



FIRST INDIA

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INDIA RIDE ON 3 CENTURIONS TO LEAD WEST INDIES BY 286
Tons by KL Rahul (100), Dhruv Jurel (125) and Ravindra Jadeja (104*) powered India to mammoth 448/5 against West Indies in first test.

PAK VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS: INDIA ON PoK
India on Friday said Pakistan must be held accountable for its "horrific" human rights violations against innocent protesters in Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK). Several areas in PoK have witnessed widespread protests against what they described as systemic oppression.

TRUMP'S SUNDAY DEADLINE FOR HAMAS
US President Donald Trump on Friday issued an ultimatum to Hamas to accept his Gaza peace plan by Sunday 6 pm Washington DC time or face "all hell". Earlier this week, Trump had unveiled the plan along with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

MADRAS HIGH COURT FOR SIT PROBE INTO KARUR STAMPEDE
The Madras High Court has ordered the setting up of a SIT to investigate the deadly stampede during actor-politician Vijay's rally in TN's Karur.



PM Modi to unveil youth focused initiatives today

The schemes worth over Rs 62,000 crore will give a decisive push to education, skilling and entrepreneurship to young and bright minds across the country

ANI
New Delhi

In a landmark initiative for youth development, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will unveil various youth-focused initiatives worth more than Rs 62,000 crore at 11 AM in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, giving a decisive push to education, skilling and entrepreneurship across the country.



PM Narendra Modi Prime Minister will also launch Bihar's revamped Mukhyamantri Nishchay Svyam Sahayata Bhatta Yojana.

PM will launch PM-SETU (Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employabil-

ity Transformation through Upgraded ITIs), a centrally sponsored scheme with an invest-

ment of Rs 60,000 crore. The scheme envisages the upgradation of 1,000 ITIs across the country.

PUTIN ORDERS SOFTEN INDIA TRADE IMBALANCE

Russian President Vladimir Putin has ordered to devise measures, including purchasing more agricultural products and medicines from India, to soften the trade imbalance, which is due to heavy import of crude by the country. Speaking at the Valdai plenary session, Putin also said that he was looking forward to his trip to India in early December and meeting with "our reliable partner PM Narendra Modi".

Amit Shah: New criminal laws to make justice process simpler

Agencies
Kurukshetra

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said the enactment of three new criminal laws will make the justice process simpler and time bound, while asserting that after 2026, an FIR will be disposed of in three years on an average.

Shah was addressing a gathering after inaugurating a week-long exhibition on the three new criminal laws in Haryana's Kurukshetra.

"I can say it with confidence that after 2026, FIR will be disposed of in three years on an average and justice will be ensured," Shah said. P6



Union Home Minister Amit Shah speaks during the inauguration of Sabar Dairy plant, in Rohtak on Friday.

AMIT SHAH TO ATTEND BASTAR DUSSEHRA FESTIVAL IN CHHATTISGARH TODAY

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is set to attend the historic Bastar Dussehra celebrations in Chhattisgarh's Jagdalpur district on Saturday. According to the itinerary, Shah will begin his visit by offering prayers at the revered Maa Danteshwari Temple in Jagdalpur. The Home Minister will attend the grand celebrations of the Bastar Dussehra Festival, the centuries-old festival is one of the most prominent cultural events.

Will erase from map, won't show restraint: Army Chief warns Pak

Agencies

Anupgarh (Rajasthan)

India has issued a fierce warning to Pakistan: stop supporting terrorism or lose your geographical presence. If Pakistan wants to retain its place on the map, it must stop state-sponsored terrorism, Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi has said, warning the western neighbour known for its deep-state backing of terror masters.

Speaking at Army post in Rajasthan's Anupgarh, General Dwivedi said Indian forces won't show any restraint this time, hinting that a second version of 'Operation Sindoor' wouldn't be far away if Islamabad refuses to stop exporting terror. P2



Canadian envoy presents credentials to Murmu

...one year after row marked diplomacy

PTI
New Delhi

President Droupadi Murmu on Friday accepted credentials from Canadian High Commissioner Christopher Cooter, who has taken charge of the diplomatic post nearly a year after the bilateral ties broke down over the allegations of Indian links in killing of Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar.



President Murmu receives credentials from C Cooter, High Commissioner of Canada.

President's office said envoys of four nations, including Canada and Slovenia, presented their credentials to Murmu

CM Bhajan Lal gives nod to 3% DA hike for staff ahead of Diwali

Dr Rituraj Sharma & Aishwary Pradhan
Jaipur



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma

Ahead of Diwali, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma approved a 3% hike in dearness allowance (DA) for state employees and pensioners, raising it from 55% to 58% under the 7th Pay Commission, effective July 1, 2025.

Around 8 lakh employees and 4.4 lakh pensioners will benefit. Panchayat Samiti and

Zila Parishad staff are also included. October 2025 salaries will reflect the hike, with July-September arrears credited

CM REVIEWS PREPS FOR 'RAJ PRAVASI MEET'

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma announced the Pravasi Rajasthani Day to boost industrial growth, with a meet on October 8 in Surat, promoting investment and cultural ties among Rajasthanis living in India and abroad.

to PF accounts. Pensioners will get cash arrears. The move will cost the state Rs 1,230 crore annually.

JDA jurisdiction doubled to now 6,000 square km

Abhishek Shrivastava
Jaipur



In a landmark decision, the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) region has been expanded to nearly double its previous size, increasing from around 3,000 square kilometers to approximately 6,000 square kilometers.

The notification issued by the Urban Development Department officially brings 679 new villages under the JDA's jurisdiction, including 632 new revenue villages.

The expansion also incorporates villages from the master plans of Jobner, Shahpura, and Chaksu, with 47 urban villages from these municipalities included. A new JDA master plan will now be prepared to accommodate the expanded region, covering development needs through 2047. P3

'TOOK OUT 10 PAK JETS, INCLUDING F-16, JF-17'

Indian Air Force (IAF) chief AP Singh, in a massive disclosure, said on Friday that it destroyed around 10 Pakistani fighter jets, including US-made F-16s and Chinese JF-17s, during the hostilities in May. The IAF chief, speaking at the 93rd Air Force Day, dismissed claims about Indian jets being destroyed, calling them "manohar kahaniyan (fascinating tales)" by Pakistan. P6

BHARAT24-VISION OF NEW INDIA'S RAJASTHAN TOURISM CONCLAVE ENVISIONS TO MAKE STATE A GLOBAL DESTINATION

The Conclave is a step forward in promoting tourism: Diya Kumari; CM Bhajan Lal Sharma promoting religious tourism: Dr Chandra



Deputy Chief Minister and Tourism Minister Diya Kumari speaking during the Rajasthan Tourism conclave.



Principal Secretary Tourism Rajesh Kumar Yadav addressing the tourism conclave with (LtoR) Bharat24 anchor Akanksha Tomar, former chairman RTDC Rajiv Arora, Commissioner RTDC Rukmani Riar, GM Rambagh Ashok Rathore, General Secretary IHHA Gaj Singh Alsisar, Senior VP FHTR Surendra Singh Shahpura, in Jaipur on Friday. SANTOSH SHARMA & SUNIL SHARMA

Divya Kanwaliya
Jaipur

Deputy Chief Minister and Tourism Minister Diya Kumari on Friday described Bharat24's grand conclave - 'Rajasthan Tourism: How to Make Rajasthan a Global



Destination' - as "a step forward in promoting tourism" initiated by Bharat24 CEO and Editor-in-Chief Dr. Jagdeesh Chandra and CEO and Managing Editor of First India News Pawan Arora. The Deputy CM shared her vision for positioning Rajasthan on the global

While Jaipur, Jodhpur, and Udaipur continue to draw global attention, the government is now focusing on developing new destinations, particularly in border regions like Jaisalmer. Plans include religious, rural, and wildlife-based attractions to diversify Rajasthan's tourism profile.
-DIYA KUMARI, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER & TOURISM MINISTER

PM Narendra Modi is building new airports, giving a big boost to tourism. CM Bhajan Lal Sharma is also promoting tourism. However, the strict 12 am deadline for nightclubs is causing heavy losses to the tourism sector.
-DR JAGDEESH CHANDRA, BHARAT24 CEO & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Diya Kumari is born brand ambassador of Raj Tourism: Dr Chandra

Terming Diya Kumari as a tourism icon, Dr Jagdeesh Chandra said that, "As for Diya, she herself is a born brand ambassador for Rajasthan Tourism and National Tourism. Rajesh ji, you don't need a brand ambassador. You have inherited brand ambassador. Rukmani ji is also smiling. But it's true."



Deputy Chief Minister and Tourism Minister Diya Kumari being greeted by Bharat24 CEO & Editor-in-Chief Dr Jagdeesh Chandra.

tourism map. Addressing the conclave as chief guest, Diya shared her views on tourism development and women empowerment. The conclave was organised by Bharat24 - Vision

of New India in collaboration with Rajasthan Tourism department at Hotel Marriott, Jaipur. She also participated in a panel discussion with Bharat24 political editor Aditi Nagar. In his address, Dr Chan-

dra said that PM Narendra Modi is the face of India abroad, and 50% of FDI comes to India in his name. "There's an atmosphere of excitement and over tourism across the country, and credit for this goes to PM

Narendra Modi in Delhi and you (Diya), as well as CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, who has taken the initiative to promote religious tourism. He started it in Bharatpur area. You (Diya) will start it in tribal areas. Over-

all, there's a good atmosphere. The situation is good, and the Bharat24 and First India families are always with you in promoting Rajasthan's brand across the world," said Dr Chandra. P8

Op "Prahar" was launched following AGTF that tracked a consignment from Odisha to Shekhawati

Over 1,000 kg ganja worth ₹5 cr seized in major crackdown; 2 traffickers held



First India Bureau
Jhunjhunu

Jhunjhunu police on Thursday night seized over 10 quintals (1,014 kg) of illegal cannabis worth around Rs 5 crore in the international market during an operation in Udaipurwati. Two traffickers, Pramod Gurjar (20) of Sikar and Subhash Gurjar (23) of Jajod, were arrested.

The consignment, traced from Odisha, was concealed in a secret truck compartment and was meant for traffickers in the Shekhawati region. The operation was executed jointly by the Anti-Gang Task Force (AGTF) and Jhunjhunu police under the supervision of ADG Dinesh M.N., DIG Deepak Bhargava, and ASP Siddhant Sharma.

A case under the NDPS Act has been registered, and efforts are underway to identify funding sources, buyers, and other members of the network. ADG Dinesh M.N. termed the bust a major success under the "Nasha Mukta Rajasthan" campaign.



The accused in police custody in Jhunjhunu on Friday.

Sikar: Promoted ASI nabbed before training for accepting ₹15k bribe

Navin Sharma/Hukum Singh
Jaipur/Sikar

Jhunjhunu ACB on Friday arrested Head Constable Ramniwas Bajjiya of Ranoli police station, Sikar, for accepting a bribe of Rs 15,000. The case surfaced after a complaint on September 28, alleging that Ramniwas demanded Rs 20,000 to avoid action against a youth who had married a girl earlier reported missing. Despite the girl testifying she left voluntarily, the constable allegedly kept pressuring the boy's family. He was caught red-handed outside the police station while tak-



Accused Ramniwas Bajjiya

ing the bribe.

Officials said DYSP Khan stated that Ramniwas had recently been promoted from head constable to assistant sub-inspector (ASI) and was scheduled to undergo training for the new post. However, he was arrested before he could join the training.

RAJAUR FAMILY ALLEGES EYES OF DECEASED CHILD REMOVED WITHOUT CONSENT, PROBE ON

Jaipur: A shocking case has emerged from Rajaur village involving the alleged removal of both eyes of a deceased 10-year-old boy without the family's consent. The incident reportedly dates back to 2023. The child, Samar, sustained serious injuries when an iron sheet fell on him during the construction of a water tank under the Jal Jeevan Mission. His father, Kirodi Lal Meena, immediately rushed him to a local hospital. Due to the severity of his injuries, Samar was referred to SMS Hospital in Jaipur. Tragically, he passed away en route. Family members allege that an acquaintance, Madan Mohan, offered to bring the child's body to them. Upon receiving the body for the final rites, the family discovered that both of Samar's eyes had been removed. According to the family, Madan Mohan had assured them of legal action at the time but allegedly misled them for nearly two years. Recently, the family lodged a formal complaint against Madan Mohan at the SMS Hospital police station.



