



FIRST INDIA

RNI NUMBER: RAJENG/2019/77764 | VOL 5 | ISSUE NO. 316 | PAGES 12 | ₹3.00

Rajasthan's Own English Newspaper

‘Messiah’ OF SC-ST-OBC IN UNIARA TODAY!

Moni Sharma

With the first phase of voting over in Rajasthan, the political parties have shifted their focus to the remaining 13 seats that will go to the polls in the second phase on April 26. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which is looking to make a hat-trick of victories in the desert state by winning all 25 Lok Sabha seats, has also upped the ante on its traditional rival by holding various rallies of its star campaigner, Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Therefore, on Tuesday, PM Modi is yet again visiting Rajasthan, and this time around, he will be focusing his attention on the Tonk-Sawai Madhopur constituency, which abounds in non-BJP vote bank, i.e., Muslim voters, who traditionally are not considered BJP's voters.

However, over the course of the past two general elections, the Tonk seat has fallen into the BJP's kitty, and hence it is believed that for the third time too, the BJP will be able to win the seat. While the political narrative may be created against the BJP, PM Modi and the party's strategists know that through his various 'balming' schemes, Modi has brought a major relief to all sections, particularly the Muslim community, and it is to drive home this point that PM Modi will address a massive rally in Uniara, which falls under the Tonk-Sawai Madhopur constituency.

The BJP has fielded Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuria from this seat. Apart from Muslims, this seat also abounds with Gurjar and Meena voters, and the BJP, through PM Modi's rally, is looking to woo the voters and secure its victory in this seat.

Interestingly, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma has also been working hard to ensure that Jaunapuria wins the seat. He has held several meetings with party workers from the area while also driving home the point that the people of Sawai Madhopur will get massive benefits from the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project, which will be a lifeline for the constituency, especially when there is already immense pressure on the existing major water body of the region, Bisalpur Dam.



PM Narendra Modi

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma





RUDRAVATAAR HANUMAN THE BESTOWER OF ASHTA SIDDHI, NAV NIDHI

Hanuman is the source of inspiration for human life. He teaches us how to work with dedication towards our goal and not rest until the goal is achieved. His life is a message of devotion to Lord Rama by following every order of Shri Ram and fulfilling it successfully and doing work only for his sake. How to use strength and intelligence properly can be understood from the biography of Hanumanji



