



सत्यमेव जयते
राजस्थान सरकार

प्रचण्ड गर्मी, सतर्कता जरूरी



“मई-जून माह में पड़ने वाली भीषण गर्मी अप्रैल माह से ही प्रारम्भ हो गई। वर्तमान में पूरा देश बिजली संकट से जूझ रहा है। राजस्थान भी इससे अछूता नहीं है। मांग और आपूर्ति में अंतर बढ़ा है। इण्डियन एनर्जी एक्सचेंज से खरीद के लिए भी बिजली उपलब्ध नहीं है। पानी की पर्याप्त उपलब्धता के लिए भी राज्य सरकार अपना पूरा प्रयास कर रही है। आप सभी से अपील है कि बिजली, पानी का सीमित और विवेकपूर्ण इस्तेमाल करें। **बिजली बचाएं-पानी बचाएं।**”

अशोक गहलोत, मुख्यमंत्री



बिजली

- मार्च, अप्रैल से ही भीषण गर्मी के कारण बिजली की मांग 35% बढ़ी।
- देश के 16 राज्यों में 2-10 घंटे की बिजली की कटौती।
- कोयला सप्लाई में समस्याएं व सीमित स्टॉक उपलब्ध।
- ग्रामीण और नगरीय क्षेत्र में रोस्टर पद्धति के अनुसार बिजली की कटौती।



पेयजल

- उद्योगों में 50% तक बिजली कटौती का निर्णय। आदेश जारी।
- आवश्यक सेवाएं बिजली कटौती से पूर्णतः मुक्त।
- Contingency Plan / सुचारू पेयजल व्यवस्था हेतु जिला कलेक्टर अधिकृत।



लू का प्रकोप

- वर्तमान में पेयजल की कमी वाले 4142 गांव एवं 43 शहरी क्षेत्रों में प्रतिदिन 6654 टैंकर ट्रिप द्वारा जल परिवहन व्यवस्था।
- एयरकंडीशनर एवं कूलर को अनावश्यक चलाने से बचें।
- लू व तापघात से बचें।

संकट की इस घड़ी में प्रदेशवासी अपनी भागीदारी निभाएं, बिजली व पानी बचाएं

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, राजस्थान

RAJ DHARMA 8

GOVERNANCE

Let us examine what is it that the state and its associated agencies do that impact everyone living within the 'latitudes and longitudes' which comprise the territory of the state



SANJEEV CHOPRA

The writer is Distinguished Fellow, USI Delhi and Historian & Policy Analyst. Also former Director, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie

Let us start by asking ourselves: What is governance? How is it different from administration and management? What is the role of political mentors, and what should be the ideal interface between the elected and selected leaders? Are there any globally accepted benchmarks for governance? And if there are, does an institutional mechanism exist to enforce them, or at least nudge governments towards it.

Traditionally the word governance has been used to refer to 'the affairs of the state, and the ecosystem of political economy which envelops the state'. Of course, these days, large corporates have started talking about 'corporate governance' to distinguish themselves from management decisions that are taken by individual units or firms in the conglomerate. It is placed on a pedestal higher than management. Therefore in the context of civil services and good governance – the theme for today – we will examine what is it that the state and its associated agencies do that impact everyone living within the 'latitudes and longitudes' which comprise the territory of the state. It is generally accepted that a state exists 'to provide external security, internal order, justice as per established canon, general welfare and freedom'. Of course, each one of these concepts is evolving. External security today means and includes the exclusive economic zone, and in many cases – control over shipping lanes that are critical to trade and energy security – as for example the Straits of Malacca. In fact, today external and internal order are clubbed to-



FUNCTIONS, ADMINISTRATION AND THE OBJECTIVES...

Governance is about the overall architecture in which the state performs its functions, the administration is about plans, policies, budgets, goals, and objectives – especially in the context of public systems while management is about maximising efficiency in use of resources. All three are important – and play a complimentary role, and in a three-decade professional trajectory of a civil servant, she will be involved in all three – she will manage programmes and projects, administer districts and corporations and assist the political leadership in laying down the framework for governance.

POLITICAL MENTORSHIP

Political mentorship is of prime importance, because certain decisions – say for example the abolition of Article 370, and the introduction of reservation exclusively on income criterion can be done only by the political leadership.



YOU READ RAJ DHARMA 7 IN FIRST INDIA ON APRIL 18, 2022

HAVE YOU EVER EXPERIENCED?

- What is governance?
- How is it different from administration and management?
- What is the role of political mentors, and what should be the ideal interface between the elected and selected leaders?
- Are there any globally accepted benchmarks for governance?
- Does an institutional mechanism exist to enforce them, or at least nudge governments towards it?

herence to Constitutional norms as well as a vibrant civil society and independent media are equally important. States must exercise power for the greatest good of the largest numbers – retention of power for the sake of power cannot be an end in itself.

This is what brings us to the civilizational perspectives on state – and I will talk about the Confucian state in China, the Raj Dharma discussed in the Shanti Parva, the state of Medina and about the European city state – which later morphed into a nation state but retained Machiavelli's Prince as the seminal text.

In the Confucian state, which in many ways has been inherited by the CPC, the state is at the centre of the social system – every institution, including those dealing with the arts and literature – is subordinate to the state. Of course, the assumption is that good government will bring order, peace, prosperity and abundance – in agriculture, trade as well as population. But the state expected complete compliance, and any deviation from the norm, was, and is brought down by an iron hand. The state was salient, but it was also amoral.

The state of Medina is often referred to as the 'ideal political establishment' in Islam. Demagogic leaders in Muslim majority states – including Zulfikar Bhutto and Imran Khan often harked upon it. Its characteristic ethos is religion – which unites in itself both the spiritual and temporal aspects of life and seeks to regulate not only the individual's relationship to God but human relationships in a social setting as well. However, the state of Medina makes a clear distinction between ummah (believers) and non-believers and prescribes different rates of taxation.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL

In Europe, the West regards Machiavelli's Prince as the foundational text on statecraft. It talks of how and what the Prince must do to retain power. It is a valuable treatise on retaining power – power is regarded as an end in itself – not a means to an end. Here in Bharat, the Shanti Parva and Chanakya's discourse in Artha Shastra tell us that a state exist to ensure Dharma (righteousness and the rule of law) – one in which the Ruler is subordinate to Dharma, and not above it. Artha – the creation of wealth which is the foundation of both state and society, and Kama – the fulfilment of all the finer things of life – from a celebration of the arts to erotica and ecstasy. And there is no prudery or shame in celebrating love in all its manifestations

gether as National security. Even though justice is an essential function of the state – it is functionally independent of the executive. With regard to general welfare and freedom, all the countries which are part of the UN system have accepted SDGs and the UDHR as ideals to be achieved. In India, not just the Union government, but states and districts are also drawing up their action plans for SDGs.

In this context, we need to understand that governance is about the overall architecture in which the state performs its functions, the administration is about plans, policies,

budgets, goals, and objectives – especially in the context of public systems while management is about maximising efficiency in use of resources. All three are important – and play a complimentary role, and in a three-decade professional trajectory of a civil servant, she will be involved in all three – she will manage programmes and projects, administer districts and corporations and assist the political leadership in laying down the framework for governance. Political mentorship is of prime importance, because certain decisions – say for example the abolition of Article 370, and the

introduction of reservation exclusively on income criterion can be done only by the political leadership.

A CIVILIZATIONAL PERSPECTIVE ON THE STATE

A recent book that I received for review from Cornell 'Strategies for Governing' by A Roberts – lists a typology of thirty-one kinds of states – these include among others, Administrative states, City-states, Civilizational states, Empires, Garrison states, Deep states, Nation states, Multinational states, Democracies as well as Fragile/failed states. Within South Asia,

we have India as a civilizational state, Pakistan as a garrison state, Bangladesh as a successful nation state, the Af-Pak region along the Durand line and most of Afghanistan and Myanmar as fragile or failed states, Sri Lanka as a 'flailing' state as it cannot meet its sovereign commitments. Let me mention here that the real tragedy of state failures is their impact on the resource poor, the vulnerable, women and children.

Let me also make the point that while free, fair and transparent elections are the necessary first condition for a Democratic state, the Rule of Law, ad-

A GLOOMY MAY DAY FOR NIGERIAN WORKERS

Imagine you live alone and walk into a local food market in Lagos, the Nigerian commercial capital, to buy a week's worth of basic food items. In less than 15 minutes, you would find that you've spent at least 10,000 Naira (or US\$24 at the official exchange rate of US\$1 = 416 Naira).

This may seem minuscule to privileged households but such expenditure is a heavy burden on Nigeria's 62 million workers.

The majority of Nigerian workers have to make do with a monthly minimum wage of 30,000 Naira (US\$72). Only 17 percent of Nigerian workers hold jobs that pay enough to get

them out of poverty. Soaring food prices are the major cause. Nigeria's inflation rate was 15.9 percent in March, 2022, and food prices rose by 17.2%, among highest in Africa.

The war in Ukraine has added further upward pressure on commodity and fuel prices. This will cause overall inflation and food prices to continue to increase well into 2023, a pointer that workers are in for a very rough ride during next several months.

Coping strategies

To maintain a decent level of food consumption and avoid becoming one of the 5 million Nigerians that face hunger, households are reducing expenditures



on essential services like health, electricity, and transportation. It has become customary for households to switch off electricity at night to reduce energy bills. Many now postpone or avoid unessential travels.

Lessons from India

Food shortages were so severe in the 1950s and 1960s that India became known as the "begging-bowl" nation. Today, India is not only self-sufficient in food, but food is widely affordable. It has become a net ex-

porter of food. It turned the situation around through Green Revolution initiated by PM Jawaharlal Nehru in 1960s. India's land reform placed a ceiling of 25 acres on land ownership per household. Absentee landowners with surplus land were forced to relinquish portions of their land for redistribution to landless farmers.

Small-scale farming

The Indian case has shown that the key to food security lies with small producers, as opposed to Nigeria's focus on large-scale agricultural projects that either produce cash crops or turn out to be white elephants.

Source: The Conversation



TOP TWEETS



Amit Shah @AmitShah
Labor power is the basis of the progress of the nation. I salute hard work and diligence of all working brothers and sisters who are incessantly engaged in building a self-reliant and prosperous India. Modi Government is constantly committed to the social and economic upliftment of the workers. Happy Labor Day.



Bhupender Yadav @byadavbjp
All nation-building starts with labour. Heartfelt gratitude to our labour force for everything you are selflessly doing day and night for the country.



SPIRITUAL SPEAK

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. –Bible

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MODI'S EUROPE VOYAGE

PM ON 3-DAY FRANCE GERMANY, DENMARK VISIT FROM TODAY

PM Modi will conduct a whopping 25 back-to-back meetings with eight world leaders from seven different countries during his visit

New Delhi: Ahead of his visit to Germany, Denmark and France, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said his trip to Europe comes at a time when the region faces many challenges and choices, and that he intends to strengthen the spirit of cooperation with India's European partners.

In a statement, PM Modi said he will be visiting Berlin on May 2 at the invitation of German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, following which he will travel to Copenhagen on May 3-4 at the invitation of his Danish counterpart Mette Frederiksen to participate in the Second India-Nordic Summit.

PM Modi will also make a brief stopover in Paris for a meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron.



File photo of Prime Minister Narendra Modi working inside the aircraft during one of his recent visits.

CENTERED AROUND UKRAINE, MANY CHALLENGES AWAIT MODI

My visit to Europe comes at a time when the region faces many challenges and choices," PM Modi said. "Through my engagements, I intend to strengthen the spirit of cooperation with our European partners, who are important companions in India's quest for peace and prosperity," the PM said in his departure statement.

WITH NEW CHANCELLOR, MODI AIMS TO CEMENT GERMAN TIES

Detailing his engagements, PM Modi said his visit to Berlin will be an opportunity to hold detailed bilateral discussions with Chancellor Scholz, whom he met at G20 last year in his previous capacity as Vice-Chancellor and Finance Minister. "We will co-chair 6th India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations," PM Modi said.

PM TO INTERACT WITH INDIAN DIASPORA

"Continental Europe is home to over one million persons of Indian origin, and Germany has a significant proportion of this Diaspora. Indian Diaspora is an important anchor in our relations," said PM.

Priority is to ensure high standards of operational preparedness: Gen Pande

...after taking over as the Army chief



Chief of the Army Staff, Lieutenant General Manoj Pande arrives to inspect a Guard of Honour, after taking charge as the 29th Chief of Army Staff, at South Block in New Delhi on Sunday.

New Delhi: Newly-appointed Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande on Sunday said his "utmost and foremost" priority would be to ensure very high standards of operational preparedness to face current, contemporary and future security challenges across the entire spectrum of conflict.

Gen Pande also said the global geopolitical situation is changing rapidly "as a result of which we have multiple challenges ahead", asserting that the Army, in "coordination and cooperation" with the Indian Air Force and the Navy, will unitedly deal with any situation.

The Army chief said he would focus on the ongoing reforms, restructuring and transformation of the Army

My utmost and foremost priority will be to ensure very high standards of operational preparedness to face the current contemporary and future challenges across the entire spectrum of conflict

—Gen Manoj Pande, Army Chief

to enhance its operational and functional efficiency besides giving importance to achieving self-reliance in defence.