DUNGARPUR MAN MURDERS WIFE, BURIES HER IN SHOP BASEMENT

Dungarpur: In Surata village, Dungarpur, a man, Arvind Rot, allegedly murdered his 30-year-old wife, Chetna, and buried her in his shop's basement. He confessed to the crime on 1 October, three days after the murder. Police recovered the body amid tensions between the victim's marital and parental families, with SDM and multiple police contingents deployed. Initial investigations suggest frequent marital disputes due to Arvind's suspicion of his wife. The incident leaves their five-year-old child motherless and has sparked widespread outrage.

Gunwant Kalal

23-YR-OLD STUDENT ROBBED BY FAKE CYBER POLICE IN MAHESH NAGAR

Jaipur: A 23-year-old student was robbed of his mobile phone and cash by unidentified miscreants in Mahesh Nagar on Friday. According to police, the assailants, traveling in a Scorpio SUV, intercepted the student, Vikas, while he was returning home from a coaching center. Posing as members of the cyber police, they forced him into the vehicle on the pretext of questioning. Inside the car, the accused demanded his mobile phone and cash. After seizing the belongings, they pushed Vikas out of the vehicle and fled the spot. The victim later lodged a complaint at Mahesh Nagar police station. Police have launched an investigation to trace and arrest the culprits.

MOBILE, SIM RECOVERED FROM INMATES IN ALWAR & JAIPUR JAIL

Alwar/Jaipur: During a routine inspection at the Alwar Central Jail, authorities recovered a mobile phone from inmate Ajay Khori in Ward No. 3. Along with the device, a broken SIM card belonging to another inmate, Yashpal alias Chotiya, was also found. Both items were seized and sealed. Following the recovery, an FIR was registered against the two inmates under Section 42 of the Prison Act, 2015. In a separate case, a surprise search at Jaipur Central Jail led to the discovery of an unclaimed mobile phone in Ward No. 10. Jail guard Rajesh Singh Tanwar reported the matter to the Lal Kothi police station. The phone was handed over to the police, who have registered a case and initiated further investigation.

HC upholds ACB's power to probe Central govt staff

First India Bureau
Jaipur

In a historic decision, the Rajasthan HC has ruled on the jurisdiction of the state govt's Anti-Corruption Bureau with respect to central govt employees. The court clarified that there is no bar on the ACB investigating corruption cases against central government officials.

The HC held that FIRs registered & investigations carried out by the ACB against central employees are valid. It stated that the ACB does not require prior approval from the CBI before taking action against such employees. Justice Sudesh Bansal of the Rajasthan HC, in a single-judge bench order, said that the powers of the



The High Court held that FIRs registered and investigations carried out by the ACB against central employees are valid

CBI and ACB are parallel and concurrent. The two agencies are complementary to each other, and accused persons cannot claim the benefit of CBI-ACB manuals. These manuals, the court noted, are only administrative guidelines.

The order came while dismissing 16 petitions, including one filed by Mukesh Singh. On behalf of the state govt, AAG Rajesh Choudhary argued the case, while SPP Jagmohan Saxena and Pradeep Kumar Choudhary represented the CBI.

200 bags of fake DAP seized in Didwana raid

First India Bureau
Nagaur

The Agriculture Department carried out a major raid in Didwana town of Lalsot, uncovering a large stock of counterfeit DAP (Di-Ammonium Phosphate) fertilizer. Officials found that the spurious fertilizer was being packed in bags bearing the label of a reputed company, IPL. During the operation, the team seized nearly 200 bags of fake DAP along with a packing machine used in the illegal activity. The raid was led by Assistant Director Ashok Kumar Meena, who said the department is taking stringent action to prevent the circulation of adulterated agricultural inputs that could damage crops.

Automobile taxes simplified under GST 2.0 Deputy CM Bairwa launches FADA's GST 2.0 awareness drive

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA), Rajasthan Chapter, has launched a state-wide campaign to educate customers on the new GST 2.0 reforms, effective September 22, 2025. Special posters highlighting reduced tax rates—18% on small cars and two-wheelers and 40% on premium vehicles—will be displayed at all dealerships.

Sharvik Shah, FADA Rajasthan Chairperson, emphasized that the reforms simplify taxation and make vehicles more affordable, boosting consumer confidence. National Vice President Sai



Deputy Chief Minister Prem Chand Bairwa unveiled the posters highlighting the new GST structure at the secretariat in Jaipur on Friday. Sharvik Shah, Sai Giridhar & others were present.

Giridhar added that the campaign aims to enhance transparency and strengthen dealer-buyer trust. Speaking at the occasion, Dr Prem Chand Bairwa, Deputy Chief Minister, said, "GST 2.0 is a visionary reform under the leadership of Narendra Modi. By reduc-

ing taxes and simplifying structures, it brings relief to citizens and boosts key industries like automobiles. I commend FADA Rajasthan for taking this initiative to ensure that these benefits are conveyed directly to customers at the grassroots level."

Rajasthan cuts power tariffs after 25 years

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Electricity bills in Raj will now reflect revised tariff rates for 2025-26 after a new order from the Rajasthan Electricity Regulatory Commission. For the first time in 25 years, power tariffs have been reduced, with domestic consumers seeing cuts of up to 65 paise per unit across most slabs. Rates remain unchanged at Rs 4.75 per unit for 0-50 units, while slabs above 50 units have been reduced by 35-65 paise per unit. However, fixed charges for higher consumption have been raised, with monthly usage of 300-500 units now carrying Rs 500 (up from Rs 400) and above 500 units Rs 800 (up from Rs 450).

COAS REVIEWS OPERATIONAL READINESS

COAS highlights tech integration, civil-military fusion

First India Bureau
Anupgarh

General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), visited forward areas, including the Bikaner Military Station, to review the operational preparedness of troops deployed in the region.

During the visit, he interacted with senior military leadership, civil dignitaries, veterans, and soldiers, reiterating the Army's focus on modernisation, combat preparedness, strengthening



Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi interacts with troops during a visit to Bikaner Military Station on Friday. Lieutenant General Manjinder Singh, Army Commander of the Sapta Shakti Command is also seen.

technological capabilities, and ensuring operational excellence. Gen. Dwivedi said In-

dia has given evidence to the world of the presence of terrorist hideouts in Pakistan during

Operation Sindoor. Had India not unearthed this evidence, Pakistan would have hidden all

of it, he said.

The Army chief said the entire world stood with India when it

launched Operation Sindoor in the wake of the April 22 Pahalgam attack. He said the Indian military hit nine targets inside Pakistan during Operation Sindoor, of which seven were hit by the Army and two by the Air Force. "We had identified the targets because we only wanted to harm the terrorists. We had aimed to strike their bases. We have no complaints against ordinary Pakistani citizens, so long as their country does not sponsor terrorists" Gen. Dwivedi said.

Mahipal Lomror to lead Raj Ranji team

Nareish Sharma
Jaipur

The Rajasthan Cricket Association ad-hoc committee on Friday announced the state squads for the 2025-26 domestic season. Mahipal Lomror has been named captain of the senior Ranji Trophy men's team, with Manav Suthar as vice-captain. Key players in the squad include Deepak Hooda, Deepak Chahar, and Rahul Chahar. The Under-19 women's T20 team was also declared, featuring players such as Tanika Shar-



Mahipal Lomror

ma, Dhriti Mathur, Priya Yadav, and Anushka Choudhary. RCA chairperson D.D. Kumawat said selections were based on performances in state tournaments, Challenger Trophy matches, and practice games.

TERRITORY UNFOLDS

JDA area expands to 679 new villages; new master plan soon

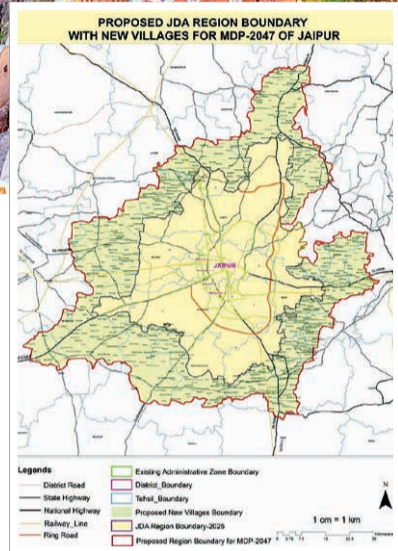
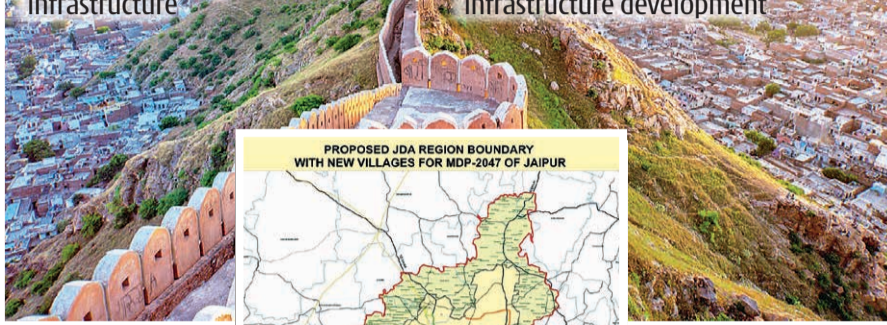
Abhishek Shrivastava
Jaipur

In a landmark decision, the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) region has been expanded to nearly double its previous size, growing from 3,000 square kilometres to approximately 6,000 square kilometres. The Urban Development Department issued a notification confirming the inclusion of 679 new villages, 632 of which are new revenue villages. The expansion also includes villages from the Jobner, Shahpura, and Chaksu master plans, with 47 urban villages from these municipalities now under JDA jurisdiction.

A new master plan will be drafted to accommodate the expanded region and ensure development needs are met through 2047.

The proposal for the expansion was initially submitted by JDA to the state government at the end of January 2025. Following government guidance, the JDA undertook a cadre review to ensure

- Expanded from 3,000 sq. km to 6,000 sq. km around Jaipur city
- 632 revenue villages and areas from Jobner, Shahpura, and Chaksu's master plans included
- Plan to be made for future needs up to 2047, including land use and infrastructure
- Areas along Tonk, Ajmer, Sikar roads now included in JDA region
- Expansion supports industrial, educational, and tourism developments with planned growth
- Zoning and sectoral plans to ensure organized urban growth and infrastructure development



sufficient personnel for the enlarged jurisdiction. Approval was granted for 496 new positions within the authority, enabling the JDA to manage the extended region effectively.

The process of redefining the JDA region followed provisions under Section 2(8) of the JDA Act. A committee chaired by the JDA Commissioner

was formed on August 7, 2023, which initially proposed including 272 new villages, expanding the region to 4,000

square kilometres. However, considering potential development around Jaipur city, the committee later recommended further expansion. A detailed study was conducted covering a 100-kilometre perimeter around Jaipur, analysing existing infrastructure such as railway lines, the international sports stadium, convention centres, the airport, highways, in-

dustrial areas, markets, ring roads, tourist sites, universities, colleges, and economic centres. The study also considered expected future economic activities to determine the areas suitable for inclusion.

Under the new expansion, the JDA region now encompasses the Greater Jaipur Municipal Corporation, Jaipur Heritage Municipal Corporation, and the municipalities of Chomu, Bagru, Bassi, and Vatika. The expanded jurisdiction stretches along major highways and roads from 40 to 60 kilometres around Jaipur.

The authority will oversee land-use conversions, issuance of leases, approval for new townships and building constructions, and other urban planning activities. With the inclusion of these 679 villages, the JDA will ensure planned development, infrastructure provision, and road networks aligned with long-term growth objectives.



Former CM Ashok Gehlot is being felicitated by Congress leaders, in Chomu, on Friday.

Three-day Cong Seva Dal training camp begins

Manoj Saini
Jaipur

Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Friday inaugurated a three-day residential training camp of the Congress Seva Dal at Braj Resort in Samod, Chomu. The event was held under the guidance of the district Congress Seva Dal president, Lalluram Saini. Ahead of the camp, Gehlot was welcomed by members of the Saini community at Vinay Resort in Neemri, Chomu.

The event was attended by Chomu MLA Dr Shikha Meel Barala, Shahpura MLA Manish Yadav, Amer MLA Prashant Sharma, Phulera MLA Vidhyadhar Chaudhary, former MLA Bhagwan Sahay Saini, RTDC former chairman Dharmendra Rathore, state Seva Dal president Hemsingh Shekhawat, and others.

STATE GOVT OKAYS

Kaysons syrup gets clean chit; Rathore calls it 'worrying'

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The State Health Department on Friday confirmed that Kaysons Pharma's cough syrup samples, including those containing Dextromethorphan, have passed all quality checks as per official medical standards.

These tests followed complaints from the field, and laboratory results indicated that the syrup met all prescribed norms.