Kalraj Mishra

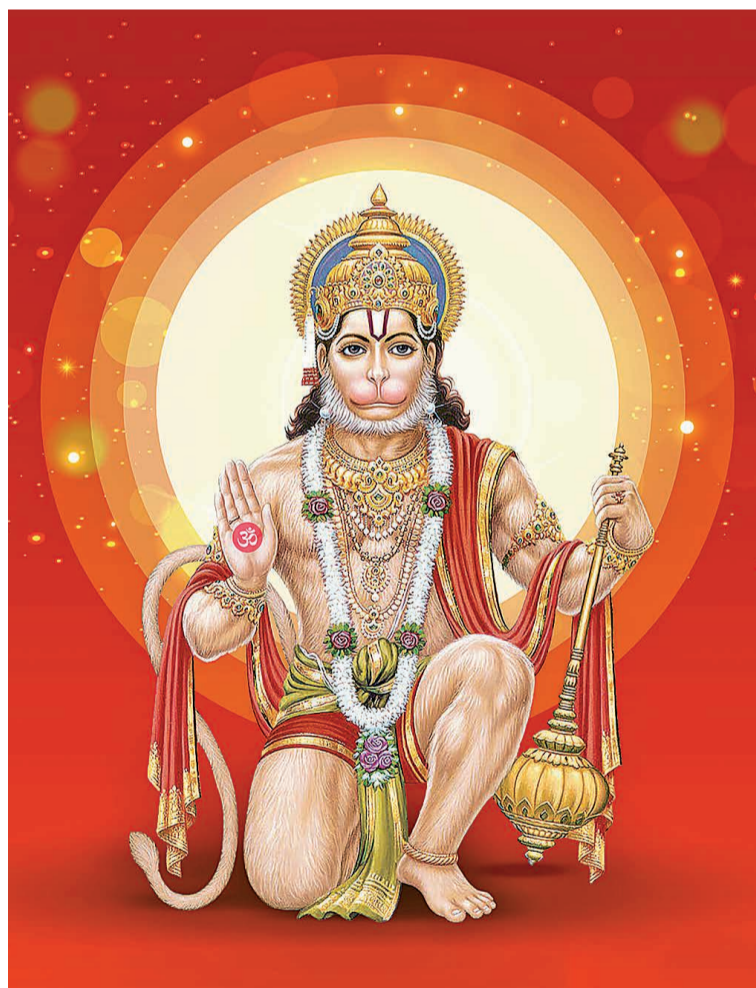
THE WRITER IS GOVERNOR
OF RAJASTHAN

DIVINE ATTRIBUTES

Hanuman has incomparable strength. His powers cannot be compared to anyone else. He got the boon of immortality for protecting the religion. Therefore, even in Kaliyuga, he is an awakened god. According to mythology, Hanuman lives on the Gandhamadan mountain in the Himalayas. This mountain is known as Anjanadri, it is also the birthplace of Hanuman. During his childhood, when Hanuman ji tried to eat the sun as a fruit, the entire world was engulfed in darkness. When Indra attacked him, Vayudev got angry and the vital air stopped everywhere. Then all the gods and goddesses appealed to Vayudev and offered divine weapons to Bajrangbali. Hanuman ji was given a mace by Kuber. Hanumanji held a mace in his left hand, hence he was called 'Vamahastagadayuktam'.

Hanumanji is the 'Rudra' incarnation of Lord Shiva. Hanuman, who has eight 'Siddhis' and nine 'Nidhis,' is a symbol of strength and courage. By worshipping them, a person experiences spontaneous energy within himself. Hanuman is also a wonderful example of devotion to Lord Shri Ram in Indian culture. It is mentioned in our mythology that Hanuman had asked for a boon from Lord Shri Ram that his life should continue as long as the story of Ram is on earth. That is why even today Hanuman is considered the living god of the earth. He was extremely strong not only in body but also in mind. Just by remembering him, even life's biggest problems can be resolved; hence, he is a troubleshooter.

If you read the couplets of *Hanuman Chalisa* written by Saint Tulsidas ji, you will find that the entire life and character of Hanumanji is included in it. Hanuman's entire life is inspiring. The story goes that when he was a small child, one day, he felt very hungry. Hanuman ji swallowed the Sun considering it to be a fruit. At that time, there was a solar eclipse, and Rahu had come to afflict the Sun. Seeing the huge size of Hanumanji and him swallowing the Sun, Rahu got scared and complained to Devraj Indra. Witnessing Indra coming riding on Airavat, Pawan Kumar thought it to be a big white fruit and went to catch it. Upon this, In-



hit Hanumanji's face with his thunderbolt, causing his chin to become crooked and him to fall to the earth.

Angered by this, Hanuman's father Vayudev stopped its flow, causing everyone to have trouble breathing. Seeing this, Brahmaji completely healed Hanumanji, granted him immortality, and bestowed fearlessness from fire, water, and air. In this way, due to Hanu or chin becoming crooked, he was called

'Hanuman'.

Hanuman is the son of Mother Anjana and Maharaj Kesari. However, he is considered the spiritual or symbolic son of Pawan Dev, hence he is also known as Pawan's son. He is a great devotee of Lord Shri Ram, hence is Ram's messenger. The job of a messenger is to listen and convey the message of his master.

Hanuman ji preaches the message of his Lord, Shri Ram, to the entire world. In the Sun-

derkand of *Ramcharit Manas* written by Tulsidas,

Hanuman ji introduced himself everywhere as the messenger of Shri Ram rather than by his name.

Hanuman has incomparable strength. His powers cannot be compared to anyone else. He got the boon of immortality for protecting the religion. Therefore, even in Kaliyuga, he is an awakened god.

According to mythology, Hanuman lives on the Gandhamadan mountain in the Himalayas. This mountain is known as Anjanadri, it is also the birthplace of Hanuman. During his childhood, when Hanuman ji tried to eat the sun as a fruit, the entire world was engulfed in darkness. When Indra attacked him, Vayudev got angry and the vital air stopped everywhere. Then all the gods and goddesses appealed to Vayudev and offered divine weapons to Bajrangbali. Hanuman ji was given a mace by Kuber. Hanumanji held a mace in his left hand, hence he was called 'Vamahastagadayuktam'. The name of his mace is Kaumodaki. He destroyed Ravana's chariot with just one blow of this mace.

Hanumanji is the bestower of intelligence and strength. Lord Shri Ram has addressed Hanumanji with adjectives such as wise, patient, brave, and adept in politics. Hanumanji is endowed with strength and intelligence. He has deep knowledge of psychology, politics, literature, philosophy etc.

There is a very interesting story about the time when

Lakshman fell unconscious. Ravana came to know about this when Hanuman was returning from Drongiri mountain with Sanjeevani Booti. Ravana placed Shani Dev behind him, but Hanumanji, with his strength and wisdom, crushed Shani under his feet and tied him up. Shani became very upset and accepted defeat. It is said that then Hanumanji forgave Shani on the condition that any person suffering from Shani and chanting the name of Lord Shri Ram, would not be troubled by him.

Hanuman is a troubleshooter because in this way, he shows mankind the path to freedom from every crisis.