The Army chief was speaking to the media after he was presented a ceremonial guard of

honour at the South Block lawns, a day after he took charge of the force. Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari and Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar were also present at the guard of honour ceremony.

Patiala clash 'mastermind' Barjinder held from Mohali



Patiala: The alleged mastermind behind the violent clashes in Patiala has been arrested, Patiala range inspector general M S Chhina said in a press conference on Sunday.

Chhina said more than 20 police teams under the supervision of SPs and DSPs were on the trail of Barjinder Singh Parwana who was held in Mohali and formally arrested after being brought to Patiala. He would be produced before a court, the IG added.

Clashes had broken out between members of the Shiv Sena (Bal Thackeray), who had called for an "anti-Khalistan" march, and Sikh activists and Nihangs outside the Kali Mata temple on Friday. The incident had led to stone-pelting by both sides, the police had said, adding that at least four persons, including two policemen, were injured.

Will defeat you: Kejri challenges BJP in Guj

Kejriwal announces AAP-BTP alliance

Bharuch: Addressing his first public rally since the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) formed a government in Punjab, AAP national convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal lashed out at the Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) in Gujarat on Sunday.

Kejriwal was addressing a tribal gathering in Chanderia village in Bharuch district's Valia on Sunday, where the party announced an alliance with Chhotubhai Vasava's Bharatiya Tribal Party (BTP) and urged the people of Gujarat to "break the arrogance of the BJP" by voting the AAP into power.



AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal at the Adivasi Sankalp Mahasammelan in Bharuch.

Kejriwal announced an alliance with Chhotubhai Vasava's Bharatiya Tribal Party (BTP) and urged the people of Gujarat to "break the arrogance of the BJP" by voting the AAP into power.

LOOK UKRAINE, WHO HAS COME!



Hollywood actress Angelina Jolie visited the Ukrainian city of Lviv on Saturday, going to the railway station and hospitals to meet people displaced by the war with Russia before later leaving after air-raid sirens sounded. Jolie, 46, is a special envoy for the United Nations refugee agency, which says more than 12.7 million people have fled their homes in the past two months, which represents around 30% of Ukraine's pre-war population.

Pak gets \$8 billion in support from Saudi after PM Sharif visit

Islamabad: During Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to Saudi Arabia, a deal was secured as per which the Gulf country will provide Islamabad with a financial support package of around USD 8 billion.

The financial package will help Pakistan bolster dwindling forex reserves and revive the ailing economy. The country has been facing growing economic challenges, including high inflation, sliding forex



reserves, a widening current account deficit and a depreciating currency.

Pakistan requires financial assistance of USD 9-12 billion till June 2022 to avert further depletion of foreign currency reserves.

Dividing country on religious, caste lines part of BJP's agenda: Gehlot

First India Bureau

Jaipur: Dividing the country on religious and caste lines is part of the BJP's agenda and the people need to understand it, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said on Sunday.

He said the violence in state's Karauli last month was an experiment of the BJP, and this was followed in seven other states on Ram Navami, leading to clashes. Communal tension had broken out in Karauli on April 2 when



CM Ashok Gehlot

Karauli was their experiment, but we controlled it. Similar incidents have happened in seven states on Ram Navami, there were riots and then bulldozers were run," he told reporters here.

Violence cannot be the answer to violence, he said.

"The RSS and the BJP have decided how to divide this country between Hindu-Muslim, religions and castes. This is part of their agenda and this is just the beginning. Turn to P10

some people pelted stones at a bike rally, taken out by Hindu organisations on Nav Samvatsar, while passing through a Muslim-dominated area. "What happened in

UNION MoS DR JITENDRA SINGH INTERACTS WITH INDIAN START UPS, STUDENTS IN BERLIN

Berlin: Soon after his arrival in Germany on Sunday, Union Minister of State Dr Jitendra Singh, who is part of the Prime Minister's official delegation, interacted with Indian Start-Ups, Students and young professionals in Berlin. The Minister appealed to them to avail of various fellowships, joint training programmes and professional options initiated by the government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He told the Indian students, some of whom are doing Post Doc, doctoral and Master degrees, to avail of wonderful new opportu-



nities back home to do cutting-edge research in Science, Technology and Innovation. Dr Jitendra Singh mentioned that those students doing Post Doc assignment here, and would like to return can apply for Ramanuja Fellowships by Department of Science and Technology for researchers in all areas among others.

CRUCIAL READ

LUCKNOW GIANTS DEFEAT DELHI CAPITALS BY SIX RUNS

Lucknow Super Giants defeated Delhi Capitals by six runs in an Indian Premier League match here on Sunday. Opting to bat, skipper KL Rahul and Deepak Hooda smashed delightful half-centuries to power Lucknow Super Giants to 195 for three. Chasing, captain Rishabh Pant top-scored with 30-ball 44, while Mitchell Marsh (37) and Rovman Powell (35) also contributed with the bat, albeit in a losing cause as DC were restricted to 189/7.

WOMAN GANGRAPED IN UP'S SHAHJAHANPUR, VIDEO VIRAL

Shahjahanpur (UP): A 30-year-old woman was allegedly raped by five men, who also recorded the act and made the video viral, police said on Sunday. The woman, in her complaint, alleged that on April 22, five men dragged her into a hut outside her house and took turns to rape her. The accused, she alleged, also made the video of the act.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY

NO CARD, NO BENEFIT

Contractors, builders or house owners must give 90 days work certificate to labourers so that they can make a BOCW card

Swapna S Mohanty

Jaipur: Nationwide lockdown was announced on March 24, 2020, to curb spread of deadly Covid-19 pandemic, millions of people were unemployed, and especially migrant workers were the most affected, they returned to their villages and were mostly depended on ration and relief.

What worsened their situation was, many of them did not have a minimum 90-day certificate of employment & hence could not make the Building and Other Construction Workers (BOCW) card and avail of the benefits.

The situation in Raja was no different; even today, labourers



Construction workers assembled at Ghatol block & engaged in discussion on BOCW card.

aren't aware of this card and benefits. So, on international Labour's Day, ministers & MLAs are bating for creating awareness. MLA from Ghatol block, Harendra Ninama said contractors & companies must ensure 90 days certificate of employment.

Echoing the same thought Krishna Kumar Singh, programme facilitator at a Banswara-based civil society, Vaagdhara said, "An awareness campaign in 300-gram Panchayat,

where all construction labours were educated about BOCW card and also briefed about the process of registration and also talked about 90 days certificate that is the most important part of process."

LABOUR MUST GET THE DUE CREDIT

Kuldeep Singh Shaktawat, Assistant Labour Commissioner Banswara said, "Construction labour is the one who has been engaged in the complete process of construction, starting from laying foundation till light fitting. That person is eligible to have a certificate from either the authorized contractor or even the house owner for that case. All he has to do is take the certificate and adhaar card to any e-Mitra and get registered. By having a BOCW card, a labourer can easily avail benefits."

BOCW card can be very useful for labourers but unfortunately they aren't getting benefits. I would request builders, Panchayat Samiti, Sarpanch to help and guide them to get card made. There are many benefits that they can get from the card.

—Mahendra Jeet Singh Malviya, Water Resources Minister

WORKERS SUBMIT MEMORANDUM TO PRESIDENT & GUJ

Dungarpur: Many programs were organized by labour organizations on World Labour Day here. The workers took out a rally in the city, raising their voice for their rights. The workers submitted a memorandum to the President and the Governor regarding their demands. Many trade unions, including the Indian trade union, reached the collectorate through the



main roads of the city in the form of a rally. In the rally, temporary contract

workers including Anganwadi workers, helpers, companions, cooks, helpers, cooks, sweepers and other workers raised slogans for their demands. After this, a general meeting of workers was also held outside the collectorate. In which the labour leaders demanded from the state government to formulate and implement schemes for their welfare.

Ashok Gehlot @ashokgehlot51

On International Labour Day, greetings to our hard working labour force, who toil day and night contributing immensely in the progress of our nation. We also renew our commitment towards the welfare of our labourers and to bring prosperity in their lives. #MayDay

Congress will never return to power in Raj, says Poonia

BJP to launch protest against Congress from Alwar on May 5

Aishwary Pradhan



Satish Poonia doing Narmada parikrama with Kamal Patel.

Bhopal: Raj BJP state president Satish Poonia was welcomed by Agriculture Min Kamal Patel and workers upon arrival at Narmada Parikrama Yatra programme here.

Poonia took blessings of Mahamandaleshwar 1008 Shri Shree Ishwaranand Maharaj at Amlhi Ghat in Sehore district of MP. He also

met MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan, BJP National General Secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya and MP state president Vishnu Dutt Sharma.

Poonia, while addressing press, said, "In Raj unemployment rate is highest at 32.3%. If a CBI inquiry is conducted in REET paper leak, then all people sitting in top positions in Cong govt will be behind the bars," he said. He added in 2023 and post that the Cong will never return to power in Rajasthan.

Man kills wife, throws in well; held in Jobner

First India Bureau

Jaipur: A man has been arrested for murdering his wife and a person for the case of putting her body in the well in Jobner area of here. After about six hours of search, body was fished out. According to police, the body was thrown into the well a week ago. The accused had poured acid to hide the identity of the dead. A case of murder has been registered.



Bulldozers must run on BJP office: Vinay

Suni Sihag

Sri Ganganagar: AAP state in-charge & Dwaraka MLA Vinay Mishra during a press conference here on Sunday said party is strengthening organization through dialogue and travel. He targeted state govt over corruption by saying Raj is at number one position in the matter of corruption.

Mishra said BJP only talks about religion & not development. "If riots are to be stopped in country, then bulldozers should be run over at BJP office. AAP has only one formula for de-



Vinay Mishra in Sri Ganganagar.

velopment. We focus on building schools & hospitals," he said.

Mishra said they have come here to strengthen organisation. He said people are joining AAP. On question of ticket distribution, he said, "People who talk in interest of party & pay attention to people's problems."

Families fight over land dispute, 1 killed, 7 seriously injured



The deceased being taken to mortuary of govt hospital in Deeg.

First India Bureau

Bharatpur: One person was killed & 7 got injured in firing took place on Sunday over a land dispute between 2 camps of family in Deeg village of Jateri.

Injured were rushed to Govt Hospital in Deeg, out of which five seriously injured were referred to Bharatpur.

The deceased Harbhan Singh Gurjar is a resident of Jateri village. Police reached the

spot after getting information. According to Khoh police station ASI Jitendra Kumar, people of a family fought over a land dispute in which Singh was shot dead and Kunwar, Satyaveer, Yogendra, Bijender, Dhori, Sunita, Ram Hans were injured.

Deeg Additional SP Raghuvver Singh and CEO Ashish Kumar reached & brought the situation under control. No case filed by either party.

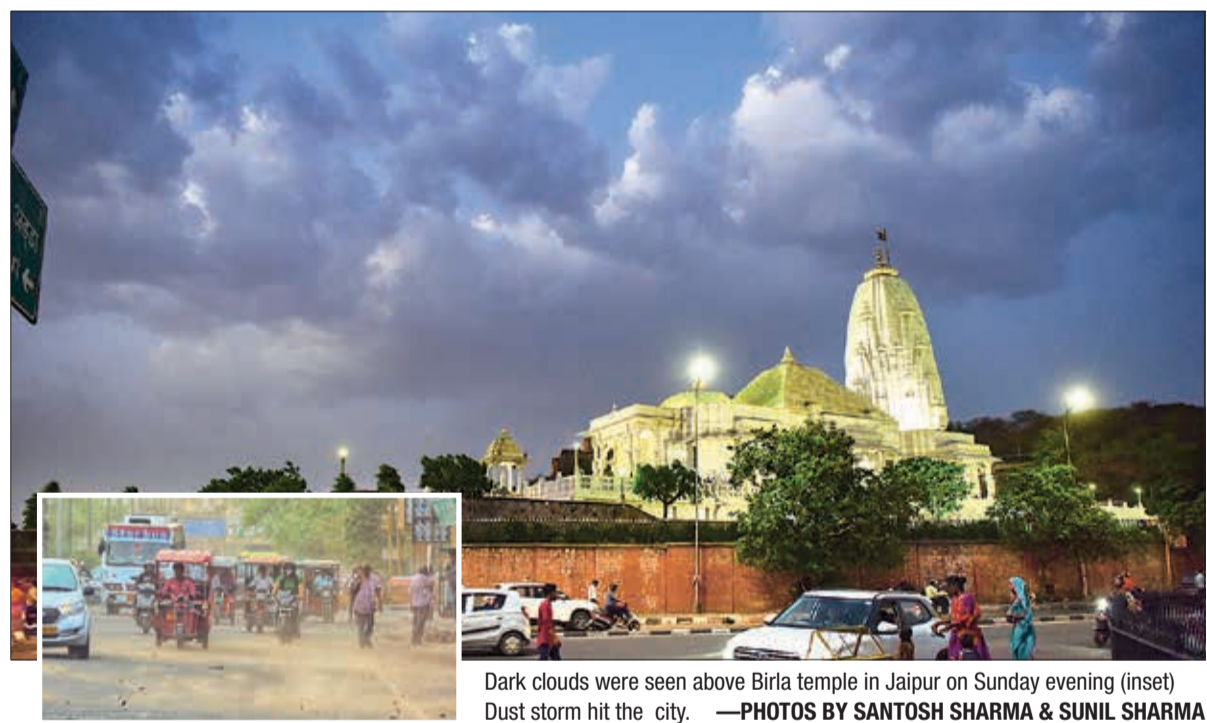
Girl intoxicated and raped by neighbour

First India Bureau

Jaipur: A case of raping a neighbouring girl has come to light. She was raped in a state of unconsciousness after drinking intoxicating drinks. Meanwhile, the accused blackmailed & threatened her to make video viral. Adarsh Nagar police station registered a report late Saturday evening.