Senior BJP leader Rajendra Rathore expressed grief over reports that several children had died after consuming cough syrup, calling the incidents "deeply saddening and worrying." He alleged that Kaysons Pharma, whose syrup was linked to these deaths, had been blacklisted multiple times in the past.

"This is direct negligence with public safety. I demand a large-scale campaign against counterfeit drugs and strict action against the responsible companies and individuals," he said.



DRUG CONTROLLER SUSPENDED

Drug Controller (II) Rajaram Sharma has been suspended following allegations of providing misleading information to the Central Government about counterfeit medicines. The suspension followed a report by First India on September 26, which revealed that Sharma had issued an order stating that if a drug's prescribed content is missing a single component, but the manufacturer acknowledges producing it, the drug would not be classified as counterfeit. This directive led to the reduction of reported fake medicines from 55 to 37.

ASSEMBLY OBSERVES HOLIDAY

Ex-Raj Speaker Giriraj Tiwari dies at 105; Governor, CM pay tribute

First India Bureau
Jaipur/Bharatpur

Former Rajasthan Assembly Speaker Giriraj Prasad Tiwari passed away at the age of 105. Born on December 20, 1920, Tiwari had a distinguished career in public service, having served as a two-time legislator for Bayana and Bharatpur, district head, and panchayat chief. He also held various positions in the Congress Seva Dal Committee and was a member of the state's eighth legislative assembly from 1985 to 1990.

Tiwari was appointed Deputy Speaker from March 29, 1985, to January 31, 1986, and went on to serve as Speaker from January 31, 1986, to March 11, 1990.

Governor Haribhau Bagade expressed grief over Tiwari's demise, praying for peace for



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma lays wreath and pays tribute to former Assembly Speaker Giriraj Prasad Tiwari, in Bharatpur, on Friday.

his soul and strength for his family.

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma visited Bayana in Bharatpur on Friday and laid a wreath on Tiwari's mortal remains, offering condolences to his family.

Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani also

expressed sorrow, calling Tiwari a profound scholar of parliamentary traditions who upheld democratic values during his tenure. He said Tiwari's life reflected dedication, simplicity, and public service, and described his death as an irreparable loss to political and social

life. In a mark of respect, the Rajasthan Assembly observed a one-day holiday on Friday.

Senior Congress leader Ashok Gehlot also condoled Tiwari's demise, recalling him as a spirited individual with remarkable memory and vitality even in advanced age.

16 accused flee Jodhpur Court after sentencing

Shiv Prakash Purohit
Jodhpur

An unusual incident occurred at the SC-ST Court in Jodhpur when 16 accused in the attack and arson case from Padasla village, Osian, managed to escape after being sentenced to seven years each. The magistrate had ordered the court bailiff to take all the accused into custody, but by the time he arrived, all the accused had fled the premises. The incident, which took place on 26 September, was reported by court reader Sanjay Purohit, who filed a case at Udai Mandir Police Station.

The police did not include the incident in their daily report for six days, keeping the matter under wraps. It was only on Thursday that the issue came to light, though one accused is still on the run.

Boost to sports culture: Sansad Khel Mahotsav starts from Oct 15

Yogesh Sharma
Jaipur

Jaipur MP Manju Sharma on Friday briefed the media at the BJP state office about the upcoming Sansad Khel Mahotsav, a significant national initiative aimed at promoting sports culture across India. The event, starting on October 15, seeks to encourage fitness, sports adoption, and a healthy lifestyle.

Sharma highlighted that the festival will offer both men and women of various age groups the opportunity to participate in traditional games like kabaddi, kho-kho, wrestling, tug of war, roomal jhapatta, sitoliya, matka race, lemon race,



MP Manju Sharma addresses media at BJP headquarters, in Jaipur, on Friday. BJP leader Pramod Vashistha is also seen.

and mallakhamb, as well as modern sports such as cricket, football, volleyball, athletics, archery, wushu, hockey, badminton, chess, and weightlifting. Special competitions will be held for women athletes, and teams of differently-abled participants will also be formed.

The competition will be conducted in three phases: mandal, assembly, and parliamentary constituency levels. "The Mahotsav is being organised in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Fit India Hit India' campaign and inspired by the 'Khelo India' theme," she added.

DMRC to head second phase of Jaipur Metro

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Jaipur Metro has appointed DMRC as the General Consultant. An MoU was signed on Friday between Jaipur Metro and Delhi Metro for this purpose. As the General Consultant, DMRC will handle the second phase of the Jaipur Metro project, which is estimated to cost over Rs 12,000 crore.

DMRC will provide design services, appoint a Detailed Design Consultant (DDC), and prepare various bid documents for the project.

FOR INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES

Jaipur Airport bags 3 gold, 1 silver

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Jaipur International Airport received widespread recognition at the 19th Chapter Convention of the Quality Circle Forum of India (QCFI), securing three gold and one silver award. The event, which saw participation from over 300 companies across India, celebrated the airport's innovative initiatives and contributions to operational excellence.



FILE

Team Maverick earned a gold award for its permanent structure initiative, while the airport also received a silver award for its efforts to en-

hance operational efficiency and reduce its carbon footprint. Team Terminal Titans won gold for automating the Lost and Found system, and Team JIAL

Avengers was awarded gold for their 3R initiative in the fire station areas.

In addition to these awards, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) recognised the airport for its cost-effective automation measures, underscoring its commitment to innovation and operational excellence.

Jaipur International Airport, renowned for its progressive approach, has continually raised the bar in air connectivity.

40TH EDITION

shimmer®

Lifestyle • Fashion • Exhibition
by alka agarwal

4 & 5

OCTOBER

11:00 AM TO 09:00 PM

DIWALI & Decor EDIT

FASHION PARTNER

Pooja
Ratnawat

KESARI BAGH BANQUETS

Queens Road, Opp. Jharkhand Mahadev
Vaishali Nagar, Jaipur

FOOD COURT | VALET PARKING



Arti Dogra, IAS

The writer is Chairman Discoms Rajasthan and CMD JVVNL

PM-KUSUM YOJANA IN RAJASTHAN

SOLARISING FARMS-TRANSFORMING VILLAGES

With farming in Rajasthan so closely tied to timely irrigation, daytime power has always been a lifeline for cultivators struggling against extreme heat and water scarcity. Recognising this, the Chief Minister's push for decentralized solar plants under the KUSUM scheme has been visionary—using the state's abundant sun not only to advance clean energy but to secure farmers' livelihoods through assured daytime electricity. By aligning energy policy with agricultural necessity, he has laid the foundation for a rural transformation powered not just by megawatts, but by livelihoods.

When the Prime Minister met fifty farmers and beneficiaries under the PM-KUSUM Scheme in Banswara last week, the conversation was as much about lives as it was about numbers. Six beneficiaries across Components A, B and C spoke of their journeys—from power consumers to power producers and shared their stories about turning their fields into Solar Power Plants and their pumps into instruments of prosperity. In doing so, they offered a glimpse of how solarisation is reshaping Rajasthan's villages. Their journeys reveal why Rajasthan has emerged as the epicentre of India's energy transition.

FROM LAND TO POWER: COMPONENT A

Launched in 2019, Component A of the scheme, allows farmers to establish decentralized Solar Plants of 0.5–2 MW capacity within 5 km of a Discom Sub-station. Rajasthan leads in the implementation of the scheme, with over 456 MW already commissioned and another 4.6 GW in the pipeline. Tariffs as low as Rs 2.08 per unit have emerged, making solar competitive compared to traditional power sources and Discoms are signing Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for the same.

This bold design—without central subsidy, built on partnerships between Farmers, Developers and Discoms—has given landowners a new role in the energy economy. Dharmendra Kumar from Sanoli (Alwar), a B.Tech graduate, operates two Solar Plants totalling 4.74 MW under Components A and C. His family's monthly income has risen by nearly Rs 5 lakh, and the project sustains jobs for eight others in his community. Pappu Devi of Khara, Phalodi and Ram Chandra Singh of Jodhpur too have turned their land into



PM Narendra Modi being felicitated by CM Bhajan Lal Sharma during a programme wherein, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of development projects worth more than Rs 1.08 lakh crore at Napla in Banswara district on September 25. Governor Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade, Deputy CMs Diya Kumari & Dr PC Bairwa, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi and BJP State President Madan Rathore were also present.

solar assets, ensuring a steady livelihood while contributing clean power to the grid. Their stories are inspiring a new generation of "solar-preneurs" in Rajasthan who are finding not just income security through these plants but also dignity and confidence while participating in the growing economy.

SOLARISING THE PUMP ECONOMY: COMPONENT C

If Component A transforms farmers into power producers, Component C solarises irrigation itself. By placing Solar PV plants near Sub-Stations and linking them to segregated agri-

PM-KUSUM is not just an energy scheme. It is a rural economic transformation programme. Villages like Sanoli and Bagwas now have households where young graduates, elderly parents, and women alike are engaged in solar operations, moving from subsistence to sustainability

culture feeders, it ensures reliable daytime supply for irrigation while reducing the subsidy burden of the Discoms. Rajasthan's target is ambitious: 14 lakh pumps to be solarised across 17 GW capacity, of which over 74,000 pumps are already running on solar.

The gains are tangible. Jagdish Meghwal from Pratapgarh once spent Rs 24,000–30,000 a year on electricity bills; with his 5 HP solar pump, he now saves that amount and earns more from diversified cropping. His annual income has gone up by Rs 1–1.5 lakh. Today, Solar Power has brought stability, productivity and a sense of independence.

These stories capture a deeper shift. Incomes are diversifying beyond farming, young peo-



PM Narendra Modi interacts with a beneficiary of PM-KUSUM Yojana in Banswara.

ple are finding work in plant operations and maintenance, and the assurance of power is enabling new business choices once considered too risky. Villages where PM-KUSUM plants are operational are beginning to see new rural economies take shape—where energy security feeds directly into financial security. Solar plants are no longer abstract policy goals—they are anchoring local economies.

For the Discoms, too, the benefits are strategic. Procuring Solar Power at competitive tariffs reduces losses from heavily subsidised agriculture supply, while feeder-level solarisation helps flatten demand peaks. In short, PM-KUSUM is not only greening the grid but also repairing the financial health of Rajasthan's power sector.

In this sense, PM-KUSUM is not just an energy scheme. It is a rural economic transforma-

tion programme. Villages like Sanoli and Bagwas now have households where young graduates, elderly parents, and women alike are engaged in solar operations, moving from subsistence to sustainability.

RAJASTHAN'S LEADERSHIP IN THE GREEN TRANSITION

Scale and speed are the hallmark of the implementation of the scheme in Rajasthan. Discoms are at the forefront, ensuring regulatory clarity through RERC orders and balancing Farmer, Developer, and state interests through innovative tripartite agreements. Rajasthan has shown how a state can align climate ambition with grassroots participation and set out a template for the rest of the country. The numbers are impressive—over 5 GW sanctioned under Component A and 17 GW under Component C—but it is the lived experiences in villages like

Sanoli, Bagwas and Khara that demonstrate why the scheme matters.

The Prime Minister's conversation in Banswara was not simply a showcase—it was an affirmation that when policy design meets grassroots ownership, energy transition ceases to be a top-down ambition. It becomes a lived rural reality and positions villages at the centre of energy transition

LOOKING AHEAD

Challenges remain—timely financing, smoother land aggregation, and faster commissioning. But the trajectory is clear. Rajasthan is demonstrating that solar power can be both an energy solution and an economic catalyst. PM-KUSUM Yojana is helping farmers shift from dependence to entrepreneurship, from subsidy recipients to stakeholders.

And in that lies its greatest promise: transforming not just the way we generate power, but the way we imagine the future of India's villages.

Ultimately, Rajasthan's Chief Minister's vision of linking solar power to livelihood security is what sets Rajasthan apart. By guaranteeing farmers the one resource they need most—reliable daytime electricity for their crops—the state has shown that clean energy is not just about climate goals. It is about securing the very foundation of rural life, and in doing so, transforming villages into engines of prosperity.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL



X A pleasure meeting Amb. Celso Amorim, Special Advisor to President of Brazil, today in New Delhi. Had a useful exchange on the current global scenario and on opportunities for deepening our strategic cooperation.

