explored Indian mythology, folklore and love legends in his work, using vibrant colours like reds, yellows, and blues. A recipient of numerous awards, including the Lalit Kala Akademi's national award in 1980, Bawa passed away on December 29, 2008.



GLOBAL VISIONARY CREATIONS

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RD Models has emerged as a global leader in model making, delivering over 1,800 models across various industries. With six workshops in Jaipur, Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad,

Ahmedabad and Mumbai, the company ensures timely delivery and consistent quality worldwide. Under the visionary leadership of founder Ar Rohitash Daiya, supported by CA Avinash Daiya, Ar Deeksha Vyas and Er Pushpkant Yadav, RD Models serves 700+ clients, including top corporations and government agencies. Their focus on precision and client satisfaction sets new industry benchmarks.



WATER INITIATIVE

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In Alwar, rural women tackled the drinking water issue by forming the Sujal Group. Despite adequate irrigation water, fetching drinking water took up to

2.5 hours daily. In 2020, six women volunteers, known as Sujal Jankari, promoted rooftop rain-water harvesting, improving access to clean water.

The initiative grew, with Sujal Saheli members promoting sanitation and water qual-

ity testing. Supported by Ashok Leyland's ₹5 lakh Jal Fund, the movement expanded to 12 villages, impacting 450 women. Today, the movement is spreading across Ajmer, Chidawa, and Jaipur, aiming to empower 4,000 women by 2026.



पारम्परिक छत जल संग्रहण टांका व क्षमता - 26366 लीटर