Police said 23-year-old girl resident of Khoh Nagorian has lodged a report. She used to live at Amritapuri Ghatgate earlier. It is alleged that Irfan, who lives nearby, came to house and offered cold drink brought along. As soon as she drank the cold drink, she fell unconscious and he raped her.

Rain, hails, duststorm give respite from heatwave



Dark clouds were seen above Birla temple in Jaipur on Sunday evening (inset) Dust storm hit the city. —PHOTOS BY SANTOSH SHARMA & SUNIL SHARMA

First India Bureau

Jaipur: Weather took a sudden turn on Sunday leading to dust storm and light drizzle with thunder in several parts

of the state including state capital Jaipur.

It led to drop in temperature and some relief from heatwave. But due to wind speed and trees falling on lines,

electricity supply was disrupted in many areas. The Meteorological Department has issued a thunderstorm alert in 19 districts with this period of rain-hailstorm

continuing till May 3. Rain occurred in Jaipur, Alwar, Bharatpur, Bundi and Dausa districts. Along with rain in Alwar, hail also fell for a long spell.

BIKANER BOILS @47.1 DEGREES

TOP 8 HOTTEST CITIES	Temperature
BIKANER	47.1
BARMER	46.8
PHALODI	46.6
JAISALMER	46.5
CHURU	45.8
KOTA	44.6
JODHPUR	43.9
JAIPUR	43.8

Above 42°C in most dists

ELEPHANT SAFARI ONLY FOR 3 HOURS

Jaipur: Heat wave is now troubling wildlife along with common man. Elephant safari has also been closed. Tourists will now be able to enjoy elephant safari only from 7 am to 10 am. At the same time, elephants engaged in cleaning will also be able to take rounds only for 2 hours a day.

POLITICAL MUDSLINGING

Gehlot is facing crisis of chair: Arun Singh

Govt facing power crisis, water crisis, and the crisis of law and order: Singh

Ashvini Yadav

Alwar: BJP national general secretary Arun Singh on Sunday said there is resentment among public against Congress government in Rajasthan which, he said, is surrounded by various crisis.

"Govt is surrounded



Arun Singh, Mahant Balak Nath and others during visit to Rajgarh on Sunday where ancient temple was demolished.

by power crisis, water crisis, and the crisis of law and order. There is

even a crisis to save chair. Gehlot is facing the crisis of chair. Be-

cause of all this, the people of the state are suffering and there is resentment among them," he told reporters here.

Blaming Cong govt for temple demolition in Rajgarh (Alwar), Singh said God and peo-

ple will not forgive Cong.

The BJP leader alleged that PFI (Popular Front of India) was behind the Karauli violence that erupted last month. He said that PFI is spreading its base in Rajasthan.

FOR LAST RITES!



Sarvadhama Mokshdham at Chandpol in Jaipur, built by Maheshwari Samaj, was inaugurated by Pratap S Khachariyawas. Dr Mahesh Joshi, Amin Kagzi, Munesh Gurjar and Manoj Mudgal are also seen. —PHOTO BY MUKESH KIRADOO



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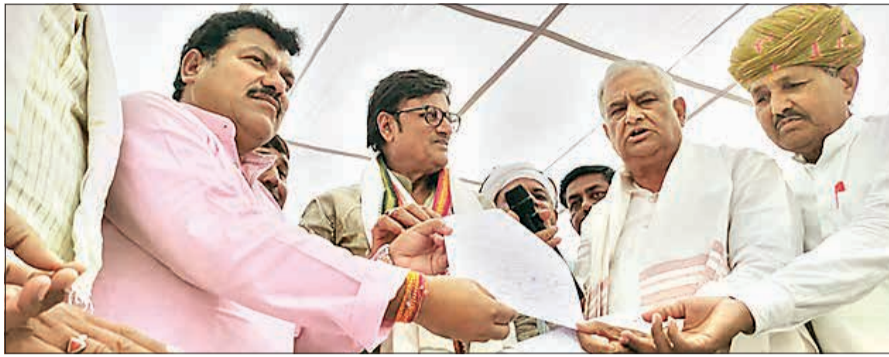
Rathore, Dr Kirodi demand fair justice for gangrape victim

People will march towards CMR on May 7, if demands aren't met

First India Bureau

Jaipur: Deputy LoP Rajendra Rathore, Rajya Sabha MP Kirodi Lal Meena, Congress MLA Ved Prakash Solanki and other leaders on Sunday participated in a Sarv-Samaj Mahapanchayat in Kotkhawda in protest against the gang-rape and murder of a woman.

Kirodi Lal Meena said that the government should give a compensation of Rs 25 lakh, government job to one family member & should bear the expense of education of victim's children. A letter addressed to CM Ashok Gehlot with five demands was also handed over to Chaksu MLA VP Solanki. Meena said that agitation will be launched on May 7 and people led by him will march towards CM's residence, if the demands are not met.



Rajendra Rathore, Dr Kirodi Lal Meena, VP Solanki & others during the dharna organised by Sarva Samaj at Kotkhawda in Chaksu on Sunday over the gangrape & murder of a woman. They also handed over a letter for CM Ashok Gehlot citing five demands, to MLA Ved Prakash Solanki.

I have spoken at the CMO. I will try to acquire maximum compensation for victim's family and will apprise CM Gehlot of all five demands submitted in the letter & extend all possible help to the victim's family.

—Ved Prakash Solanki, MLA, Chaksu

SOLANKI BACKS DR KIRODI AGAINST CM GEHLOT'S JIBE
Congress MLA Ved Prakash Solanki has replied to CM Gehlot's remark of Dr Kirodi Lal Meena creating a ruckus. Solanki while staging the dharna to acquire justice for the victim, said, "Dr Saheb doesn't matter if someone holds you responsible for creating ruckus or anything else, you are the messiah for poor, you are the messiah for people of Rajasthan."

To raise voice against injustice and tyranny is in my nature. Chief Minister @ashokgehlot51,ji, if you find this dhamalpatti, it will continue. It will be much louder now and would take place in the entire state.

—Dr Kirodi Meena, RS MP



Commercial gas cylinder costlier by ₹ 102.50

Jaipur: Oil-gas companies (IOCL, HPCL, BPCL) on Sunday increased the rate of commercial gas cylinders by Rs 102.50. Kartikeya Gaur, General Secretary of LPG Distributors' Federation of Rajasthan, said that after the increased prices, commercial gas cylinders now cost Rs 2,374 instead of Rs 2,271.5. 18% GST is charged on commercial gas of which 9 percent, goes to the centre and 9 to the state. This means Rs 124.70 goes to the Central and State Governments per cylinder.

RVUNL chief inspects Kalisindh Power Plant, 2nd unit to start ops this month

Arif Mansoori

Jhalawar: RK Sharma, CMD of Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam inspected the Kalisindh Thermal Power Plant of Dora Jhalawar and gave directions to start the second unit closed due to maintenance work in Jhalawar soon. He said that the second unit which is closed for 24 hours must start this month and all leakages and other problems should be fixed.

Right now, in Jhalawar Kalisindh Thermal Power Plant, electricity is being generated from only one unit which is 1 lakh 44,000 units. When both the units start, power generation will be double.

In a special conversation with First India News, Sharma said that shortage of coal is the main problem and right now there is power crisis in the country, including Rajasthan.



RK Sharma CMD RVUNL interacts with officials while inspecting the Kalisindh Thermal Power Plant in Jhalawar on Sunday.

Rajasthan is getting 21 rakes of coal while the requirement is that of 27 rakes and electricity generated is 5,860 MW. If the unit is run with full capacity, problems may arise. The Suratgarh Unit has started, the one in Kota will start this week and the second unit of Jhalawar will also start soon. This will provide relief to the state. —RK Sharma, CMD RVUNL

POWER CRISIS: IRATE VILLAGERS BEAT UP LINEMAN IN SAWAI MADHOPUR

Sawai Madhopur: Angry villagers beat up a lineman with sticks over a power cut in Khandar area of Sawai Madhopur. The lineman suffered head injuries. JVVNL employee Pushpendra went to connect the electricity at a consumer's house when half-a-dozen people attacked him. He was admitted at Khandar CHC. A plaint has been filed against 5 people and the probe is on.

NEWS DIGEST

BHILWARA: TWO BROTHERS DROWN IN SWIMMING POOL IN WEDDING EVENT

Bhilwara: Two brothers, Arnav(7) & Govind(5) who had come to attend the wedding at Palm Resort, drowned in the swimming pool on Sunday. The deceased were residents of Kachola. A case of negligence has been registered against the resort operator. Kotwali in-charge DP Dadhich said that Shubham Mundra, is getting married on Monday. The boys went for swimming, but drowned.

GOVERNOR KALRAJ MISHRA TO VISIT NEW DELHI TODAY



Jaipur: Governor Kalraj Mishra will be visiting New Delhi today via charter plane. According to sources, he is likely to meet Union Ministers during his one-day tour to the National Capital and would return to Jaipur on Tuesday. Meanwhile, Mishra wished on the World Labour Day. A developed nation cannot be imagined without your contribution, he said.

IN A SWIFT ACTION, BENIWAL HELPS STOP CHILD MARRIAGES



Jodhpur: Taking prompt action, Chairperson of RSCPCR Sangeeta Beniwal got two proposed child marriages stopped in Jodhpur's Dangiya-was ahead of Akha Teej. Beniwal is in constant touch with officers of 33 districts. Similar actions were taken in other districts including Barmer a few days ago. Child Welfare Committee's Chief Dhanpat Gurjar is also on an 'alert mode' with his team.

Covid-19: Raj logs 27 new cases, max from Jpr

Jaipur: There was some relief in Corona cases on Sunday as 27 new cases were reported from the state while the number was 70 on Saturday. The active cases rose to 380 as against 369 on Saturday. Jaipur reported the highest 15 cases and the active cases remained 272. As per the health department bulletin, total 16 patients recovered on Sunday. About 8-10 percent of the patients found in Jaipur are young children, who belong to the age group of up to 20 years. In JK Lon hospital and private hospitals, cases of high fever, vomiting and diarrhea are being reported more among children aged between 2 to 14 years.

'Mosque loudspeakers must be removed'

Jaipur (PTI): Amid a raging controversy over the use of loudspeakers at religious places, AntarRashtriya Hindu Parishad President Pravin Togadia Sunday said they should be removed from mosques, and if not their sound should not come out of the premises.

Also in an apparent reference to the recent demolition of two temples in Alwar, he said temples should not be allowed to be demolished under laws formed by any government as it "insults" Hindu sentiments.



Pravin Togadia addresses a press conference at Pink City Press Club in Jaipur on Sunday.

During a visit here, the former International Working President of the Vishva Hindu Parishad also raised the issue of inflation & said the common man has come on the verge of 'committing suicide' due to spiralling prices of fuel & other goods. On the controversy around the use of loudspeakers at religious places, Togadia said SC & HC order should be followed. "Why does the sound of loudspeakers go 5 km? Why should students or patients suffer? The sound should be restricted to place of meeting only."

EID-UL-FITR TO BE CELEBRATED ON TUESDAY!



After two years of restrained festivities, people have gathered in huge numbers at the Ramganj market ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr to shop for the festival. A large number of women and children are thronging the market to purchase clothes, footwear, cosmetics, henna, bangles and other items. As the moon wasn't sighted in Jaipur on Sunday, so the festival will be celebrated here on Tuesday. It was decided during Hilal Committee's meet, which was held at Jama Masjid in New Delhi.

Prime witness in 26/11 terror attack wants to meet CM

Sri Ganganagar: Devika, who was shot in her leg by terrorist Ajmal Kasab in 26/11/2008 Mumbai attack and later became the main witness in his hanging, expressed her desire to meet Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot through First India. Devika is a resident of Sumerpur village in Pali district here and said that she has not been given due recognition.



CM Ashok Gehlot helps evryone and is very sensitive. He should help me too. —Devika Rotawan

FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

CM flags off Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank's Mobile ATM Van

First India Bureau

Jaipur: Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, on Sunday, flagged off the mobile ATM unit Van of Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank from the Chief Minister's Residence. During this, he also conducted the first transaction from the mobile ATM van. A total of 4 mobile ATM vans have been provided to Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank in collaboration with NABARD.

These mobile ATM vans will provide banking services to the general public in remote rural areas in all the



Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot flags off the Mobile ATM Unit Van of Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank at the Chief Minister's Residence on Sunday.

districts of the bank service area. Along with this, the work of providing banking services to the soldiers posted on the border

will be done through these vans.

By organising camps for financial literacy and awareness about digital banking through

mobile ATM vans, the general public will be made aware about banking and information about government schemes will be made



Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot conducts first transaction after inspecting the Mobile ATM Unit Van at CMR on Sunday.

available to the people. Additional Director of the State Insurance and Provident Fund Department said that an insured sum of Rs 5

lakh will be given in case of death, Rs 3 lakh in case of complete loss of eyes/hands-legs and Rs 1.5 lakh in case of loss of one organ.