Dr. S. Jaishankar @DrSJaishankar



X Now, 20% of undergraduate seats in the country's agricultural universities will be filled through the All India Competitive Examination conducted by ICAR. This will bring relief to lakhs of students aspiring for agricultural education.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan @ChouhanShivraj

SPIRITUAL SPEAK

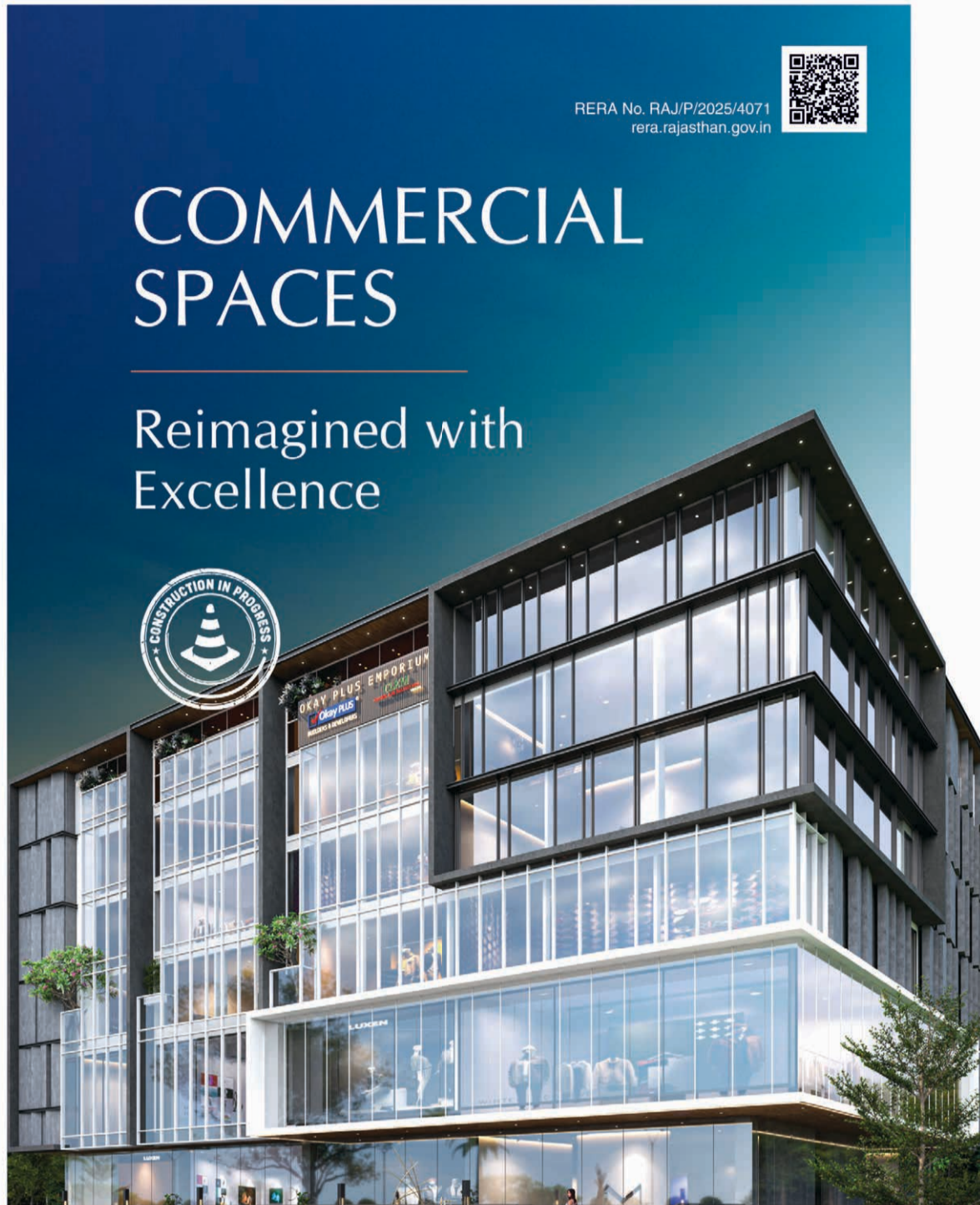
Death is as sure for that which is born, as birth is for that which is dead. Therefore grieve not for what is inevitable.

BHAGAVAD GITA

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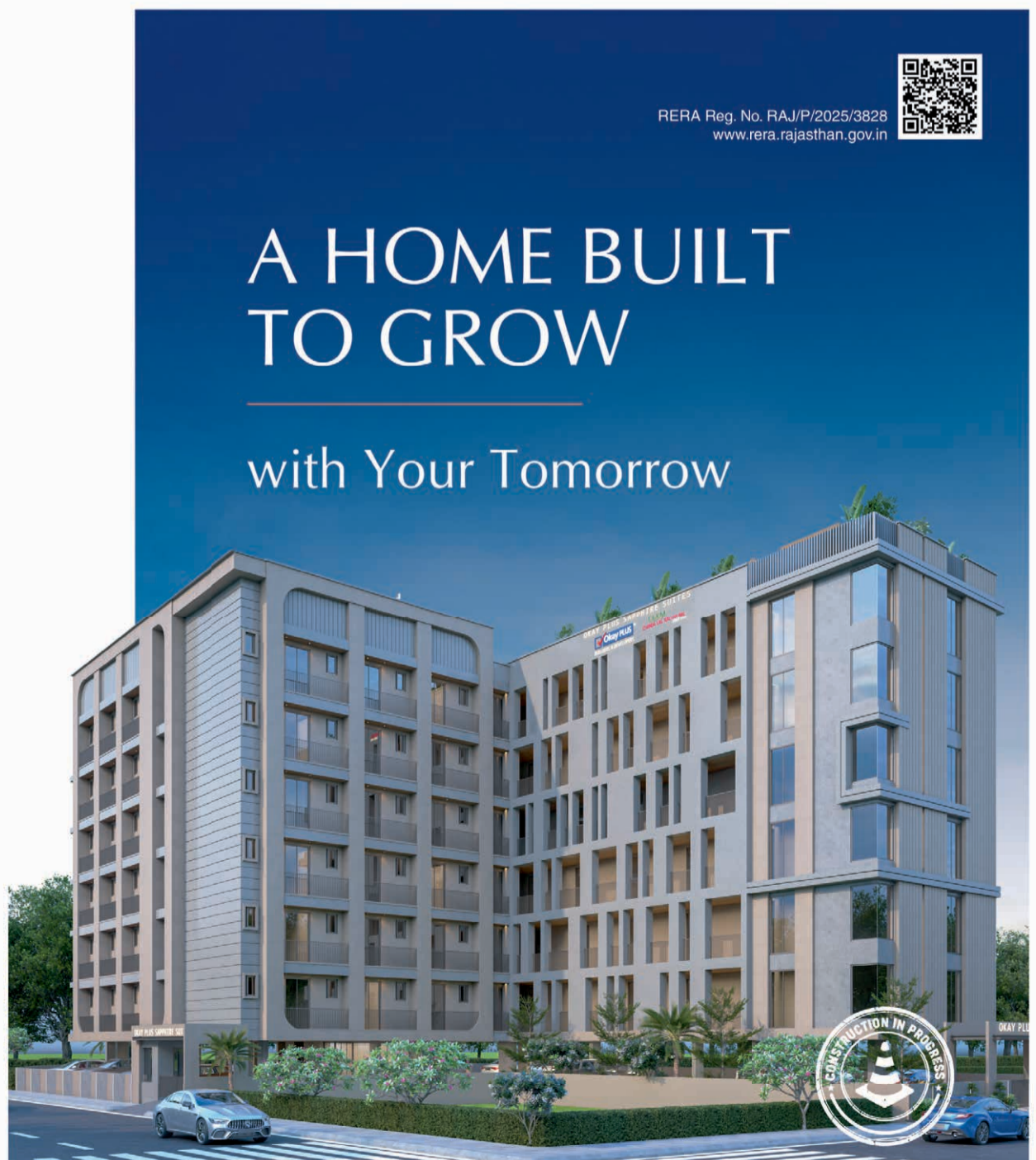
- ❖ POOL WITH SITTING AREA
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India's dairy sector grew by 70% in past 11 years: Amit Shah

PTI
Rohtak

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said India has made significant strides in dairy sector over the past 11 years, noting that it has grown by 70% during this period and is now the fastest-growing sector in the world.

ership of PM Narendra Modi, India's dairy sector has expanded by 70 per cent in terms of capacity. In the world, India's dairy sector is the fastest-growing, Shah said after inaugurating the newly constructed Sabar Dairy Plant facility in Industrial Model Township here, as part of efforts to promote the cooperative sector.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah being felicitated as Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini applauds during the inauguration of Sabar Dairy Plant, in Rohtak on Friday. PTI

CONG FORGOT ABOUT KHADI AFTER INDEPENDENCE, PM MODI RESOLVED TO REVIVE IT, SAYS AMIT SHAH

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said khadi is not only a dress but also a feeling of 'swadeshi' and 'atmanirbharta', attacking the Congress and saying it forgot about khadi after Independence and did nothing for its promotion. This was the second event that Shah addressed here on Friday. Earlier, he inaugurated the newly constructed Sabar Dairy Plant facility in Rohtak. Referring to the Congress ruling the country for many decades, Shah said the Congress forgot about khadi after Independence. "They did not pay attention to khadi and did nothing for its promotion," Shah said during the 'Khadi Karigar Mahotsav' event.

Built at a cost of Rs 325 crore, the plant will house state-of-the-art machinery and is expected to generate direct and indirect employment. The newly inaugurated Sabar Dairy plant here is the country's largest production facility for curd, buttermilk, and yogurt, with a daily capacity of 150 metric tonnes of curd,

3 lakh litres of buttermilk, 10 lakh litres of yogurt, and 10 metric tonnes of sweets. Gujarat-headquartered Sabarkantha District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union is known as Sabar Dairy. Shah also said that over the past four years, this Ministry has laid a strong foundation for the cooperative system.

India will cross any border to protect citizens: Singh

PTI
Hyderabad

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday asserted that the NDA government has demonstrated, through 2016 surgical strike, 2019 Balakot airstrike and the recent Operation Sindoor, that the country can cross any border whenever necessary to protect citizens and safeguard India's unity and integrity.



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Minister For Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy, Telangana IT Minister Sridhar Babu, Yoga guru Ramdev and others during an event organised by the Jain International Trade Organisation, in Hyderabad, Friday. PTI

Speaking at 'JITO Connect' organised by Jain International Trade Organisation, he said innocent people were killed in the Pahalgam terror attack by being identified by their religion, but India did not see religion when it conducted surgical strikes against Pakistan. "The government only targeted terrorist centres to punish those responsible for the Pahalgam terrorist attack. We never attacked any military or

civilian establishment there. If we wanted, we could have done that earlier, but we did not," he said. According to Singh, the central government's focus on boosting military

and economic power is not aimed at domination but to safeguard the ideals rooted in religion, faith and human values which are reflected in Bhagwan Mahavir's teachings.

WILL NO LONGER DEPEND ON FOREIGN NATIONS: RAJNATH

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in Hyderabad on Friday emphasised the country's progress toward self-reliance in the defence sector and the speed at which it is lowering its reliance on foreign suppliers. Speaking at the 'JITO Connect 2025' event in Hyderabad, Singh described how India is becoming a major global centre for manufacturing, ranging from "toys to tanks". "As Minister of Defence, I am pleased to say that we will no longer be dependent on foreign nations for defence. 'Made in India' is now proudly displayed on every part and weapon," he said. Rajnath Singh emphasised the defence exports' growth, saying, "Our defence exports were worth Rs 600 crore 11 years ago. That amount has increased to Rs 24,000 crore today. This is anticipated to reach Rs 50,000 crore by 2029."

IAF Chief hails Op Sindoor 'After F-16, J-17 jets shot down, Pakistan begged for ceasefire'

Agencies
New Delhi

India's Operation Sindoor rained hell on Pakistani forces as its top fighter jets, including the US-made F-16s and Chinese-built J-17s, were destroyed during the four-day military showdown, said Air Chief Marshal AP Singh on Friday.

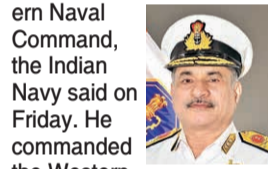


Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh

He said that the Indian military has proof of at least one long-range strike on an AEW&C aircraft and four to five strikes on fighter jets during Operation Sindoor. He trashed reports that Indian jets were downed in Pakistan's reciprocal attacks and termed them as vicious propaganda by the Pakistani establishment to mislead its own citizens. Shedding light on the suspense over the ceasefire, he said that it

GOKHALE TAKES CHARGE AS CHIEF OF STAFF

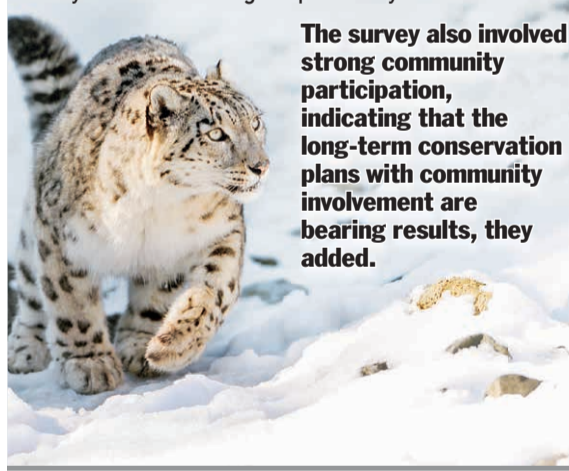
Vice Admiral Rahul Vilas Gokhale has assumed charge as Chief of Staff, Western Naval Command, the Indian Navy said on Friday. He commanded the Western Fleet of the Indian Navy prior to his present role, as per defence release.



was Pakistan, pummeled by Indian military strikes, which begged for a ceasefire.

Snow Ghosts bounce back

The population of rare snow leopards in high-altitude tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh has increased by 62 per cent over the past four years, says a newly released survey. The count stood at 51 in 2021, according to the baseline survey conducted by the Wildlife Wing of the state Forest Department. It has now increased to 83, officials said on Friday, citing the study conducted during the past one year.



The survey also involved strong community participation, indicating that the long-term conservation plans with community involvement are bearing results, they added.

NASA ceases most of its work over budget cuts

Nasa has announced that its operations are halted due to a lapse in government funding, with a notice on its website stating the agency is "closed" until further notice. This comes as the US entered a government shutdown on Oct 1, after Congress failed to pass a budget or temporary funding measure. It has forced thousands of federal workers to be furloughed across government agencies, including Nasa.

India slams Pak at UN over its hypocrisy

India slammed Pakistan at the UN Human Rights Council, saying a country with one of the world's worst human rights records should confront the rampant State-sponsored persecution and systemic discrimination of religious minorities in its own society. "We find it deeply ironic that a country with one of the world's worst human rights records seeks to lecture others," Counsellor in Permanent



India criticises Pakistan at the 60th session of UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Mission of India, Geneva, KS Mohammed Hussain said at 60th Session of Human Rights Council. "Their attempts to misuse this august forum with fabricated allegations against India expose their hypocrisy," Hussain said.

'RaGa become flag-bearer of anti-India forces'

The BJP on Friday mounted a blistering attack on the Congress, alleging that Rahul Gandhi has become the "flag-bearer of anti-India forces" for pushing their agenda in the country, and called upon people to be wary of him. BJP's Sudhanshu Trivedi slammed Gandhi and alleged that it has now become clear that the Congress is falling into the clutches of "anti-India" forces.

CISF AT KARTAVYA BHAWAN

Securing the Nation's Nerve Centre

Alshay Rai
New Delhi

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the new premises of the Ministry of Finance at Kartavya Bhawan-1 on October 2nd, 2025, marking the historic shift from North Block.



DIG GSF Vishnu Swaroop with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

On this occasion, CISF was inducted at CCS-01/Kartavya Bhawan-1 to provide 24x7 security. Shri Vishnu Swaroop, DIG/CISF, CGBS, along with senior officials and media representatives, attended the ceremony.

This induction highlights CISF's dedication to safeguarding critical national institutions with professionalism, discipline, and excellence.



CEC, ECs to visit Bihar to review poll preps today

PTI
New Delhi

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioners Vivek Joshi and S S Sandhu will visit Patna for two days beginning Saturday to review poll preparedness in Bihar, officials said.



Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

The term of 243-member Bihar Assembly ends on Nov 22 and polls in the state are likely to be held in multiple phases beginning at the end of this month and in Nov 4.

It is common practice for the authority to visit states before announcing the schedule. The commissioners will be in the state on October 4 and 5, the officials said on Friday.

BIHAR HIGHLIGHTS
● The Jan Suraj Party, founded by former political strategist Prashant Kishor, on Friday said it will come up with its "first list of candidates" for the Bihar assembly polls on October 9.
● The BJP will set the ball rolling for the elections to the four Rajya Sabha seats of J&K by holding a core group meeting on Saturday.

Government of India
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
Regional Office, Gandhinagar, A Wing- 407 & 409, "Aranya Bhawan", Near Ch-3 Circle, Sector-10a, Gandhi Nagar-382010 Email: Iro.gandhingar-mefcc@gov.in

Online Proposal No: FPR/J/OTHERS/403418/2022 Dated: 12/02/2025 Dated: 12/02/2025

To,
Principal Secretary (Forest and Environment),
Department of Forest and Wildlife
Government of Rajasthan,
Vaniki Path, Near Secretariat
Jaipur-302005 (Rajasthan)

Subject: Proposal for non-forestry use of 0.6565 ha of forest land under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s INDERGARH BEEJASANMATA ROPEWAY PRIVATE LIMITED for Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve (Core), Bundi in Forest Division, District BUNDI (RAJASTHAN)-reg

Sir/Madam,
This is in reference to the online proposal no. FPR/J/OTHERS/403418/2022 dated 17/10/2022 on the above-mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by Regional Office as per extant rules and regulations. After the examination, the undersigned directed to convey the "In-Principle/Stage-I" approval of the Central Government under section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the Proposal for non-forestry use of 0.6565 ha of forest land under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s INDERGARH BEEJASANMATA ROPEWAY PRIVATE LIMITED for Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve (Core), Bundi in Forest Division, District BUNDI (RAJASTHAN) subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

S. No.	Conditions
1.1	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged
1.2	Compensatory afforestation on the degraded forest land double in extent to the forest land being diverted shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency. Or Compensatory afforestation on the non-forest land equal in extent to the forest land being diverted shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency.
1.3	The non-forest land identified for raising compensatory afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department before issue of the Stage-II clearance.
1.4	The non-forest land transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act, 1927 latest within a period of six months from the date of issue of Stage-II approval. The Nodal Officer shall report compliance in this regard along with a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section-4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, as the case may be, within the stipulated period to the Central Government for information and record.
1.5	The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topsheet of 1:50,000 scale.
1.6	The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation, at the current wage rate, to the State Forest Department. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.
1.7	The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 in this regard.
1.8	At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
1.9	All the funds received from the user agency under the project, except the funds realized for regeneration/demarcation of safety zone, shall be transferred to Ad-hoc CAMPA in the Savings Bank Account pertaining to the State concerned.
1.10	The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
1.11	The boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing a distance from pillar to pillar.
1.12	The User agency, if required, will undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures in the area being diverted at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department. A scheme of the same may be submitted along with the compliance report.
1.13	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
1.14	The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
1.15	The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
1.16	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
1.17	The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
1.18	No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
1.19	Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
1.20	The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted in accordance with the relevant guidelines issued by the MoEF.
1.21	The user agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitats/nests for the swifts, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project.
1.22	The User Agency shall submit six monthly self-compliance reports as on 1st January and 1st July of every year to this office as well as to the Nodal Officer of the State.
1.23	The State Government shall monitor compliance of conditions of Forest Clearance and shall submit in this regard yearly report as on 31st December of every year.
1.24	Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
1.25	The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
1.26	Grant of working permission to the extant proposal may be considered by the State Government in accordance with the provisions as contained in the MoEF&CC's Guidelines dated 28.08.2015.
1.27	The KML file of the area to be diverted and the CA areas shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details.
1.28	Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 0.50 DFL. Survey No./Block/Compartment No. Matajiwala, Village-Mohanpura, Range- Indergarh, Taluka- District-Bundi, Rajasthan at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and mono-culture of any species may be avoided.
1.29	Nil tree felling shall be involved in the implementation of this project.

2. Standard conditions
3. Specific Conditions
S. No. 3.1 The User Agency shall comply to the conditions stipulated in the minutes of meeting of 73rd Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfillment of all the above conditions from the State Government, proposal will be considered for final approval under section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The User Agency shall take up the work as per the guidelines in force and after ensuring that all necessary clearances for the entire stretch are in place. Working permission, if any issued, shall be intimated to RO, Gandhinagar. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard. Further, it may also be noted that this In-principle/Stage-I approval shall be valid for a period of 2 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this In-principle approval shall be revoked after two (02) years.

- Copy To
1. Chief Executive Officer, National CAMPA, MoEF&CC, India Paryavaran, Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-03 (Email-adhoc-campa-mef@nic.in)
2. The Inspector General of Forests (Central), ROHQ Division, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, India Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003.
3. The PCCF & Nodal Officer, State Forest Department, Government of Rajasthan Aranya Bhawan, Jaipur.
4. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, DCF, RVTR Bundi, Rajasthan.
5. The concerned User Agency.

Your's faithfully
(Shrawan Kumar Verma)
Regional Officer/Head of Department
Regional Office, Gandhinagar
MoEF&CC, Govt of India



SOLID घर

★ सिर्फ ★

BANGUR

CEMENT



USE FOR SOLID CONCRETE

FIRST INDIA 2ND FRONT

THOUGHT OF THE DAY
True leaders carry the weight of all, yet walk with humility.

Dr JAGDEESH CHANDRA, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



08

Rajcharts path to global tourism at Bharat24 Conclave

EXPERTS DISCUSSED ENHANCING RAJASTHAN'S APPEAL VIA SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AND CULTURAL HOSPITALITY



Senior VP FHTR Surendra Singh Shahpura in conversation with Anchor Akanksha Tomar during a panel discussion in the presence of (L-R) Former Chairman RTDC Rajiv Arora, Commissioner RTDC Rukmani Riar, Principal Secretary Tourism Rajesh Kumar Yadav, GM Rambagh Ashok Rathore and General Secretary IHHA Gaj Singh Alsisar during the Tourism Conclave on 'How to Make Rajasthan a Global Destination' organised by Bharat24Vision of New India at Hotel Marriott, Jaipur on Friday. **SANTOSH SHARMA & SUNIL SHARMA**

Divya Kanwalya
Jaipur

The grand conclave - 'Rajasthan Tourism: How to Make Rajasthan a Global Destination' - organised by Bharat24-Vision of New India and Rajasthan tourism department at Hotel Marriott, Jaipur on Friday witnessed a panel discussion, titled "Padharo Mhare Desh: The Art of Welcoming the World".



CEO & Managing Editor, First India News, Pawan Arora welcomes (L-R) Principal Secretary Tourism Rajesh Kumar Yadav & RTDC Commissioner Rukmani Riar during the Tourism Conclave.



Deputy CM Diya Kumari in conversation with Aditi Nagar, Political Editor of Bharat24 Vision of New India during the Tourism Conclave at Hotel Marriott, Jaipur on Friday.



It saw participation from distinguished personalities including Principal Secretary Tourism Rajesh Kumar Yadav, Commissioner RTDC Rukmani Riar, Area Director- Jaipur & Ajmer and GM Rambagh Palace, Ashok Rathore, National General Secretary IHHA Gaj Singh Alsisar, Former Chairman RTDC Rajiv Arora, and Senior Vice President FHTR Surendra Singh Shahpura.

The experts deliberated on strategies to strengthen Rajasthan's appeal through sustainable tourism, world-class hospitality, and cultural branding.

FIN senior editor Jinendra Singh Shekhawat, senior anchor Shweta Mishra Awasthi and others also attended the event. Speakers emphasised that Rajasthan is

not just a place to visit, but to live — a global destination in the making, where history, art, and traditions merge with modern infrastructure to create unforgettable ex-

periences. Highlighting the state government's commitment, Diya Kumari announced a Rs 500 cr budget for tourism and infrastructure development. Projects underway include the Maharana Pratap Circuit, Religious Circuit, and Khatu Shyam Ji Project, along with initiatives to promote Bundi, the Tribal Circuit, and Shekhawati's heritage havelis. She called on the private sector to provide world-class hospitality at emerging destinations.

Welcoming her, Bharat24 CEO & Editor-in-Chief Dr Jagdeesh Chandra said the legacy attracting tourists from Amber to Rambagh and the Secretariat was created by her forefathers. "Now, it is her turn to build the new Jaipur, easing traffic and boosting tourism. "Hotels are full. Raj remains a global jewel," he said, adding officials are executing CM Bhajan Lal Sharma's vision with Union and Prime Minister support.

12 A.M. CAP ON NIGHTCLUBS CAUSING SEVERE BLOW TO TOURISM: Dr JAGDEESH CHANDRA

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, CEO & Editor-in-Chief, Bharat24, Vision of New India, while addressing the Tourism Conclave, raised concerns that restrictions on nightclubs in Jaipur, which mandate closure by 12 a.m., are adversely affecting the state's tourism industry. Speaking on the issue, Chandra referred to the government's tourism budget of Rs 975 crore, highlighting allocations such as Rs 100 crore for tribal areas and another Rs 100 crore for promoting night tourism. He argued that nightclubs play a crucial role in night tourism and that the early closure order, issued last year under law-and-order measures, has left many establishments struggling to survive. Chandra noted that working families and young people often visit clubs late in the evening,



typically after 10:30 p.m., but police enforcement at 11:30 p.m. forces venues to shut down soon after they open. "Most of Jaipur's nightclubs are on the verge of closure. This is directly impacting tourism. Young crowds now prefer to go to places like Gurugram on weekends instead of staying here," he said.