CM Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme started

Jaipur: CM Chiranjeevi Accident Insurance Scheme announced by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in the budget this year has been implemented in the state from May 1. Families insured under the scheme, will get insurance cover of up to Rs 5 lakh in case of road accident, falling from height, house collapse, electric shock, drowning,

and burns. Orders have been issued by the Finance Department in this regard. Additional Director of the State Insurance and Provident Fund Department said that an insured sum of Rs 5 lakh will be given in case of death, Rs 3 lakh in case of complete loss of eyes/hands-legs and Rs 1.5 lakh in case of loss of one organ.

Himanta says UCC will ensure honour for Muslim women



New Delhi (PTI): Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has strongly pitched for implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the country, saying no Muslim woman wants her husband to have three wives.

Sarma in New Delhi on Sunday also met Uttarakhanda Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who recently said his BJP government would prepare the draft of a UCC to be implemented in the northern state.

The Assam chief minister said all Muslims whom he has met wanted the UCC.

"No Muslim woman wants her husband to have three wives. No one wants this. You can ask any Muslim woman. No one would tell you that her husband should marry three women. Who wants this," he said on Saturday.

He said if Muslim women and mothers have to be given honour in the society, after the Triple Talaq (law), the UCC has to be put in place.

"I am a Hindu and I have the UCC. For my sister and daughter, I have the UCC. If I have UCC for my daughter, then Muslim daughters must have that protection," he said.

BJP capable of changing leadership: BL Santosh

BJP national general secretary hints at massive change in K'taka ahead of State assembly elections

Mysuru (Agencies): BJP National General Secretary BL Santosh said on Sunday that the party's capacity to change leadership has always been its strength.

The statement has created ripples in the state political corridors and assumed importance against the backdrop of upcoming General Assembly elections in 2023.

Though, the high



KARNATAKA MODEL ENOUGH FOR STATE

CM Bommai reacting to statements by Santosh said, his observations are correct and he had spoken in reference to Corporation elections, he said. BJP General Secretary and MLA CT Ravi stated that there is only Karnataka model for Karnataka. There is no need of Punjab or Gujarat models for the state.

command has stated that the next elections would be fought under the leadership of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, the statement has again started debate over his leadership, party sources explained.

The experiments in this regard have been

successful in Punjab and Gujarat states. The strategy of BJP to keep away sitting MLAs and family members of party leaders have given good results, he further said.

With the introduction of new faces in several states, BJP has

attained power. In New Delhi and Gujarat corporation elections, new faces who contested on BJP tickets have won, he maintained.

Tickets were not given to those sitting corporators in the national capital. These experiments are possible only in BJP, he said.

Kerala hate speech case: Ex-MLA George gets bail

Thiruvananthapuram (Agencies): Former MLA and Kerala Janapaksham Chairman, PC George was given conditional bail by a local court here on Sunday after he was arrested over hate speech charges.

Thiruvananthapuram Judicial first class magistrate court(ii), Justice Asha Koshy, granted conditional bail to George conditional.

The court said that he should not indulge in hate speech, should not influence the witness, and not create any untoward incidents.

Advocate Sasthamangalam Ajith Kumar, who appeared for George, told media that this case was bailable. He said that police could not give station bail as George was



Former MLA and Kerala Janapaksham Chairman, PC George.

DYFI WORKERS THROW EGGS

There were several protest marches for and against George while he was being brought from his residence in Kottayam to Thiruvananthapuram. While the BJP workers shouted slogans in support of George, DYFI workers threw eggs at his vehicle.

charged under IPC Sections 153 A and 295 A.

George after coming out of the Magistrate's chamber while speaking to the mediapersons said, "The Judiciary in

India is for justice and the Honourable Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan, and his police had arrested me as a Ramzan gift to Islamic terror groups."

Kick me out if I don't improve Gujarat's schools: Kejriwal

Bharuch (PTI): Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal today made another pitch for change in Gujarat, offering the governance model that has been hugely successful in Delhi and more recently, in Punjab. Citing the Delhi schools in Gujarat's Bharuch — where tribals form a chunk of the population — he claimed the condition of schools in Gujarat is really bad.

"There are 6,000 government schools in Gujarat, which have been shut. Many others are in dilapidated condi-



tions. The future of lakhs of children has been disrupted. We can change this future," Kejriwal said.

"The BJP is making world record in paper

leaks during examinations in Gujarat. I challenge Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel to hold a single examination without a paper leak," he said.

Birbhum carnage death count rises to 10 as woman dies of burn injuries

Rampurhat (PTI): A woman, who suffered burn injuries in the Rampurhat massacre in West Bengal's Birbhum district in March, died on Sunday morning while undergoing treatment, police said.

With this, 10 people have died of burn injuries after their houses in Bogtui village were allegedly firebombed following the murder of local TMC leader Bhadu Sheikh.

The woman was admitted to the hospital with 27 per cent burn injuries, a police officer



told media.

"She was discharged after her condition improved. But, she was again admitted to the Rampurhat Medical

College and Hospital after her health condition started deteriorating. She died early Sunday morning," he said.

The CBI took over the

investigation of the incident, which happened on March 20, from the state police on the direction of the Calcutta High Court.

Won't attend MNS' 'Chalisa' event: VHP

Mumbai (PTI): The Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) on Sunday dismissed as "fake and baseless" the reports that its activists and those of the Bajrang Dal will participate in an event to be organised by the MNS to play 'Hanuman Chalisa' on loudspeakers outside the mosques in Maharashtra on May 3.

In a veiled attack at the MNS, VHP National Spokesperson Vinod Bansal also dubbed as "propaganda politics" the reports about the participation of its activ-



ists and those of the Bajrang Dal in the proposed MNS' event, saying the VHP neither supports any political party nor participates in their political programmes.

"Neither the VHP nor the Bajrang Dal have extended any support to the MNS' Hanuman Chalisa event," said.

After Ram Navami violence, curfew for Eid in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone

Bhopal (Agencies): Complete curfew has been declared during Eid in Khargone, Madhya Pradesh, which saw communal violence during Ram Navami last month. Eid is likely to be celebrated on Monday or Tuesday. Both of these days will be under curfew, the district administration has said.

"Complete curfew will be imposed in the Khargone on May 2 and May 3. Eid prayers to be offered at home," said Summer Singh, ADM, Khargone. On these



days, shops will remain open and students going for exams will be given a pass, he added.

"Also, no event on Akshaya Tritiya and Parshuram Jayanti will

be allowed to be organised in the district," Mr Singh said.

24 people were injured in Khargone on April 10 when two groups clashed during

a Ram Navami procession. A man was killed during the communal clashes and Superintendent of Police Siddharth Chaudhary was shot at.

Five people have been arrested in connection with the murder of Ibris Khan in Anand Nagar-Kapas Mandi locality. A man has been arrested for shooting the senior police officer. More than 150 people were arrested in connection with 64 cases of communal violence filed across Khargone.

Two hybrid terrorists arrested in Kulgam

Srinagar (PTI): Security forces on Sunday arrested two 'hybrid' terrorists in Kulgam and Sringar districts of Jammu and Kashmir, police said.

"#KulgamPolice & Army (34 RR) arrested one #hybrid #terrorist of proscribed terror outfit LeT namely Yamin Yousaf Bhat of Gadihama Kulgam," the Kashmir Zone Police said on its Twitter handle.

The police said incriminating material, arms and ammunition, including a pistol, two grenades and 51 pistol



rounds were recovered from his possession.

Another 'hybrid' terrorist was arrested from Nowgam area of the city here, the police said.

"On a specific input, Police & (50 RR) arrested a hybrid terrorist namely Sheikh Sahid Gulzar of Muchhwa, Badgam from Nowgam.

2024 GENERAL ELECTION

Are Sonia's 'committees' merely part of political stunt without any 'meaning'?

Mahesh Sharma

New Delhi: Congress president Sonia Gandhi has formed six committees. She and the coordinators of these committees may know exactly what these committees are supposed to do, however, what was said in the Congress' press conference and the news carried out by national media, does not shed light on the roles of these committees. It is being said that these six committees will prepare

a strategy for the general elections of 2024. But the question is, what will be the strategy for 2024 from now on? In the matter of farmers and agriculture or in the economic matter, Congress is yet to formulate a strategy, on the basis of which it has to contest the next general election? However, electoral strategy is a totally different thing, which six committees cannot make separately. Secondly, the election strategy is made on the basis



of various types of data related to elections.

Therefore, it does not seem that these six com-

mittees will formulate a strategy for the election. Their work is to prepare the agenda for

the Nav Sankalp Chintan Shivir to be held in Udaipur, Rajasthan from May 13 to 15. In this sense, it can be said that this is not a new thing. Such committees are formed every time before Congress' Chintan Shivir or before its general session and reports are sought from them. That report is put up for discussion in the session and then it is accepted.

Such Congress committees had given their reports even when the

last session of the Congress was held at the Indira Gandhi Stadium in Delhi. Interestingly, even then Bhupinder Singh Hooda was the chairman of the committee on farmers and agriculture and this time also he has been given this responsibility. He prepared his report from his personal experience and after talking to several agricultural experts. In this, many suggestions were given from increasing the minimum support price

of crops to increasing the scope of MSP.

However, these committees are not entirely useless and have some use as well. Through these, the Congress high command has given a message to the party workers that the party leadership is doing something. Secondly, by giving place to many disgruntled leaders of the party, a message has been given that the party is working after taking everyone's opinion. Keep in mind that the

leaders of the G-23 had pointed out the need for collective leadership. Therefore the leaders of that group have also been included in these committees. Bhupinder Singh Hooda and Mukul Wasnik have been made the conveners of two committees. Apart from them, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Manish Tewari, Akhilesh Prasad Singh etc. have been made members. In this sense, it can be said that this is a political stunt, which has no special meaning.

53,942 loudspeakers removed in UP till date



Cops took religious leaders into confidence before removing loudspeakers: Sources

Lucknow (Agencies): Amid the ongoing controversy over use of loudspeakers for 'azaan' (call to prayer from mosques) and recitals of 'bhajans' (religious songs) by some saffron outfits at some places in Uttar Pradesh around 54,000 'illegal' loudspeakers were removed from religious places across the state after the state government issued a directive to the officials in this regard a few days back.

According to the sources, the sound level of over 60,000 loudspeakers installed at the religious places in the

WILL ABIDE BY SUPREME COURT ORDERS: GOA CHIEF MINISTER ON LOUDSPEAKER ROW

New Delhi: With the Hanuman Chalisa row triggering authorities to remove loudspeakers across the country, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said that a campaign is likely to be initiated against the use of loudspeakers in the state in the next few



Pramod Sawant

days. However, the Goa Chief Minister also stated that it is neces-

sary to abide by the orders of the Supreme Court and High Court in the matter. Speaking to media after an event in the national capital on Saturday, the Chief Minister said, "Firstly, it is necessary to obey the Supreme Court and the High Court's decision in this matter."

state was lessened and brought down within the permissible limits. Sources said that the

police officials took the religious leaders into confidence before removing the loudspeakers. "In

many places, the people associated with the management of the religious places themselves re-

moved the loudspeakers," the official added.

The official said that the local administration had been directed to ensure that there was no discrimination in removing the loudspeakers. "The directive applies to all religious places," he added.

The loudspeaker fixed atop the famous Gorakhnath Temple of which UP chief minister Yogi Adityanath was the head, which earlier faced the road, was turned toward the temple so that the people outside did not have to hear the high decibel sound.

Arms haul seized in Mizoram, four arrested

Aizawl (Agencies): In one of the biggest arms seizure in Mizoram, Assam Rifles on Sunday seized a large cache of arms, ammunition and explosives, including 24,000 gelatine sticks (weighing 3,000 kg) and arrested four people in this connection, officials said.

Assam Rifles officials said that acting on a tip-off, a team of the paramilitary force intercepted two vehicles near Kelsih village in Aizawl district and seized the arms and ammunition, which include three pump action shotguns, five 0.22 rifles, 20 boxes of pellets, seven telescopes, 44 kg safety fuse, and 100 kg of gunpowder, apart from the 24,000 gelatine sticks.

Disinvestment of Pawan Hans 'injudicious': Cong slams Central Govt



New Delhi (Agencies): The Congress on Sunday attacked the government over disinvestment of Pawan Hans Helicopters, saying the region's largest helicopter service was a strategic organisation that should have been retained.

The government has decided to sell 51 per cent stake in Pawan Hans to Star9 Mobility Private Ltd for Rs 211.14 crore.

"Pawan Hans is south-east Asia's largest helicopter company with a fleet of 42 helicopters for off-shore operations, connecting inaccessible areas, charter services, search and rescue work, VIP transportation, corporate and special charters, hotline washing of

CONG QUESTIONS

Noting that Pawan Hans is a very strategic organisation catering to the ONGC, the HAL and the BSF with 51 per cent stake with the Centre and 49 per cent with ONGC before the disinvestment process, he asked: "Did the government explore merging Pawan Hans with ONGC?" Gaurav Vallabh asked.

insulators and heli-pilgrimages (Kedarnath ji, Badrinath ji, Amarnath ji, Maa Vaishno Devi ji among others), Congress spokesperson Gaurav Vallabh said.