While acknowledging the efforts of the police commissioner in reducing crime rates—estimated to have fallen by around 6 percent—Chandra stressed that a balance must be struck between maintaining law and order and supporting tourism. He suggested extending nightclub operating hours to at least 1 a.m. or 2 a.m. "The thinking has to be a little more flexible. Ultimately, the decision has to come from the leadership," he said. He also pointed out that nightclubs in Jaipur are no longer limited to the image of Mumbai-style dance clubs but have evolved into respectable ventures attracting significant investment. "People are investing ₹20-25 crore in creating high-quality clubs in Jaipur. Good entrepreneurs are associating with this sector, and it must be promoted," Chandra added.

Trade fairs and exhibitions can promote tourism very effectively. If such events are held in Jaipur, visitors will shop for bangles, juttis, quilts, and other traditional crafts. This cultural advantage, combined with strong marketing, can make Rajasthan a true global destination.

RAJIV ARORA,
FORMER CHAIRMAN, RTDC

Tourists leave Rajasthan with lasting memories, inspiring others to visit. With a 30-year international presence, including showcases in Paris and Japan, the government treats tourism as an industry. Post-COVID, domestic tourism grew 78% with 23 cr visitors, prompting infra upgrades in high-footfall areas.

RAJESH KUMAR YADAV,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TOURISM

The govt builds tourism infra where visitors go. Post-COVID domestic tourism has surged, especially at religious sites. With Udaipur and Banswara overcrowded, focus shifts to unexplored destinations, including Banswara's islands, prioritising infra, new attractions, and domestic tourism growth.

RUKMANI RIAR,
COMMISSIONER RTDC

Rajasthan is not just to see, but to experience. Jaipur, Udaipur, and Jodhpur previously had manageable infrastructure, but post-COVID tourism and weddings have increased traffic and pressure. Development must balance improved infra with preserving Rajasthan's unique beauty.

SURENDRA SINGH SHAHPURA,
SENIOR VP FHTR

To make Raj a global destination, three things are essential: better infrastructure, connectivity, and global marketing. Currently, flights come only from the Middle East & Southeast Asia, with no direct connections from Europe or the US. Expanding connectivity must be a top priority.

GAJ SINGH ALSISAR,
GENERAL SECRETARY IHHA

The govt frames policies, builds infrastructure, and supports marketing, but the private sector runs hotels, creates experiences, and ensures service quality. In Rajasthan, nearly 80% of tourism is managed privately. With 35+ projects many MOUs underway, govt and industry collaborate to grow tourism.

ASHOK RATHORE,
GM RAMBAGH PALACE

Birla honours Sain community, stresses global trust in doctors



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra greeted Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla during a courtesy meet at Raj Bhawan, Jaipur on Friday. The Lok Sabha Speaker is presently on a visit to Jaipur.

Ziauddin Khan and Dinesh Kasana
Jaipur

A state-level talent and Bhamashah felicitation ceremony of the Sain community was held in Jaipur at the Durgapura Agricultural Research Auditorium, hosted by the Rashtriya Nai Ma-

hasabha Rajasthan. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, the chief guest, felicitated distinguished donors and meritorious students, highlighting the community's dedication, skill, and service traditions inspired by Sain Maharaj. He praised education, craftsmanship, collective service, and women's ac-



LS Speaker Om Birla addresses during the 'Pratibha and Bhamashah Samman Samaroh' organised by Rashtriya Nai Mahasabha in Jaipur on Friday.

tive role in welfare. BJP state president Madan Rathore, MLA Bal mukund Acharya, MP Rao Rajendra Singh, and JMCG Mayor Dr Somya also addressed. At IN-SHT 2025, the Lok Sabha Speaker Birla noted rising global trust in Indian doctors and medical research.

'Pushkar's Brahma corridor should bring joy to visitors'

Nirmal Tiwari
Jaipur

Deputy Chief Minister and Tourism Minister Diya Kumari directed comprehensive development of the Brahma Temple corridor and Sarovar Parikrama route in Pushkar-Ajmer to enhance visitor experience, ensuring tourists feel peace and satisfaction. She also instructed finalization of DPRs for the Maharana Pratap Tourist Circuit and the Pushkar-Ajmer corridor. The meeting at



By CM Diya Kumari chairs review meeting of Tourism Dept at Secretariat. Senior Tourism officials Rajesh Kumar Yadav, Rukmani Riar and others were present.

the Secretariat was attended by Rajasthan Heritage Authority Chairman Onkar S Lakhawat, Principal Secy Tourism Rajesh Yadav, Tourism Commissioner Rukmani Riar, ADA Executive Engineer Arun Verma, Pushkar Municipal Commissioner, Addl Director of Tourism Anand Tripathi. Upgrades include ghats, roads, footpaths, shaded areas, parking, public transport, a gaushala, & heritage museum to enhance Pushkar's cultural experience.

Shekhawat marks 58th B'day in Jodhpur with prayers & festivities

The Union Minister celebrates 58th B'day with ghevar cakes, 58-car convoy
Rajeev Gaur and Shiv Prakash Purohit
Jodhpur



Union Minister GS Shekhawat cuts a large lapsi cake during his birthday celebrations at Pannalal Gaushala in Mandore on Friday, fed it to the Holy cows & participated in 'Gau Seva.'

Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat celebrated his 58th birthday with religious visits, community events, and public celebrations in Merta City and Jodhpur. He began with prayers at Shri Charbhujanath Temple and attended Rao Veerwar Jaymal Rathore Jayanti, stressing cultural values, education, and political participation. Shekhawat honored talented community members and released Jaymal Vansh Prakash by VP

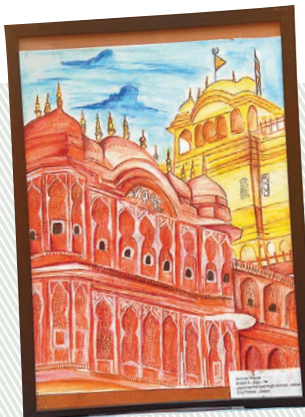
Singh Badnore. He also visited temples of Saints Chatur Das Maharaj, Dadu Ram Satram, and Sukhram Das Maharaj, receiving blessings from leaders including Om Prakash Dasji Maharaj. Celebrations included flower garlands, fireworks, ghevar cakes,

and a 58-vehicle convoy symbolizing his birthday. Citizens presented tridents and swords, while streets across Jodhpur were decorated with posters and banners, creating a festive citywide atmosphere, with supporters and well-wishers joining in large numbers to mark the occasion.



City First

JAIPUR, SATURDAY | OCTOBER 4, 2025



ART THROUGH CHILDREN!

The exhibition, "The Story of Museums, Through Children's Eyes," concluded on Friday at Sudarshan Art Gallery, Jawahar Kala Kendra, showcasing young artists' imaginative perspectives. P12



Dream. Dare. Do.

City First shares exclusive glimpses from Aayushi Dubey's stunning photoshoot in Goa, capturing her elegance against serene backdrops while highlighting her inspiring journey; from IT engineer and national martial arts medallist to a model blending heritage, discipline and global aspirations!



Mitali Dusad

mitalidusad@firstindia.co.in

Mumbai-born Aayushi Dubey has been redefining what it means to step into the world of fashion and pageantry with purpose and perseverance. An Information Technology Engineering graduate, currently working as a User Experience Designer, Aayushi's journey was anything but conventional. Alongside her professional career, she carried an impressive profile as a trained martial artist, mastering three forms and becoming a national gold medallist. She also studied Bharatanatyam for five years and has practiced yoga for over a decade, disciplines that shaped both her strength and grace.

Her foray into modelling stemmed from a childhood fascination. Growing up in the 2000s, Aayushi often found herself inspired by Miss India winners, though at 5'5", she once believed her dream unattainable. That changed when the Miss India pageant reduced its height criteria. "It felt like the universe had opened a door just for me," she recalled. From that moment, she began preparing, not just for the ramp, but for a larger purpose, to show that ambition and compassion could walk hand in hand.

Her heritage, too, played a defining role. With a mother who stitched her dresses and even handmade toys, Aayushi grew up surrounded by crea-

tivity. "Fashion for me carries memory and emotion, it's love sewn into fabric," she shared.

Breaking into modelling wasn't without challenges. Both her parents, teachers by profession, initially opposed the idea. Convincing them required resilience and proof that her pursuit wasn't vanity-driven but rooted in discipline and growth. In time, they became her strongest pillars of support. "The very people who once stopped me are now the loudest cheerleaders," she smiled.

Among her most memorable milestones was funding her own pageant training by leveraging her IT skills to train AI models. Enrolling at Cocoberry Academy under mentors Alesia and Anjali Raut and guided by Miss Universe India 2014 Noyonita Lodh, she gained not only technical expertise but lessons for life.

Today, Aayushi envisions Indian models leading global conversations around inclusivity and authenticity. With her blend of cultural heritage, discipline and creativity, she stands as a vibrant example of how dreams, when owned with conviction, can inspire far beyond the runway.





Finding Vijayadashami Within

WHEN THE EFFIGY REFUSES TO BURN



Tanusha Nagrath

Content Writer, Media Freelancer

As Dussehra unfolded with grandeur in the Pink City on Thursday, a scene both startling and sorrowful also emerged. An evening of relentless rain swept across the city, drenching streets, flooding corners of streets, marketplaces, and soaking through rows of Ravana effigies that had been lined up for sale.

Brightly painted, carefully crafted with bamboo, clothed, and layers of coloured paper, these effigies had been waiting for their moment- to rise tall, to be shot with the flaming arrow, and to fall gloriously in fire, carrying with them the age-old symbolism of good triumphing over evil.

But instead, they sagged and slumped. Their faces, once fierce and radiant, now blurred with dripping colour. Their bodies, once proud and upright, bent under the weight of water. For the artisans and vendors who had worked tirelessly for days and nights, this rain was merciless. Many of them depend entirely on

the sale of these effigies for their livelihood during the festival season. And with one evening's downpour, weeks of labour dissolved into pulp and mud.

I walked past one such lane near Vaishali Nagar, where a vendor sat silently by the wreckage of his creations. A half-finished Ravana leaned against a wall, its paint running in thin lines like tears. The man's hands, still sticky with glue, rested uselessly on his lap. Around him lay broken bamboo frames, soaked paper rolls, and the silent heaviness of loss. No customer would stop there now, for who buys a demon who cannot even stand?

And yet, as I stood there, I felt an odd tug within. Perhaps this festival has always been telling us something more than what we choose to see. Perhaps this year, the rains forced us to listen.

Every Vijayadashami, we watch Ravana burn. The arrow pierces, the fire crackles, and the crowd cheers as darkness gives way to light. But what happens when the effigy refuses to burn? What if the outward spectacle is taken away from us... would the festival still hold meaning?

The demon is always within, The goddess is always within, The battle too, is always within, And so is the triumph of one, over the other.

Which one, over which one? That choice is also, somehow, always within.

We are quick to light a match outside, but how many of us dare



to strike that fire inside? Anger, envy, greed, arrogance- these Ravana do not topple with bamboo frames or fire-lit bows. They live quietly within each one of us, sometimes small, sometimes monstrous, always waiting. Perhaps the sodden effigies in the city were only mirrors, reminding us that unless we confront the Ravana within, no fire in the world can truly conclude him.

History tells us that Vijayadashami marks two great victories: Goddess Durga slaying Mahishasura after nine nights of battle, and Lord Rama defeating Ravana in Lanka. Both stories inspire, both remind us that light eventually overcomes darkness.

But each year, the relevance of this day lies not in history, but in our own present lives.

What Mahishasura if sits coiled in your path today? What Ravana if has built his golden Lanka deep inside your heart?

The rains, though cruel, became a peculiar teacher. They washed away the outer symbols, but in doing so, they revealed the very essence of the spirit of this festival.

The real Vijayadashami does not depend on a stage, or on paper-mâché giants, or even on the applause of a crowd. It unfolds quietly, in the solitude of the self, where one small act of truth defeats a lie, one gesture of kind-

ness silences cruelty, one step of clarity dissolves illusion. As I walked further, I saw children splashing through puddles, their laughter cutting through the gloom of ruined effigies. Perhaps they had not yet learnt to grieve what was lost, but they seemed to know instinctively how to embrace what remained.

THERE WAS A LESSON IN THAT, TOO

To celebrate not only the great victories of myth and legend but also the smaller triumphs, resilience over despair, patience over frustration, and hope over bitterness.

For the artisans and vendors, this year's festival will be re-

membered for loss. Their earnings, their effort, their pride, much of it slipped away with the rainwater that night. But perhaps their quiet endurance, their decision to return next year and begin again, is also a form of victory. It is another kind of Vijayadashami- one where resilience conquers defeat.

Navratri ends each year with this day of triumph, but its true gift is not in the effigy that burns but in the reminder it leaves behind: that every year, every age, every heart has its own battle to fight; its own Ravana to win.

The Ravana outside is only a symbol. The Ravana within demands courage. And the goddess who slays, the Rama who wins, they too, are already within us, waiting to rise...

Vijayadashami reminds us that resilience and faith are not just moments of victory but enduring forces that guide us through life's challenges. It is a celebration of righteousness, of the quiet yet unshakable power of truth, and of the deep-rooted strength that resides within us all.

So this year, even as the skies robbed Jaipur of its spectacle, perhaps they gave us something deeper... A chance to remember that no rain can wash away the true spirit of Dussehra.

For light does not wait for a matchstick, and goodness does not need an effigy. Let the effigy of evil burn, whether or not the arrow flies. Let the light of goodness shine, even when the skies are grey. That is the festival's promise. That is Vijayadashami.

Jaipur Flight Plan

- INDORE:** Air India Express, Air India, Indigo
- HYDERABAD:** Air India, Air India Express, Indigo
- MUMBAI:** Air India, Air India Express, Indigo
- BENGALURU:** Air India, Indigo, Air India Express, Spicejet
- CHANDIGARH:** Air India Express, Air India, Indigo
- AHMEDABAD:** Air India, Indigo, Spicejet
- NEW DELHI:** Air India, Indigo, Air India Express
- DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:** Air Arabia, Air India Express, Air India, Etihad Airways, Spicejet, Indigo

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<https://www.makemytrip.com/>

Police 100	Fire 101	Ambulance 102/108	Child Helpline 1098	Help in Suffering 2760012
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WHAT'S JAIPUR WATCHING TODAY? <https://in.bookmyshow.com/>

Movie: Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsii Kumari
Director: Shashank Khaitan
Cast & Crew: Varun Dhawan, Janhvi Kapoor, Rohit Saraf and Sanya Malhotra

Scan or click here to book your movie tickets

Movie: Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1
Director: Rishab Shetty
Cast & Crew: Rishab Shetty, Rukmini Vasanth, Gulshan Devaiah, Jayaram Subramaniam

KANTARA

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1182

सर्वसे पहले सर्वसे अगे

Jodhpur Art Fiesta

City First

cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

Day 3 of the inaugural Jodhpur Arts Week brought a unique focus on ecology and living heritage, transforming the Blue City into a vibrant hub of artistic and cultural exchange. At Rao Jodha Desert Rock Park, the participatory programme Rao Jodha as a Living Archive reimagined the park's geological, ecological, and cultural narratives through sensory trails and storytelling. Workshops such as Richa Arya's Katran Dagha stitching highlighted women's creative contributions, while Saruha Kilaru introduced visitors to drypoint printmaking. The PATI Residency Walkthrough at the House of Premchand, a fourth-generation Marwari haveli, demonstrated how historic spaces can host contemporary practices. Panel discussions deepened the dialogue, with Pastoral Heritage Today: From Rajasthan to Somalia emphasising the camel as a keystone species, and Women, Water, and Jodhpur's Architectural Legacy exploring forgotten histories of stepwells like



Sana Rezwani, Mustansir Dalvi, Ranjit Hoskote, Kamalika Bose & Rezwan Razack



Attendees immersed themselves in the activities at Jodhpur Arts Week

Mayla Bagh Jhalra.

The festival's first two days set the stage for this immersive experience. Highlights included the opening at Shri Sumer School with the theme Hath Ro Hunar – Skill of the Hand, city-wide Art Walks, Tera Tadi Kalbeliya performances, craft installations, and workshops bridging traditional and contemporary practices.

Running until October 7, Jodhpur Arts Week positions the city as a living museum, weaving together heritage, craft, ecology, and contemporary art to showcase Rajasthan's culture in a locally rooted yet globally relevant context.



A glimpse of a visitor appreciating art



Jenjum Gadi's sculptural work

MYANMAR WELCOMES JAIPUR FOOT INITIATIVE

The fourth artificial limb Jaipur Foot fitment camp, organised by India's Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS), was inaugurated in Yangon, Myanmar, on Mahatma Gandhi's 156th birth anniversary. Held at Pitakhat Thonbon Nikaya Monastery with support from chief Bhaddanta Sillakkhandhabhivamasa Sayadaw, the six-week camp will benefit 600 persons with disabilities. India's Ambassador Abhay Thakur welcomed dignitaries, including U Win Myint and Dr Min Thein. The initiative, previously held in 2017, 2018, and 2020, symbolizes Indo-Myanmar friendship and rehabilitation efforts for the differently-abled.



BHARATIYA SANSKRITI SANSTHAN DISTRIBUTES GIFTS

On the occasion of Ram Navami, the Bharatiya Sanskriti Sansthan Charitable Trust distributed meals and gifts, including school bags, lunch boxes, drawing boxes, and water bottles, to underprivileged girls in slum areas. Seema Sharma, Director of the trust, said the organization has been engaged in social service for several years and regularly provides meals to the poor and needy. The initiative aims to support education, nutrition, and the overall welfare of disadvantaged children.



SONGS CELEBRATE INDIA'S CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Progressive Writer's Club Association will host the 52nd Geet Chandni 2025 Festival along with the Dr Taraprakash Joshi Memorial Award Ceremony today at 7:30 pm on the lawn of Hotel Regal, DCM, Ajmer Road. The evening will feature soulful performances by renowned artists, including Durgadan Singh Gaur and Dr Madhu Chaturvedi. Eminent dignitaries will honor the participating lyricists, promising a memorable night celebrating music, poetry, and India's rich cultural heritage.



RAMLILA FESTIVITIES CONCLUDE GRANDLY

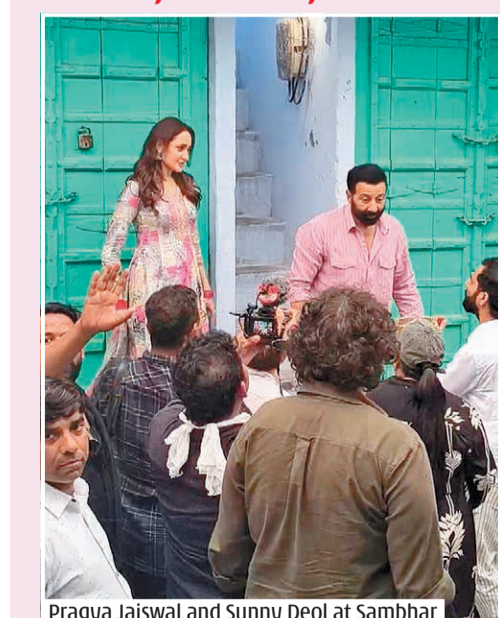
The eleven-day Ramlila at Murlipura Circle, organized by the Adarsh Ramlila Mandal Committee, concluded on Thursday night with grand celebrations. The finale featured a devotional performance, followed by the burning of a 60-foot effigy of Ravana, witnessed by thousands. Committee President Abhinav Sharma and social worker Rakesh Sharma presented mementos to all Ramlila performers. Abhinav Sharma highlighted Ramlila as a living tradition of culture, while Rakesh Sharma stressed its role in teaching values. The event saw huge participation with tight security and concluded with a devotional night procession.



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LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Sambhar in Jaipur, Rajasthan has become the cinematic backdrop for the much-anticipated Bollywood film Surya, currently being shot amidst its scenic landscapes. The film stars veteran actor Sunny Deol in the lead role, alongside actress Pragya Jaiswal as the female protagonist. Known for its historical significance and picturesque salt lake, Sambhar provides an ideal setting for the grand visuals and dramatic sequences of the movie. The ongoing shoot has created a buzz among locals and film enthusiasts, who are excited to witness Bollywood's presence in their city. Surya promises to deliver power-packed performances with strong storytelling.



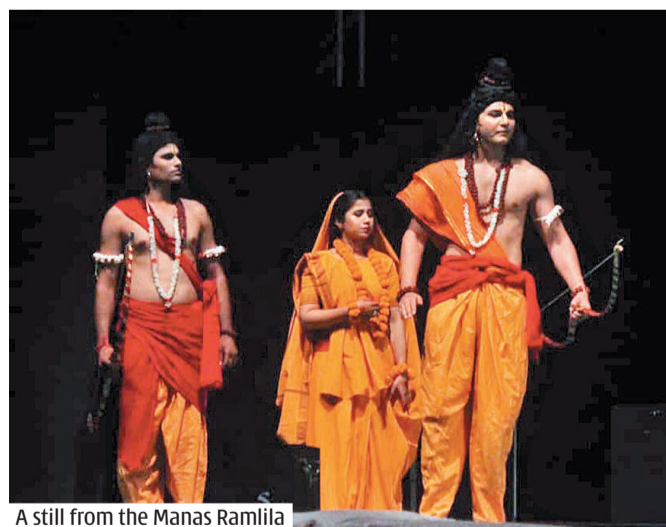
Pragya Jaiswal



Sunny Deol

DUSSEHRA THEATRE FESTIVAL SHOWCASES RAMLILA

Jaipur witnessed a spectacular performance of Manas Ramlila on Thursday, concluding the two-day Dussehra Theatre Festival at Jawahar Kala Kendra. Amidst intermittent rain, the audience remained engaged as the story of Lord Ram came alive on stage, showcasing the triumph of Dharma over Adharma and the coronation of Ramrajya. The script, penned by veteran theatre artist Ayodhya Prasad Gaur and directed by Aru Swati Vyas (NSD), featured 80 artists from across Rajasthan, with voiceovers by Arun Govil, Suresh Wadkar, and Divya Kumar. Stunning visuals, songs, stunts, and devotional chants enthralled the audience, leaving a lasting impression.



A still from the Manas Ramlila



Captivated audience

SHIMMER EXHIBITION BEGINS



The Entrepreneur Women Organisation (EWO) commenced the 40th edition of the Shimmer Diwali & Decor Exhibition today at Kesari Bagh Banquets. State Minister Dr Manju Baghmar will be the chief guest. Organiser Alka Agarwal stated that the two-day event has been specially curated for Karwa Chauth, Diwali, and the upcoming wedding season, showcasing the talent of women entrepreneurs from across India. Visitors can explore a wide range of offerings, including designer jewellery, silver gifts, dry fruit collections, home decor items, live plants, pooja thalis, and festive outfits. This edition will provide a one-stop shopping experience for Gen Z and festive shoppers.

GARBA FESTIVITIES CONCLUDE



The Garba Festival 2025, recently organised by the AAAS Group, was successfully held at Vidyaadhar Nagar Stadium, drawing thousands of families. Ajay Agarwal, President of the AAAS Group and Chairman of the Central Spine Trade Council, emphasized that the event was completely free. Chief guest Naveen Jindal from Delhi, along with other dignitaries, enjoyed the festivities. Winners in various categories were awarded prizes. Apoorva Agarwal, Director of the AAAS Group, concluded the event by expressing gratitude to all attendees and wishing everyone a Happy Dussehra and Diwali.