Conspiracy to make Mumbai UT: Sena accuses Fadnavis in Saamana editorial

'Fadnavis has presented a plan to the Union Home Ministry'

Mumbai (Agencies): The Shiv Sena has accused Devendra Fadnavis, the Leader of Opposition in Maharashtra, of plotting to make Mumbai a Union Territory. In a scathing editorial in the party mouthpiece Saamana published in the Maharashtra Day edition, the Sena alleged that Fadnavis has presented a plan to the MHA to make Mumbai a union territory,



Uddhav Thackeray

Devendra Fadnavis

which will bring it out of the purview of the MVA. "The conspiracy to

separate Mumbai from Maharashtra is not completely over even today.

They want to reduce the national and international importance of Mumbai and then they want to make Mumbai a UT...Fadnavis and his BJP in Maharashtra are fully aware of this," the editorial read.

It goes on to say: "Fadnavis prepared a 'presentation' which shows how Mumbai can be separated from Maharashtra and presented it to the Home Ministry."

BENGAL GOV VS BABUL SUPRIYO

War of words breaks out over MLA oath

Kolkata (Agencies): TMC leader Babul Supriyo and West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar engaged in a war of words over who would administer the oath to the TMC leader elected to the assembly from the Ballygunge constituency.

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar had appointed Deputy Speaker Asish Banerjee as the person to administer the oath to Babul Supriyo, the newly elected member of the West Bengal



Jagdeep Dhankhar

Babul Supriyo

Legislative Assembly from the 161-Ballygunge Assembly constituency. "Appointment of the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Dr Asish Banerjee as the person to administer the oath to Shri Babul Su-

priyo, elected to the West Bengal Legislative Assembly from 161-Ballygunge Assembly constituency is in conformity with article 188 of the Constitution", tweeted Dhankhar on Sunday.

However, Deputy Speaker refused to administer the oath, saying it would be an insult to the Speaker.

Reacting to it, Supriyo tweeted, "For the sake of people of Ballygunge, who did not have an MLA for several months since the demise of Subroto Mukherjee, I would request your excellency @jdhankhar1 ji to reverse the decision and allow Hon'ble Speaker to preside over my oath taking allowing me to start my work."

NIA conducts searches in Assam in Maoist terror case

Guwahati (Agencies): The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday said that it had recently carried out raids at two locations in Kamrup district of Assam in connection with the Maoist terror case.

The case pertains to arrest of Maoist leader Arun Kumar Bhattacharjee alias Kanchan Da, a member of Central Committee of CPI Maoist



along with his associate Akash Oran alias Kajal, a member of Assam State Organising Committee of CPI (Maoist) by Assam Police from Patimara Tea Garden under

Udarband PS of Cachar district on March 6.

"The accused, along with their other associates, were involved in spreading the network of CPI(Maoist) in Assam and North-East region," the official said.

The case was initially registered at Crime Branch Police Station, Guwahati, and later, the probe was taken over by the NIA on March 16.

No 4th wave, only local surges so far, says ICMR

Current spike in number of daily cases cannot be termed as the fourth wave

New Delhi (Agencies): The current spike in the number of daily Covid-19 cases in India cannot be termed as the fourth wave of the pandemic, Samiran Panda, Additional Director General of the Indian



A health official takes swab sample of a person on a street.

Council of Medical Research (ICMR), told media on Sunday.

Panda said the surge has been observed at dis-

trict levels, hence it cannot be said that the country is moving towards a fourth wave.

"Some surges have

been observed at district levels. This is called a blip... Blips are confined to certain geographical regions of the country," he said.

While arguing why this is not the indication of a fourth wave, Panda gave four reasons in favour of the statement.

He said that first of all, the surge has been found at some local levels which is due to the testing ratio.

"Secondly, what we see is just a blip and we

cannot say that entire states are under the grip of Covid."

Thirdly, there is no increase in the hospital admission across the country, he noted.

And most importantly, according to Panda, no new variant has been found yet which indicates that there is no fourth wave right now.

While talking about the positivity rate, he said that sometimes the rate goes up because of low testing.

WHAT WILL PRASHANT KISHOR DO NOW?

Sharat K Verma

New Delhi: Election strategist Prashant Kishor is once again at crossroads. His given deadline expires on May 2 before which he has to decide whether he is going into active politics or not and if it will enter active politics, then from which platform will he do politics. Keep in mind that he has distanced himself from the work of election management. He has separated from his company I-Pac and has expressed

his desire to enter active politics on his own. That's why after the doors of Congress are closed, the question is, which way will he go?

Will he form a separate party with disgruntled Congress leaders and try to make it into a real Congress? There have been attempts in the past to this effect and several meetings have been held at Kapil Sibal's house to form 'Sabki Congress' or 'Aapki Congress' and there have been discussions about forming the



Prashant Kishor

Indian People's Congress. So, one possibility is that after the Rajya Sabha elections, disgruntled Congress leaders form a separate party and Prashant Kishor joins it. But this

party will have no political capital. PK wanted to join Congress because the party has an idea, political space and close to 12 crore votes.

Another option for PK is that instead of

forming a single party, he forms a third front against the BJP and the Congress, involving all his client parties and using the United Front and the National Front as was used in the past. Nitish Kumar could be the face in this experiment. Then another option with PK is to stick with the Trinamool Congress and prepare for the elections by projecting Mamata Banerjee. On this, many big satraps who have left the Congress or will leave the Congress in the next few

days can come together.

The fourth option is to continue working for different parties as before. Work with Arvind Kejriwal to YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, Mamata Banerjee, MK Stalin, Uddhav Thackeray, K Chandrasekhar Rao etc. and plan Lok Sabha elections. In such a situation, after the election, he can ensure a big role for himself. There may be other options, about which Prashant Kishor will reveal something in the next two-four days.

Vinay Mohan Kwatra takes charge as new Foreign Secy

New Delhi (Agencies): Seasoned diplomat Vinay Mohan Kwatra on Sunday took charge as India's new Foreign Secretary. A 1988-batch Indian Foreign Service officer, Kwatra succeeded Harsh Vardhan Shringla who retired from service on Saturday. Kwatra was serving as India's envoy to Nepal before assuming the charge of the Foreign Secretary.

"Shri Vinay Kwatra assumed charge as Foreign Secretary today morning. #TeamMEA wishes Foreign Secre-



Vinay Mohan Kwatra

tary Kwatra a productive and successful tenure ahead," MEA Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi tweeted on Sunday.

Kwatra is known to have extensive expertise in dealing with India's neighbourhood as well as the US, China and Europe.

GST revenues at all-time high of ₹1.68 lakh crore in April

New Delhi (PTI): The GST collection in April touched the highest ever level of about ₹1.68 lakh crore, up 20 per cent from the year-ago period, on improved compliance and recovery in business activity, the Finance Ministry said on Sunday.

During the month, 1.06 crore GST returns from GSTR-3B were filed, of which 97 lakh pertained to March 2022.

The gross GST revenue collected in April is ₹1,67,540 crore, of which CGST is ₹33,159 crore, SGST ₹41,793 crore, IGST ₹81,939 crore (including ₹36,705 crore collected on import of goods) and cess ₹10,649 crore (including ₹857 crore collected on import of goods), the ministry said.

The gross GST collection in April 2022 is an all-time high and ₹25,000 crore more than



the previous highest collection of ₹1.42 lakh crore recorded in March. In April last year, the mop-up from Goods and Services Tax (GST) was about ₹1.40 lakh crore.

Giving comparable data of April GST return filing, the ministry said there is a "clear

improvement in the compliance behaviour, which has been a result of various measures taken by the tax administration to nudge taxpayers to file returns timely, to making compliance easier and strict enforcement action was taken against errant taxpayers identified based on data analytics and artificial intelligence".

During the month, revenues from import of goods were 30% higher and the revenues from the domestic transaction (including import of services) are 17% more than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

The total number of e-way bills generated in March 2022 was 7.7 crore, which is 13% higher than 6.8 crore in February 2022, which reflects the recovery of business activity at a faster pace, the ministry said.

GROSS GST

In April, 1.06 crore GST returns from GSTR-3B were filed, of which 97 lakh pertained to March 2022. The gross GST revenue collected in April is ₹1,67,540 crore, of which CGST is ₹33,159 crore, SGST ₹41,793 crore, IGST ₹81,939 crore (including ₹36,705 crore collected on import of goods) and cess ₹10,649 crore (including ₹857 crore collected on import of goods).

IRDAI panel pitches 'micro insurance' plans

New Delhi (PTI): A committee appointed by regulator IRDAI has suggested over a dozen low-cost "micro insurance" modules with a view to expand protection plans for uncovered population and small businesses.

The committee has suggested that the insurers should be allowed to adopt a modular approach using various permutations and combinations for Combi MI (Micro Insurance) products.

"MI" aims to protect low-income people with insurance products that are affordable. The objective of MI is to empower people to cope with and recover from common risks such as death of the breadwinner, paying for treatment of serious illnesses, reconstructing destroyed homes and business-



The IRDAI committee has suggested that the insurers should be allowed to adopt a modular approach using various permutations and combinations for Combi MI products.

es, among others.

A one-stop solution to meet the insurance protection needs of these targeted groups will go a long way in achieving the objective of increasing insurance penetration in these strata of society, the panel said in its report.

"There is a case to have a Combi MI product which can be developed on a

modular basis, giving flexibility to the insurer to offer coverage to different groups and individuals as per their specific protection needs," the report said.

The panel has recommended 14 standard modules and suggested that such products may be sold by insurers either on individual basis or group basis.

LIC keen to retain some stake in IDBI Bank

New Delhi (PTI): State-owned insurance behemoth LIC has said that it will retain part of its stake in IDBI Bank to reap the benefits of the bancassurance channel.

Along with the government, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) will also divest its stake in IDBI Bank, but may not exit completely, LIC Chairman MR Kumar told PTI in an interview.

LIC is currently doing roadshows for its maiden public issue, which opens for subscription on May 4. The government for the past few years has been planning to sell its 45 per cent minority stake in IDBI Bank to strategic investors as part of its privatisation drive.



Five of top-10 most valued firms gain ₹67,843 cr in m-cap



New Delhi (PTI): Five of the top-10 most valued firms together added ₹67,843.33 crore in market valuation last week, with Hindustan Unilever Limited and Reliance Industries emerging as the biggest gainers.

While Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Hindustan Unilever, Bharti Airtel and HDFC emerged as the gainers

from the top-10 pack, Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, ICICI Bank, Adani Green Energy and State Bank of India were the laggards.

The market valuation of Hindustan Unilever jumped by ₹25,234.61 crore to ₹5,25,627.06 crore, the most among the top-10 firms.

The market capitalisation (mcap) of Reliance Industries ad-

vanced by ₹21,892.61 crore to reach Rs 18,87,964.18 crore.

HDFC Bank's valuation climbed ₹16,251.27 crore to ₹7,68,052.87 crore and that of HDFC rallied ₹3,943.09 crore to ₹4,03,969.09 crore.

Bharti Airtel added ₹521.75 crore, taking its valuation to ₹4,06,245.26 crore.

In contrast, the market valuation of Tata

Consultancy Services tumbled ₹22,594.64 crore to ₹12,98,999.83 crore.

The market capitalisation of Infosys tanked ₹7,474.58 crore to ₹6,59,587.97 crore.

The valuation of State Bank of India declined by ₹3,480.6 crore to ₹4,43,106.96 crore and that of ICICI Bank dipped ₹2,600.14 crore to ₹5,16,762.48 crore.

Suman Bery takes charge as Niti Aayog VC



New Delhi (PTI): Eminent economist Suman Bery on Sunday took charge as the Vice Chairman of government think tank Niti Aayog.

Bery has previously served as Director General (Chief Executive) of the National Council of Applied Economic Research and the global chief economist of Royal Dutch Shell.

He was also a member of the PM's Economic Advisory Council, Statistical Commission and the RBI's Technical Advisory Committee on Monetary Policy.

"NITI Aayog welcomes Suman Bery as NITI Aayog's Vice Chairman with effect from May 1, 2022," the statement said.

ATF PRICE HIKED BY 3.22% TO RECORD HIGH

New Delhi (PTI): Jet fuel prices on Sunday were hiked by 3.22% - the ninth straight increase this year - to an all-time high, reflecting a surge in global energy prices. The price of aviation turbine fuel (ATF) - the fuel that helps aeroplanes fly - was hiked by ₹3,649.13 per kilolitre, or 3.22%, to ₹1,16,851.46 per kl (₹116.8 per litre) in the national capital, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. Meanwhile, petrol and diesel prices remained unchanged for the 25th straight day after rising by a record ₹10 per litre each. The increase in ATF price comes on the back of the steepest ever hike of 18.3% (₹17,135.63 per kl) effected on March 16 and a 2% (₹2,258.54 per kl) increase on April 1. Prices were increased by a marginal 0.2% on April 16.

FPIs WITHDRAWS ₹17,144 CR FROM STOCKS IN APRIL

New Delhi (PTI): Continuing its selling spree for the seventh consecutive month, foreign investors have pulled out ₹17,144 crore from the Indian equity market in April amid fears of an aggressive rate hike by the US Fed that haunted such investors and dented sentiments. Further, foreign flows are likely to remain volatile in the near term amid the high prospect of aggressive rate hikes globally and the headwinds in terms of higher crude prices, and rising inflation, experts said. FPIs turned into net investors in the first week of April due to correction in the markets and invested Rs 7,707 crore in equities. After a short breather, once again they turned net sellers during the holiday-shortened April 11-13 week, and the sell-off continued in the succeeding weeks too.