FESTIVE DEVOTION CONCLUDES



Jaipur's Shree Shree Maa Durga Puja Mahotsav, organized by the Bengali Samaj Jankalyan Vikas Samiti at Purani Chungi, Vaishali Nagar, concluded on Thursday with devotion and cultural grandeur. The final day featured darpan visarjan, pushpanjali, and a grand Sindoor Khela, with over 400 married women offering "BARAN," applying sindur, and seeking blessings from elders. Cultural competitions were honoured through a prize distribution ceremony. The festivities ended with a vibrant immersion procession to Newta and a sprinkling of Shanti Jal, leaving devotees spiritually fulfilled and celebrating Maa Durga's blessings. **MUKESH KIRADOO**

FESTIVE DEVOTION EVENT



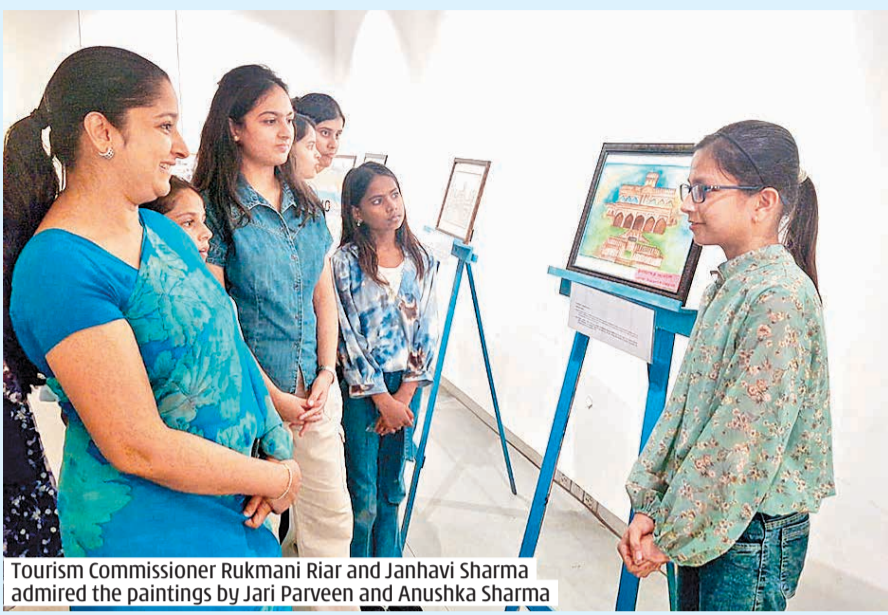
On Sharadiya Navratri, the Women's Wing of Khandelwal Samaj Seva Samiti organised a cultural program at Madrasa Baba's Bagicha, featuring devotional songs and dances dedicated to the Goddess. After the aarti, 111 girls were honoured with charan vandan, worship, meals, and gifts. Renu Khandelwal, President, along with Anuradha Boosar, Meenakshi Rawat, Kusum Lata Kulwal, Kiran Tambi, Sumita Khandelwal, and other committee members, ensured the event's success. Saints present were also offered food prasad.

GANDHI-SHASTRI REFLECTIONS



On the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, a lecture series was held at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Governance and Social Science, Jaipur, jointly organised by Badlaav Point Foundation and Samarth India Foundation. BJP State Spokesperson Narendra Katara highlighted Gandhi's global influence and non-violence. Special Officer Harveer Singh Dagur emphasized fighting poverty, disease, and ignorance. Directors Manish Kumar Chaudhary, Devendra Jaiman, and Dr Rakesh urged society to follow Gandhi and Shastri's ideals.

Kids' Creative Exhibition



Tourism Commissioner Rukmani Riar and Janhavi Sharma admired the paintings by Jari Parveen and Anushka Sharma



Janhavi Sharma with young artists Darshita, Tanishka, Geet Namdev, Harsh Namdev, Jari Parveen, and Zikr Praveen during the exhibition

◉ MUKESH KIRADOO

COURTESY MEETING

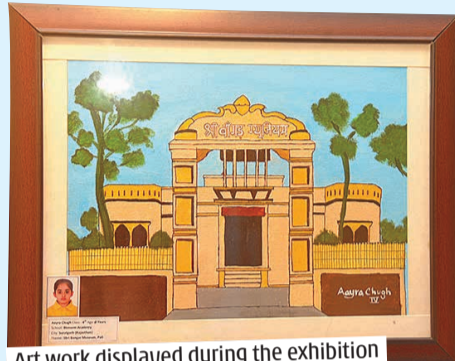


Dr Jagdeesh Chandra was warmly greeted by Nidhi Jain, Graphologist & Psychologist and Dr Anjali Mehta, Dentist, during a courtesy visit at his residence on Friday.

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The exhibition "The Story of Museums, Through Children's Eyes" concluded at Sudarshan Art Gallery, Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur, on Friday. Tourism Commissioner Rukmani Riar highlighted the importance of connecting children with their heritage and promoting their creativity. She said museums are not just collections of the past, but living sources of learning and inspiration. Riar urged that such initiatives



Art work displayed during the exhibition

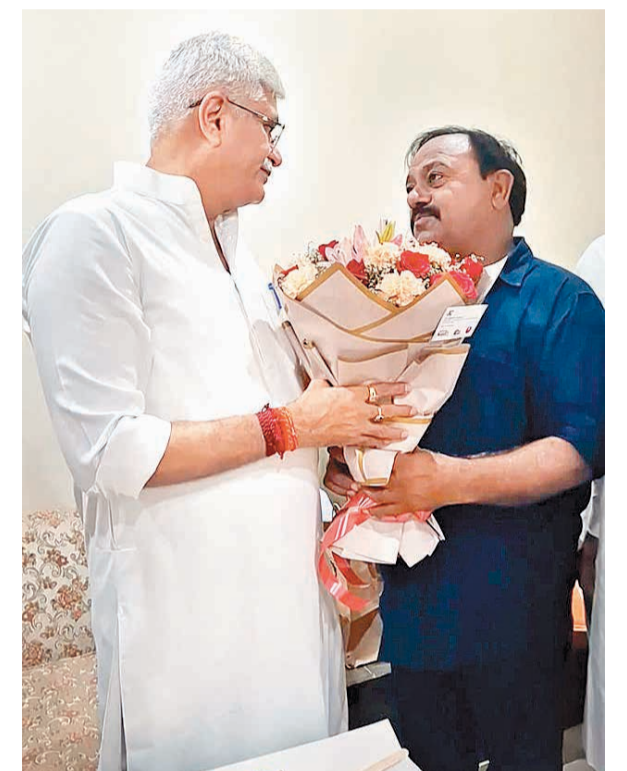
should continue to encourage children's interest in history. She also noted Rajasthan's global recognition for its art and cultural heritage and appreciated the creativity of young participants, saying

these projects help children see heritage from a fresh perspective and connect deeply with society and culture. Janhavi Sharma, Founder of Digital Baal Mela, said the gallery had been alive with children's imagination and colors over the past week, as young artists reinterpreted global heritage sites and museums through their paintings. Certificates were awarded to all participating children, and a special

campaign poster was released. Ravita Sharma, Vice President of Future Society, said the exhibition will travel to other tourist locations in the state.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS!



Union Minister of Culture and Tourism and Lok Sabha MP from Jodhpur, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, was warmly greeted on his birthday in Jodhpur on Friday by Rajeev Gaur of the First India family. On behalf of CMD Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, Rajeev Gaur presented a floral bouquet and cake to the Union Minister, extending heartfelt wishes and regards.

RAJASTHAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Rajasthan Football School (RFS) U-15 finished as runners-up in the inaugural Rajasthan League, securing a spot in the AIFF Junior League. The team scored 80 goals in 18 matches, showcasing strong attacking skills. Head Coach Ranu Singh Rajawat emphasised the league's role in promoting football culture in Jaipur. Standout players included Enzo Sachin (Best Midfielder) and Ativeer Dhoka (Best Emerging Player). Captain Aarav Faujdar and vice-captain Pragyan Kataria led the team, with special thanks to SS Jain Subodh Shiksha Samiti, Gravita India Ltd, and mentor Vigyan Lodha.

Grand Ring-Sangeet Celebrations

◉ MUKESH KIRADOO

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The grand Ring and Sangeet ceremony of Aasheesh Khatri, son of Vinod Kumar Khatri and late Rajni Khatri, with Cheshta Meerchandani, daughter of Dilip and Varsha Meerchandani, was held on Friday at Maharishi Bh-rigu Sadan, Tilak Nagar, Jaipur, marked by traditional celebrations and festive grandeur. Dr Jagdeesh Chandra graced the ceremony and bestowed his warm blessings on the couple, Aasheesh and Cheshta, wishing them a happy married life. He also extended his heartfelt congratulations to both families.

Family members, friends, and well-wishers joined the celebrations, showering the



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra congratulates Aasheesh & Cheshta. Also seen are Vinod Khatri & Haneesh Khatri



Cheshta Meerchandani, with her parents Dilip and Varsha Meerchandani

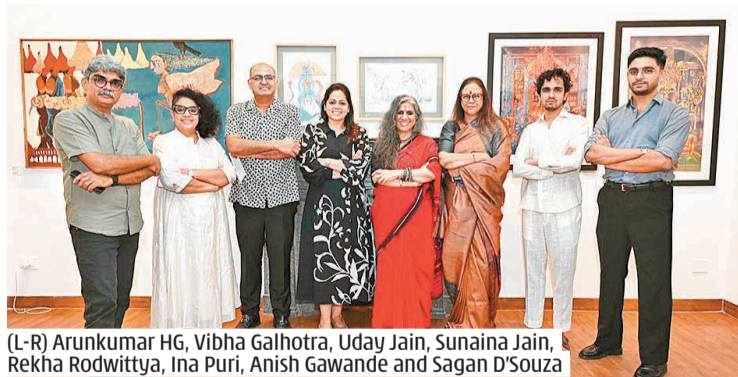
couple with love and blessings. The wedding will conclude with a reception and dinner at Jamdoli Fort, Jaipur, today, bringing the joyous festivities to a memorable close, filled with music, dance, laughter, and heartfelt wishes from everyone present.

HUMANITY THROUGH SERVICE



Lions International, District, launched Service Week 2025 from today to October 11 in Jaipur under the theme "Unite To Serve." The week featured social service, awareness campaigns, and humanitarian initiatives. Activities included cancer screenings, diabetes camps, yoga sessions, food distribution, old age home visits, animal care, a Peace Poster Competition, and programs for the differently-abled. The event was led by District Governor MJF Lion Sudhir Bajpai and Chairman Lion KC Gupta, with key officials including Ankit Khandelwal, Lion Prakash Rawat, and MJF Lion Dr AK Bhargava, among others.

CONTEMPORARY ART SPOTLIGHT



(L-R) Arunkumar HG, Vibha Galhotra, Uday Jain, Sunaina Jain, Rekha Rodwittiya, Ina Puri, Anish Gawande and Sagan D'Souza

The 34 Annual Ravi Jain Memorial Foundation (RJMFA) Exhibition opened at Dhoomimal Gallery, India's oldest modern art gallery, showcasing 60 emerging artists selected from over 500 entries. The exhibition features more than 120 works, including paintings, sculptures, printmaking, video installations, and digital art, and will remain on view until October 15, 2025. The Annual RJMFA Awards ceremony on October 14 will honour four artists, each receiving ₹1,00,000 and mentorship opportunities. Uday Jain, Director of Dhoomimal Gallery, highlighted the initiative's aim to nurture young talent and celebrate contemporary art. The jury comprises Vibha Galhotra, Rekha Rodwittiya, Anish Gawande, Arunkumar HG, and Ina Puri. Over the past three decades, the RJMFA Exhibition and Awards have become a prestigious platform, launching many successful careers in Indian art.



Artworks displayed at Dhoomimal Gallery

RAJASTHAN FOOTBALL JOURNEY BEGINS



The 69 Under-19 National Football Championship will be held in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, starting October 6. The Rajasthan team has departed for Srinagar, with their first match scheduled on the opening day. The squad, selected during a national training camp in Bikaner, is captained by Sarvesh Rao and includes Sandeep Singh, Suryapratap, Falgun Parik, Shafool, Devesh Ojha, Abir Singh, Mohammad Abbas, Ayaan, Vikram Singh, Rodrigo, Anas Khan Pathan, Keshav Bunkar, Raghe Ojha, Tanishk, Adil, and Harshit Suman. Under coach Manoj Jaat and manager Rohit Saharan, the team aims for a strong showing. Falgun Pareek, son of BJP leader Alok Pareek, earned selection through stellar district and state-level performances.

FOUNDATION DAY 2025



The 28 Foundation Day of Bhagwan Mahaveer Cancer Hospital & Cancer Care was celebrated on Friday at Maharana Pratap Auditorium. The program began with an awards ceremony honouring doctors, staff, and collaborators for their contributions. Navrattan Kothari reflected on the hospital's 28-year journey, while Senior Vice-Chairperson Anila Kothari outlined expansion and advanced treatment plans. A monologue "Draupadi" by Anjana Chandak highlighted women's empowerment. Patron Sunita Gehlot praised the hospital's work. Awards including Sanjeevani, I-Care, V-Care and others.



GOA ADVENTURE WITH DREAM ACHIEVERS



Twenty-six members of the Dream Achievers Club departed from Jaipur Airport, on Friday for a Goa trip, aimed at combining fun, learning, and memorable experiences. Organised by the club, the journey provides members a chance to connect, relax, and enjoy Goa's beaches, culture, and tourist attractions. The trip also focuses on fostering team spirit, sharing ideas, and encouraging personal and collective growth. Members are excited and enthusiastic, ready to make the trip a memorable experience filled with bonding, new learnings, and joyful moments.