HDFC RAISES LENDING RATE BY 5 BASIS POINTS

New Delhi (PTI): Mortgage lender HDFC Ltd on Sunday raised its benchmark lending rate by 5 basis points, a move that will increase EMI for existing borrowers. The rate increase is in line with other lenders, including the State Bank of India and Bank of Baroda. "HDFC increases its Retail Prime Lending Rate (RPLR) on Housing loans, on which its Adjustable Rate Home Loans (ARHL) are benchmarked, by 5 basis points, with effect from May 1, 2022," the company said in a statement. There is no change in the lending for new borrowers. The rates for new borrowers range between 6.70 per cent and 7.15 per cent, depending on credit and loan amount. Last month, SBI and other lenders raised benchmark lending rates, pushing EMIs for the existing customers.

EARNINGS, FED INTEREST RATE TO DICTATE MARKET

New Delhi (PTI): The US Fed interest rate decision, domestic macroeconomic data announcements and ongoing quarterly earnings are some of the major factors that will drive the stock markets in a holiday-shortened week, analysts said. Besides, monthly auto sales numbers and the LIC IPO will also remain in focus, they added. "The market is likely to kick off this week on a sombre note after a sharp fall in the US market then the focus will shift to the outcome of the US FOMC meeting, which is crucial amid record inflation and growth worries. The FOMC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday and the Indian market will react to it on Thursday. This week is going to be a truncated one as the market will remain shut on Tuesday on account of Ramzan Eid.

FUEL SALES GROWTH MODERATES IN APRIL MONTH

New Delhi (PTI): India's petrol and diesel sales growth moderated in April while cooking gas LPG consumption fell as record high prices dented demand, preliminary industry data showed on Sunday. Petrol sales growth moderated to 2.1% in April when compared with the same period in the preceding month, while diesel demand was almost flat. Cooking gas LPG, which had consistently shown growth even during the pandemic period, saw a massive 9.1% month-on-month drop in consumption during April. State-owned oil firms had on March 22 ended a 137-day hiatus in rate revision and began passing a \$30 per barrel increase in cost of raw material (crude oil) during that period when five states including Uttar Pradesh went to polls.

Tata Motors looks to drive in multiple EVs

New Delhi (PTI): Tata Motors is looking to drive in a range of electric vehicles across various price points with multiple body styles and features in order to cater to a wide range of customers across segments, as per a top company official.

The homegrown auto major, which currently leads the domestic electric passenger vehicle segment by a distance, plans to cater to different sets of customers with products from its three distinct platforms.

The homegrown auto major, plans to cater to different sets of customers with products from its three distinct platforms

With first-generation products like Nexon EV and Tigor EV, the company



has been able to bring in one set of customers, while the recently showcased SUV coupe concept CURVV is expected to bring in another set of buyers into the company's fold.

Similarly, the more aspirational architecture AVINYA is expected to cater to a more

discerning set of consumers beginning 2025. "Each of these products will have their own compelling proposition... We are going to

cater to all kinds of customer segments, and their requirements at different affordability levels, body styles, feature levels and different levels of experience," Tata Motors PV Managing Director Shailesh Chandra said. The company expects each of these product trims to achieve critical mass in the market, he added.

Last week, the company unveiled its all-new electric vehicle architecture on which it plans to introduce multiple advanced EVs starting from 2025.

Pharma exports hit ₹1.83 L cr in 2021-22

New Delhi (PTI): Pharma exports have touched ₹1,83,422 crore in 2021-22 against ₹90,415 crore in 2013-14, the commerce ministry said on Sunday.

The exports in 2021-22 sustained a positive growth despite the global trade disruptions and drop in demand for COVID related medicines.

"Indian pharma companies enabled by their price competitiveness and good quality, have made a global mark, with 60 per cent of the world's

vaccines and 20% of generic medicines coming from India," the ministry said.

India ranks third worldwide for production in terms of volume and 14th by value.

The current market size of the domestic pharmaceutical industry is around \$50 billion. The share of pharmaceuticals and drugs in the global exports is 5.92%.

India's top five pharma export destinations are the US, UK, South Africa, Russia and Nigeria.

IN ABSENCE OF PROPER PROOF

DILAPIDATED PLATFORM CAN'T BE TERMED A PLACE FOR PRAYERS: SC

Apex court's remark came while dismissing appeals filed by the Rajasthan Waqf Board challenging an order of Raj High Court

New Delhi (ANI): The Supreme Court has remarked that "in the absence of any proof of dedication or user, a dilapidated wall or a platform cannot be conferred a status of a religious place for the purpose of offering prayers or Namaaz."



The stand of the State Government that they have identified it to be a religious structure comprising in Khasra has not been produced on record.
—Supreme Court

"The report of the experts is relevant only to the extent that the structure has no archaeological or historical importance. In the absence of any proof of dedication or user, a dilapidated wall or a platform cannot be conferred a status of a religious place for the purpose of offering prayers/

Namaaz," a bench of justices Hemant Gupta and V Ramasubramanian observed.

The apex court remark came while dismissing appeals filed by the Rajasthan Waqf Board challenging an order of the High

Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur.

"We do not find any merit in the present appeals. Consequently, the appeals are dismissed," the Supreme Court said.

Rajasthan High Court had allowed Jin-

dal Saw Limited's plea to direct the appellant Waqf Board and others not to interfere with the action of the writ petitioner in the removal of the structure at village Pur, Bhilwara, Rajasthan.

Dalit's wedding procession attacked, jewellery worth ₹2 lakh looted

First India Bureau

Bharatpur: Visu Jatav of Seupura lodged a case that his son Suresh was to get married on April 27. While they were busy with the wedding function, Jai Singh, Jeetendra, Amri, Ram Naresh and Vijay Singh came along with their seven-eight accomplices armed with sticks and country-made pistols and began abusing his son and son-in-law present there.

They even beat up his relatives. Villagers and other relatives came to save but an accused snatched his mobile from his son-in-law while on his way. The next day, the accused stopped the wedding procession at gunpoint and looted jewellery worth Rs 2 lakhs.

Info of money on Instagram leads to abduction of Anmol

Kidnappers demanded ₹1 crore ransom

Laxmi Kant Sharma



Police rescued Anmol safely after 4 days of his kidnapping.

Dausa: The police arrested an accused in the abduction case of a college student on April 25 from Bandikui town of the district. Moreover, the car used in the kidnapping incident has also been recovered. During the interrogation of the arrested accused, it has come to the fore that 5 other neighbours, including him, kidnapped the youth after seeing a post uploaded on the Instagram account of Anmol Arora stating 6 lakhs in his account. A ransom of Rs 1 crore was planned.

But before that could happen, the police bust-

Other accused involved in the incident have been identified, and the special police team is making efforts to arrest them.
—Raj Kumar Gupta, SP Dausa

Siddharth Saini resident of Jaipur, rented the car online from a private travel company. College student Anmol Arora was kidnapped by putting a fake number plate on the car. Police have arrested Vivek Chaturvedi resident of Malipura Basava Road Bandikui, involved in the incident. The SP said that all the other accused involved in the incident have been identified, and the special police team is making efforts to arrest them.

NEWS DIGEST

31 BRAHMIN ORGANISATIONS TO CELEBRATE PARASHURAM JAYANTI ON MAY 6

Jaipur: For the first time, 31 Brahmin organizations will celebrate Parashuram Jayanti together



on the birth anniversary of Lord Parashuram on May 6 with a purpose of uniting the society & fulfilling the social projects. On

Sunday, General Sec Dr Kaustubh Dadhich informed that the programme started with Ganesh invitation at Moti Durgri Ganesh temple under the leadership of Mahant Kailash Sharma during which a poster was also released. On May 6, the programme will be at Rajratan Marriage Garden wherein Governor Dr. Kalraj Mishra will be the Chief Guest.

REGISTRATION LIMIT UP BY 10% FOR PURCHASE OF GRAM



Jaipur: Cooperative Minister Uday Lal Anjana said that the registration limit has been increased by 10 percent for purchase of gram on support price till June 29. For the sale of gram at 564 purchasing centers of all the districts, farmers can register from May 2 at the purchase center or E-Mitra center of the area. This decision will benefit 21,529 farmers of the state. Anjana informed that till now 19191 farmers have been allotted dates for weighing gram.

DOCTOR FROM RAJ JUMPS INTO POND, DIES IN CHHATTISGARH



Jaipur: A doctor at Chhattisgarh's Rajnandgaon Medical College committed suicide by jumping into a pond on Sunday morning, police said. After studying at the Medical College of Pendri, he was doing his internship. Police, with the help of SDRF, recovered the body from the pond after about 5 hours. The reason behind the doctor's suicide is not clear. At present, the video of the doctor's drowning is definitely going viral.

Ajmer municipal clerk held with others for ₹2 cr fraud

Shubham Jain

Ajmer: Clerk Sachin Sharma of Ajmer Municipal Corporation has been arrested in connection with the cheating of Rs 2 crore from the manager of a silk trading firm in Varanasi, UP. Accused Sharma along with his four accomplices had committed crime in Varanasi two days ago. He was currently posted in the Ganj warehouse construction branch of the Municipal Corporation, but for the last 9 months, he was absent



Fraud accused in the police custody at Varanasi.

from duty. After his arrest by the UP Police, the corporation administration is now preparing to suspend him. On the other hand, the crime branch of UP Police is engaged in scouting the network of accused Sachin Sharma

along with other accused. Sachin Sharma and his three other accomplices had duped Rs 2 crore from the manager of the Bangalorean silk firm's office at Malda-hiya in Varanasi on Wednesday.

Sikar police file two complaints against fake FIRs

First India Bureau

Sikar: The Rajasthan police has launched a campaign against those who waste time and resources of law enforcers and courts by registering false cases. In this direction, the police in Shri Madhopur, Sikar presented a complaint letter against two persons who filed false cases. After the FR was approved in the court, the complaint was presented by the police station officer Karan Singh Khangarot in the court.

Cultural events mark Sirohi foundation day



Sanyam Lodha dancing during the programme in Sirohi.

First India Bureau

Sirohi: Several cultural performances were given in a function organised to mark the foundation day of Sirohi. The

programme at Arvind Pavilion Sports Ground was attended by MLA Sanyam Lodha, sessions judge Vikrant Gupta, collector Dr Bhanwar Lal and others.

Raj govt failed to handle power cuts: Shekhawat

First India Bureau

Jodhpur: Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Sunday said if there is an inquiry into the power cuts, long corruption mechanisms will be found. "Why does the power crisis only deepen during the time of the Congress government? If it is investigated, then very corruption mechanisms will definitely come fore in the name of buying expen-



sive electricity," he said. In the meeting of four circles at Jodhpur, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said, "The party will come with one and a half times more majority in Gujarat in the upcoming assembly elections.

9 die, many injured in separate road mishaps

First India Bureau

Jaipur: Nine people were killed and several others were injured in separate road accident in Rajasthan during 24 hours.

In Pali, three people from Sumerpur of Pali district were killed when a car in which they were travelling overturned after hitting a divider on the Agra-Lucknow Expressway. In the accident, six persons were injured. They were on their way to attend a programme organized

on the death of their relative. Police admitted all of them to Bangarmau CHC for treatment, where doctors declared 3 dead.

In Bundi, 3 people were killed in a car and bike collision a Hindoli of Bundi. The accident victims were returning after attending a marriage function. Deceased were identified as Premchand, Pradeep and Nitesh. According to police, accident happened near Kachi Valley.

In Jaisalmer, a speeding truck hit a bike kill-



a huge crowd was gathered at the spot and police force was deployed to control the agitating people.

In Sriganganagar, Two youth were killed when a tractor overturned near Bilochia on Saturday night. The tractor overturned while returning home after doing farm work in the field. Pawan and Sitaram of Bilochia were died in the accident. Both the bodies kept in the mortuary of CHC. Srivijayanagar police is investigating the matter.

IS THERE A HINDU-MUSLIM DIVIDE IN JAIPUR CONGRESS?

While all fingers are pointed towards BJP when it comes to the communal divide i.e. Hindu-Muslim divide, but a recent development in Jaipur beckons the question if there is a Hindu-Muslim political divide in Congress as well? Two Muslim MLAs of the city expressed their displeasure to a senior minister and Gehlot loyalist Mahesh Joshi. These MLAs - Rafeek Khan and Amin Kagzi - expressed their

Reporter's Diary



displeasure and anger over not being invited to Mahesh Joshi's Iftar party and Bhagwat Katha. These three leaders met on

Saturday at an Iftar party on Delhi Road and there both of them narrated their anguish to Joshi. Furthermore, they also

expressed displeasure over being a mute spectator in the Karauli incident as well. In fact, Vasundhara Raje and Sachin Pilot were invited to Bhagwat Katha but no call was made to Rafeek and Amin Kagzi by the organizing committee and neither did Mahesh Joshi call the duo. Now political observers claim that this is not a good sign for the Congress politics of Jaipur city which had always put up a face of Hindu-Muslim unity.
—First India Bureau

TALK BETWEEN 2 CONG LEADERS TAKES CENTRE STAGE!

An interesting conversation between two Congress leaders that happened recently is in a lot of discussions these days. One of them is the Minister of State, the other is a first-time MLA. The discussion between them was on, during which the MLA said that what Girraj Malinga had tarnished the image of the Congress party. The minister instantly quipped, "You had gone to Manesar... and it (what Malinga did) was not worse than that. You had rebelled against the party itself."



The MLA turned silent on hearing this. The minister is known as an 'aflatuni' leader of Jhunjhunu while the MLA from Tonk was in uniformed service before joining the politics.
—First India Bureau



As a parent, do not lecture on what your child must or mustn't do, lead by example - that is the only way.

—Jagdeesh Chandra, CEO & Editor-in-Chief, First India



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JAIPUR | MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022

GEHLOT INAUGURATES MEGA FREE HEART CAMP

Raj has become a leader in universal health coverage: CM

First India Bureau

Jaipur: Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has said that Rajasthan has become a leading state in the country to implement Universal Health Coverage. "About 1 crore 34 lakh families of the state have been included in CM Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme and expensive treatments like kidney, heart, liver and bone marrow transplant are also being done free of cost under this scheme. Free treatment and free MRI, X-ray and CT scan facilities have also been started for IPD and OPD patients in all hospitals. State got has started ambitious schemes like Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana and Mukhyamantri Free Nirogi Rajasthan," Gehlot said while inaugurating the Mega Free Heart Camp organized by Shri Sathya Sai Heart Hospital, Rajkot and Ahmedabad in Jaipur on Sunday.



Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot giving heart tokens to children cured of the heart ailments during the inauguration of the Mega Free Heart Camp organised by Shri Sathya Sai Heart Hospital, Rajkot and Ahmedabad at the Mahavir School in Jaipur on Sunday. Also present here with the CM during the event are Parsadi Lal Meena, Dr Raghu Sharma, Himmatsingh Patel and other children.

'SATHYA SAI HEART HOSPITAL IS TREATING CHILDREN FOR FREE'

CM said that under the MoU signed with Sathya Sai Heart Hospital, 314 children suffering from heart diseases and others have been treated free of cost. "An amount of Rs 5,000 is being provided by the govt to the children for coming and going to Gujarat. Lakhs of rupees are spent on heart operation in a private hospital. This hospital is doing such expensive operations free of cost which is a great human service," Gehlot said. During this, he met the children who returned home after recovering from the hospital while also meeting the sick children and gave them a token of free heart surgery.

Free treatment by various schemes

He said that action is being taken to list more than 5,000 medicines, surgicals and suchers under free Nirogi Rajasthan scheme. So far, more than 72,000 cancer patients and 35,000 heart disease patients have been treated under this scheme and more

than 11 lakh patients have been given Rs 1400 crore free of cost since May 2021," Gehlot said.

Social security is everyone's right

CM said that social security is the right of every needy person. He

said that now the time has come to implement it in all the states and a letter will be written to Central Govt urging it to implement social security in country. "UPA govt had taken a step by giving right to education, right to employ-

ment, right to food security in country," he said.

Raj model in Covid appreciated globally CM said that Raj model was appreciated in India & world for its effective management of a pandemic like Corona.

According to British research, the diseases which used to happen earlier at the age of 75 are now happening at the age of 50 years. Climate change and changing eating habits are mainly responsible for this. Such research should be done in the country also and measures should be found to prevent diseases due to climate change and changing food habits.

—Ashok Gehlot, Chief Minister

GEHLOT WILL TURN 71 TOMORROW

Blood donation camp & other events to mark CM's birthday

Jaipur: With CM Ashok Gehlot's birthday falling on Tuesday, several special events have been planned by various organisations across the state. Dr Shashikant Sharma, Chairperson of Rajasthan Nursing Council and Registrar of Nursing Council informed that the programme will also be held on the eve of CM Ashok Gehlot's birthday.

GRAND CELEBRATIONS AHEAD

MAY 2: Arogyam gratitude program will be held in front of Albert Hall where schemes of the state govt will be taken to the people by forming a human chain, Padmashree Gulabo will also perform on eve of CM's birthday

MAY 3: The day will be celebrated as Sankalp Diwas by donating blood at Birla Auditorium and parindas will also be tied for birds all across the state **MAY 3:** Blood donation camp will also be organized at Saket Hospital in Mansarovar from 8 am to 3 pm



PHED takes over the operation of 6,523 public water schemes

Jaipur: Following the instructions of CM Ashok Gehlot, the PHED has taken over the responsibility of running 6,523 public water schemes in 295 Panchayat Samitis of the state. Gehlot, during the discussion on Finance and Appropriation Bill, had announced on March 21, 2022 that due to lack of financial resources and manpower for smooth operation of drinking water schemes under Janta Jal Yojana near Panchayats, these schemes will be transferred to PHED for efficient operation. In the review meeting of energy and drinking water held at the CMR on April 29, the CM had directed to transfer the public water schemes to PHED immediately. After this, PHED has taken over the operation of public water schemes from April 30. ACS,



YOU READ IT IN FIRST INDIA ON APRIL 30, 2022

PHED Dr Subodh Agarwal informed that the operation of Janata Jal Schemes in the entire state has been transferred by PHED since April 30. He said that by removing the shortage of financial resources and technical staff, now these schemes would be operated efficiently so that the people of the state could get their benefits.

DIVIDING COUNTRY...

From P1...

They will carry out bigger attacks from time to time. They will attack the chief minister, the govt," he said.

"The PM had called a meeting of MPs in Delhi. I have heard he (Modi) told them that apart from Kirodi, no other MP is doing anything. They were asked to do whatever Meena does, meaning 'Dhamal Patti' (ruckus). When violence and unrest take place, development and governance get affected," he said. Meena, a BJP RS MP, has been staging demonstrations on issues against govt. Tar-

GEHLOT CALLS ON GULAB KOTHARI

An 'important meeting' took place in Jaipur on Sunday wherein Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot reached the residence of Editor in Chief of Patrika Group Gulab Kothari and the duo held a discussion for nearly three hours. Such long meet has happened after a long time between the duo and this meet is being considered a major development in political circles.

SHEKHAWAT TAKES A JIBE AT GEHLOT

Reacting to Gehlot, Union Jal Shakti Minister **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** said Congress gets stones pelted on the procession and gets Shri Ram Darbar demolished, bulldozers run on temple & accused BJP of the agenda. "Gehlot ji, you and your party are neglecting Sanatan Dharma only for your vote bank by sowing the poisonous seed of appeasement," he said.



getting BJP over demolition of temples in Rajgarh, a BJP-run municipality, he said proposal was passed by BJP, they blamed Cong.

PGKS to be organised from May 15 to June 30: CM

First India Bureau

Jaipur: CM Gehlot has said that as a strong part of State Administration, the Revenue Dept is clearing the revenue-related matters in State with transparency and speed. "Follow-up camps of 'PGKS Abhiyan', which were run earlier by the state govt for settlement of pending reve-

nue cases, will be run from May 15 to June 30 and relief will be provided to the general public by disposing of cases received in these on spot," Gehlot said.

The CM said that out of 369 tehsils of 33 dists, revenue records of 348 tehsils of 21 dists have become online. He also directed remaining 21 tehsils to be made online soon. The CM said,



CM Ashok Gehlot, Usha Sharma, Kuldeep Ranka, Akhil Arora and Gaurav Goyal during revenue review meeting at CMR on Sunday.

"By amending Raj Land Revenue Rules, 1963, jurisdiction has been given to the allot-

menting authorities for allotment of land in excess of prescribed norms to state depts.

NGO has been exempted from conversion charges for medical, educational facilities," he said. For new mandis and mini food parks announced in 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23, provision has been made to allot govt land for free." Gehlot directed to dispose of the applications received for allotment of Sivayachak govt land for agri purposes.

KOTA STALWARTS IN LOVE WITH THEIR CITY!

Trying best to live up to hopes and expectations of people, says Birla

First India Bureau

Kota: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla is on a visit to his parliamentary constituency Kota and Bundi. During his 5 day stay, Birla held a public hearing on Sunday at Speaker's Camp Office at Kota wherein a large number of people of Kota-Bundi parliamentary constituency approached Birla with their own problems.

While talking to the media, Birla said that it is his endeavor that while living among the people in the parliamentary constituency,



Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla lends ear to the problems of people at the Lok Sabha camp office in Kota on Sunday.

he should try his best to live up to the expectations and hopes of people. Om Birla also said that social work is being done to ensure that edu-

cation and medicine reach every village in the parliamentary constituency, we have separate medical camps also being set up in city.

Har Gaon Swasth - Har Vyakti Swasth Abhiyan is being run especially so that even in rural areas, sick people can be identified and they can be provided treatment at higher centres. We will take the first 50 villages as a pilot project of the mission and try to make them literate and set the target that education should reach all the villages by 2023.

—Om Birla, Lok Sabha Speaker

Bhanwar S Charan

Kota: Taking forward his statement from few days back that Ashok Gehlot is the face of Congress in Rajasthan, UDH Minister Shanti Dhariwal has now asked the opposition BJP, which is making claims of coming to power in Rajasthan, that it should first clarify its CM's face. Notably, BJP State President Satish Poonia had recently hit back at the statement of UDH Minister, where he had termed that Congress will



Shanti Dhariwal being felicitated by Ravindra Tyagi, Banshilal Sadhwani, Satish Goplani and others during the inauguration ceremony of Sindhi Social Circle in Kota on Sunday.

come back to power under Gehlot's leadership, and claimed that who ever be Congress' leader in polls, the people however

have decided to bring BJP back to power. Meanwhile, on Sunday, UDH Minister Shanti Dhariwal visited Kota and attended Roza

Iftar at Sherwale Baba Dargah. The Iftar was organized on behalf of Congress leader Engineer Insaf Azad.

Dhariwal also attended a ceremony of Sindhi Social Circle in Kota as the chief guest. He said that the social work done by Sindhi society has become a source of inspiration for other societies.

A book titled Amma Ki Potli was also released by him. Dhariwal also announced to give Rs 5 lakh from his MLA fund for the expansion of the building of the society.

“FAITH IS THE STRENGTH BY WHICH A SHATTERED WORLD SHALL EMERGE INTO THE LIGHT”.
SWEEZAL FURTADO, A STUNNING DIVA FROM BANGALORE, SPOKE CANDIDLY WITH CITY FIRST ABOUT HER INSPIRING CAREER AS A MODEL

EXQUISITE DIVA SWEEZAL



UTTKARSHA SHEKHAR
uttkarsha.shekhara@firstindia.co.in

Describe yourself, and what would you say are some vital skills or characteristics to have to make it in the modelling

world?
I am a 17 year old girl filled with dedication, determination and devotion to my duty. I am pleasant, patient but a proactive and productive professional with utmost confidence. My curiosity to learn more and my passion helped me reaching my ambition in life.

• **If you could go in future and tell yourself one thing about your career what would it be?**

Nobody has a crystal ball, but that doesn't give you an excuse when it comes to future, I would like to advise myself, because to make it to the modelling world you need to be dedicated, have self-confidence, hard working, passionate and aware.

• **What inspired you to find the Supermodel in you. Share some insides of your journey.**

I have always dreamt of becoming a model and I am lucky to have a very supportive mom, who has always encouraged me to go ahead in this field she has been my biggest supporter and strength.

• **What was the biggest rookie mistake you made when just starting out?**

As a student and a model I didn't know how to

manage time in the beginning because I had to handle both my education and modelling career. But when time passed by I started learning how to manage time efficiently and making use of the time I have. Now I can handle both my education and modelling life together.

• **What has been the most memorable or rewarding moment in your career?**

The most memorable moment for me was when I won the title 'Star Miss Teen India South 2021', except this I have been titled as 'Fresh face of Ignite India 2021' and I have been the finalist of Queen of Cosmos.





(L-R) Shivaditay Modi, Himmat Singh Shekhawat, Meena Nayar and Lt. Gen. BS Raju



The book launch garnered a lot of applause from the audience



Himmat Singh Shekhawat addressing the audience



Meena Nayar addressing the audience



Lt. Gen. Syed Ata Hasnain addressing the audience



Lt. Gen. YK Joshi addressing the audience



US Bawa addressing the audience



Lt. Gen. BS Raju addressing the audience



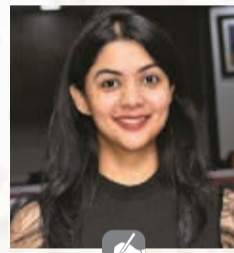
Himmat Singh Shekhawat



Meena Nayar

TIGER OF DRASS: Bravery and Leadership in combat

This book, apart from a close up of Anuj's heroic life, also provides a good narrative of the conflict. Moreover, the emotive story concisely portrays the many facets of Anuj's short but inspiring life- a great friend, a dutiful son, a brave leader who led from the front and a gem of a person at heart



MITALI DUSAD
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There are books and then there are books written about war heroes and gallantry awardees. The Tiger of Drass is one such book authored by Meena Nayar and Himmat Singh Shekhawat. But mind you, this is no ordinary book and Meena Nayar is no ordinary person. She's the mother of Captain Anuj Nayar, Mahavir Chakra, the main protagonist of this evocative book. A book launching ceremony, organised by the All Volunteers of Rashtriya Riders was recently held at United Service Institution of India, Delhi, where Lt. Gen. BS Raju, UYSM, AVSM, Vice Chief of Indian Army graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The book captures Anuj's journey of barely twenty-three years, during which he transformed from a reserved but righteous child to a gem of a military professional. I am certain that "The Tiger of Drass" will surely enthuse readers and stir a warm sense of pride and patriotism.

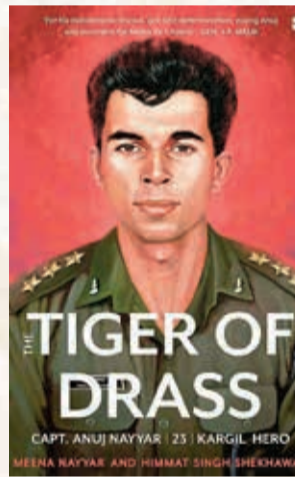
City First in an exclusive interview with Himmat Singh Shekhawat, who hails from Jaipur, talks about his journey and experiences so far.

Tell us about your life. You seem to be part of a bikers group that travels across the country visiting martyrs' families and different units. Tell us about that too, please.

I along with Shivaditay Modi formed this biking group by the name of Rashtriya Riders with the sole intention to say thank you to the serving men/women of the Armed forces and pay our regards to the families of the fallen ones. Professionally we both are working, I am working for Make My Trip as Regional Head and Shivaditay Modi is working for Telus International as Senior Manager. All in all, we have ridden close to 30,000 km covering several borders and meeting several families of the fallen ones.

This seems to be your first book, what got you into writing?

Yes, indeed this is our first book, basically always wanted to get into the Armed Forces however couldn't, in hindsight wanted to do something for the Armed Forces. We were on one such ride wherein we were meeting families of the fallen ones, as per our ride plan we were meeting Capt Nayar's family, however, we got late due to extended weekend traffic, we only managed to reach his home at about 12 in the night and had some awesome dinner that night during dinner we had a conversation about Capt Nayar and what kind of personality he possessed, exactly after one month after the ride we called Meena Nayar Mam and said that we want to write a



book on Capt Nayar, her mother agreed, at first we read the letters of Capt Nayar which he wrote from the war front. Gradually, we had emotional alignment with him and his family and then this book came into the picture.

Where were you during Kargil? How far back does your relationship with the family (Capt Nayar's) go?

During Kargil War, I was in 10th standard, as I belonged to an Army background and wanted to join the Indian Army thus my inclination towards Kargil War was very strong, I was so attached to the war that I used to listen to all News Channels and recorded everything in the tape-recorder which I had during that time there was this program telecast in Doordarshan by the name of "50 days War-A tribute", I used to record everything.

When did you decide to write a book about Capt Nayar? Why after 23 years?

I along with Shivaditay Modi decided to write a book on Capt Nayar during one such ride dedicated to fallen ones, the

exact date when we made the decision was on November 2, 2017. As far as 23 years go, I proudly say that I and Shivaditay Modi are the chosen ones, destiny has played an important role, never did we think that we would write anything of this stature. Now I can proudly say that the book written with all passion has turned out to be a Bestseller.

A person born the year Kargil happened will turn 23 today. What impact do you think the story would have on them?

The impact of the story is very inspirational I must say, principally the reason I can vouch is that I have been receiving communication (Phone/text/WhatsApp/email/messenger) that they are inspired by the deeds of Capt Nayar. For a person who is 23, might be looking now into the professional world, this book will act as an inspiration.

Who all have you spoken to while researching for the book? How many officers/troops?

The research for the book has been extensive, we have interviewed all officers (seniors/juniors/course mates-NDA/IMA), not only officers we have also interacted with all troops who have worked alongside him and those who have also fought alongside Capt Nayar during the Kargil war. We have reached several people at different locations (Uri-Kashmir; Drass-Kargil, Udaipur, Delhi NCR). All in All more than 80-100 officers/troops were being interviewed for the bookmaking is extensive research.

Is anyone in your family in defence? Did you ever want to join?

Yes, my father, my grandfather, my uncle, my brother, my father-in-law were from defence and I always wanted to join the Indian Army as stated above however I couldn't, I have cleared written 4 times, all 4 times I was screened in however in the conference I wasn't recommended in the conference.

How far back have you dug into Capt Nayar's story in this book?

I, Shivaditay Modi along with the brother of Capt Nayar (Karan Nayar) has worked on the book which comprises his life since he was born and the time till he laid down his life. Every aspect of his life including childhood/schooling/training/Ops in Kashmir to finally the battle of Kargil is thoroughly covered.

How did it feel coordinating with the martyr's mother?

It was an emotional outburst as it is very difficult to speak to the mother of a fallen soldier and that too who was only 23 years. It isn't easy for a mother to narrate about her son but the objective of writing about Capt Nayar and make people aware of who exactly was Capt. Nayar kept us going.

Did you visit the places where the war happened and Capt Nayar sacrifice himself? What does it look like today? If you did, what did you feel about the place?

Yes, we made sure that we visited Pimple Complex

in Drass of Kargil to understand the difficulties our men in uniform faced while advancing to the peaks where Capt Nayar and his men fought valiantly and finally sacrificed themselves. It was a very emotional part of the journey as till the time you don't visit the Pimple complex or for that matter of fact any peak where the war was fought, one can never feel the complexity our men faced while taking our territory, I can clearly say that Kargil War is the most war-mountain fought is the modern-day warfare.

What's your view of the 17 Jat Regiment, if you've ever visited them? How do they remember Capt Nayar?

17 JAT unit is a very strong unit composed of tough military people, they have shown their military prowess time and again, their role in the war was of high stature and received accolades for their roles. I have visited them several times (Uri-Kashmir, Alwar), the visit primarily included our interaction with troops to understand Capt Nayar in detail. As far as remembering Capt Nayar, 17 JAT has Anuj hall which is dedicated to Capt Anuj Nayar and his men. The hall has Pakistani soldiers' diaries and ammunition from the war-time, in the unit there are two busts of Capt Anuj Nayar, one at the Anuj Hall and the other one in the office area of 17 JAT. They have kept each and everything related to Capt Nayar stored carefully.



(L-R) Karan Nayar, Himmat Singh Shekhawat, Ashish Nayar, Lt. Gen. Y K Joshi, Lt. Gen. Mohinder Puri, Meena Nayar, SC Dhingra, Rakesh Dhingra, Gen BS Raju and Brig. Umesh Singh Bawa



Meena Nayar being greeted by Indian Army Officials

SATURDAY NIGHT DONE RIGHT!



Rishee Miglani and Virendra Meel



Rishee Miglani, Bhawna and Anirudh

A PR party was organised for Revel and Anidra Saturday Nights, Jaipur on Saturday by Minal Sahni and Ankit Saxena. Anidra Saturday Nights means 'no sleep Saturday' is an after party place with heartwarming symphony. The bash was organised to spruce up the weekend after hectic working days. The party was celebrated till wee-hours in the morning with party music, enticing beverages, unforgettable experience and mouth-watering delicacies.



Aakansha Bakshi



Parul, Tanya, Minal, Neha and Neeti



Ankit, Akshay, Dushyant, Parul, Barkha, Manish and Neha



Parul and Anshu

PHOTOS BY MUKESH KIRADOO



Virendra Meel and Abha



Minal and Sandeep Singh



Namrata Sharma



Ashima, Rinku, Minal and Abha



Deviya, Aditi and Bhavika



Kunal and Apra



Vijaykirti, Rinku, Parul, Minal, Neha, Aparna and Vriti



Rais, Kiara and Mehuljeet



Aish, Namrata, Sujata and Doorva



Parul and Rahul



Garima and Siddharth



Pooja and Minal



Tarun, Charu and Suvigya



Chetan, Rahul and Anurag



Abha, Tanya, Priyanka, Chetan, Virendra, Rahul and Pragati



CELEBRATIONS AND GREETINGS



CM Ashok Gehlot with (L-R) Sangeeta Khatana, Reena Khatana, Dr Minakshi Khatana, Geeta Khatana, Newlyweds Himanshu Khatana and Sakshi Lohiya, Dr Devanshu Khatana, Gajraj Khatana, Joginder Singh Awana, Rampal Khatana, Brij Kishore Sharma and Dharmendra Rathore



Lalachand Kataria, Dr Mahesh Joshi, Gajraj Khatana and Raghu Sharma

PHOTOS BY MUKESH KIRADOO

The grand reception ceremony of Himanshu Khatana, son of MLA Gajraj Khatana and Geeta Khatana, with Sakshi Lohiya, daughter of Mahaveer Singh Lohiya was held on Sunday, May 1, at Entertainment Paradise, Jaipur. CM Ashok Gehlot reached to bless the newlyweds on the occasion. CM Ashok Gehlot, Agriculture minister Lalachand Kataria, PHED minister Mahesh Joshi, RTDC chairman Dharmendra Rathore, Chairman of Khadi Village Industries Brij Kishore Sharma, MLA Amin Kagzi, MLA Alok Beniwal, MLA Joginder Awana, MLA Babulal Bairwa, MLA Prashant Bairwa and former MLA Shankar Lal Meena were also present to wish the couple.



Alok Beniwal, Prashant Bairwa, Kamal Bakolia and Sadiq Chouhan



Babulal Nagar and Joginder Singh Awana



Vijay Gupta, Devaram Saini and Raja Rajkumar Gupta with a guest



Ved Prakash Solanki and Anita Solanki



Rajesh Choudhary, Amin Kagzi and Suresh Mishra

BIRTHDAY BELLS



Jagdeesh Chandra with (L-R) Raja Daljeet Singh, Harshvardhani Rajee, Bhanwar Digvijay Singh, Yuvraj Rishabh Singh, Karni Singh, Divya Raj Singh, Vijay and Srija

PHOTO BY SUNIL SHARMA

The Sandhya Arti and Savamani ceremony of Divyaraj, son of Yuvraj Rishabh Singh and Yurani Harshwardhani Rajee was celebrated on Sunday, May 1 at RajRajeshwari Mata Mandir, Jaipur. Jagdeesh Chandra reached to bless the birthday boy and wished him all the best for his future.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS!



Nakul, Sarita, Virendra, Lakshya, Harish Mirdha and Lalit Choudhary



Simple, Sarita, Virendra, Lakshya, Lalit Choudhary and Harish Mirdha



Lakshya and Nakul with Virendra Choudhary

Director First India News Virendra Choudhary celebrated his birthday with his family at his residence on Sunday, May 1. Wishes poured in from friends, colleagues and other family members on the occasion.

HONOURING CREATORS

CITY FIRST

The third edition of Rajsathan Women Achievement Award was organised at Nirmala Auditorium, Rawat School, Jaipur on Sunday. The award was organised to honour 101 women who have excellent and remarkable work in their respective fields. During the ceremony, famous folk dancers and singers displayed by the civilization and culture of Rajasthan and enthralled the audience with their talents. The event organiser Ambalika Shastri and Rinku Singh Gurjar informed that many women showcased their



Kedar, Padam, Narendra, Ashish, Brijesh, Bhagwat, Shiv, Shankar, Vakar, Ambalika, Poonam, Anita, Ruchi, Seema, Ruby and Vatsana



Vanshika

unique talents and have made our country proud. Narendra Kumar Harsh, Kedar Gupta, Narendra Rawat, BS Rawat, Poonam Khangarot, Surendra Bhattad, Anita Sharma, Vatsana Kasana, Ruby Khana, Padam Kumar Gaur, Sahik Sharma, Vishnu Tak, among others were present during the ceremony. The program was conducted by Preeti Saxena and the program's cooperative Akhil Bharatiya Yuva Forum and the management partner ND Studios and Program Management Trans Event Golden Event of the program, and the program partner Golden Event program.

DASTAVEZ OF RUNGTAS



(L-R) Mukund Rungta, Asha Kejrival, Usha Agarwal and Kishore Rungta

The book launch of 'Dastavez of Rungtas' was held at ITC Rajputana on Saturday. The book is a record of the historical legacy of the Rungta family hailing from Baggar in the Shekhawati region of Rajasthan. It also focuses on the author, Kishan Rungta who was a Ranji Trophy player and the Chairman of the BCCI Selection Committee's impressions of past events that occurred in the family. During the launch, Mukund Rungta, son of Kishan Rungta in conversation with Aakriti Periwal shared some vivid memories of Gandhiji visiting Bombay.



On the occasion of Labor Day, the residents of Sunshine Prime organised an event in collaboration with Vipin Kumar Jain, founder of 'Bird Freedom Day' and 'Vani Sanyam' campaign and co-founder Ruchika Jain for the employees engaged in the care of the society. The members of the society honoured all the cleaning workers, security guards and other employees.

EVENTS IN CITY



Poet Kailash Manhar interacted with literature lovers in the Chaturanga online series of Rajasthan Forum on Saturday. During the interaction, he shared his literary journey in the Chaturanga series organized by the Rajasthan Forum to encourage artists and litterateurs.



A healthy competition titled 'Laughter Yoga' was organised by Nursery Park Yog Parivaar at Nursery Park, Jaipur on Sunday. In the programme, Ravi Kamra told that all the Yog practitioners competed with each other to make others laugh and celebrated the day with much laughter and joy. During the occasion, Senior RAS officer Kartar Singh also distributed gifts to practitioners.