Hanuman is the source of inspiration for human life. He teaches us how to work with dedication towards our goal and not rest until the goal is achieved. His life is a message of devotion to Lord Rama by following every order of Shri Ram and fulfilling it successfully and doing work only for his sake.

How to use strength and intelligence properly can be understood from the biography of Hanumanji. When he needed, he changed himself into a smaller form and came out from inside the mouth of Surasa and when needed, he extended his tail and destroyed the entire Lanka.

On the *janmotsav* of Bajrang Bali, let us remember him, learn from his example, and strive to overcome every obstacle in the ocean of life.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY
THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL

FIRST INDIA
Rajasthan's Own English Newspaper

RNI NUMBER: RAJENG/2019/77764
VOL 5 | ISSUE NO. 316 | PAGES 12 | ₹3.00

Shree **HANUMAN** Janmotsav

In city world-famous for its locks... PM MODI TELLS PEOPLE TO LOCK NEPOTISM AND CORRUPTION

First India Bureau
Aligarh

PM Narendra Modi said on Monday that the time had come to free the country from corruption, nepotism and appeasement.

"The last time I came to Aligarh, I urged you to lock up the factories of nepotism, corruption and appeasement. You put such a strong lock that the two 'shehzades' have not yet found the key. For your good future and Viksit Bharat, keep the key with you," he said at an election rally here.

Urging voters to vote for BJP, the Prime Minister said "When you press the lotus button, the vote goes straight to Modi."

He said that he was aware that people are busy with harvesting, wedding season and then there is the heat wave. "But you must ignore all this and put the nation first and cast your vote in the morning because every vote counts," he said.

The PM said that earlier there used to be regular firing at the borders and soldiers were being killed.

MORE ON P6



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and others during a public meeting ahead of Lok Sabha elections, in Aligarh, on Monday.

<p>WILL GET HAJ QUOTA INCREASED: PM MODI</p> <p>→ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday mentioned the increase of the Haj quota by Saudi Arabia and said that upon his request to the Crown Prince the Haj quota was increased adding that the visa process has also been made seamless for the Muslim pilgrims to Saudi Arabia.</p>	<p>PUT ALIGARHI LOCK ON CONG, SP, BSP: YOGI</p> <p>→ UP CM Yogi Adityanath said on Monday that the SP, BSP, and Congress neglected the development of Aligarh, manipulated faith, and tried to breach security. He stated, "Now is the chance to put 'Aligarh lock' on their fate and entrust the country's leadership to PM Modi for the third term."</p>	<p>WON'T COMMENT ON PM'S RAJ SPEECH: ECI</p> <p>→ New Delhi: The Election Commission on Monday declined to comment on remarks made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his poll speech in Rajasthan. "We decline comment," a poll panel spokesperson said on queries related to the Prime Minister's speech on Sunday in Banswara.</p>	<p>PM MODI TO ADDRESS RALLY IN TONK TODAY</p> <p>→ PM Narendra Modi will address a rally in Tonk-Sawai Madhopur constituency of Rajasthan on Tuesday. The PM will address a huge public meeting in the Uniara area of Tonk district, according to the proposed schedule. BJP has fielded Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuria from the Tonk-Sawai Madhopur constituency.</p>
--	---	--	---

3 Crore Lakhpati Didis

THIS IS MODI'S GUARANTEE

Before 2014	After 2014
Women had to face the humiliation of defecating in open	Built 12+ Crore toilets and women got a respectable life
Lack of clean water made life difficult for women	Water supply from tap to 14+ Crore families made life easier for women
The dream of owning a home remained just a dream for decades	1.6 Crore women became home owners under PM Awas Yojana
Crores of women were at risk of various diseases due to smoky kitchens	Saved 10+ Crore housewives from diseases by providing smoke free Ujjwala gas connections
No concrete plan for economic independence of women	90+ lakh SHGs have empowered women

1 Crore women were made Lakhpati Didis

This is just a trailer...
Will make 3 Crore Lakhpati Didis in the next 5 years

Phir Ek Baar **Modi Sarkar**

Press the lotus button **Make BJP win**

SENSEX

BSE 73648.62
NIFTY 22336.40

560.29
189.40

IN BRIEF

Ex-VP Naidu conferred with Padma Vibhushan

New Delhi: Former Vice President Venkaiah Naidu was conferred with Padma Vibhushan in the field of public affairs by President Droupadi Murmu at a function at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here on Monday. Actor Mithun Chakraborty, singer Usha Uthup, former Uttar Pradesh governor Ram Naik and industrialist Sitaram Jindal were conferred with the Padma Bhushan.

P7

Baghel govt didn't take any action against Naxals: Shah

First India Bureau
Kanker

Days after 29 Naxalites were killed in an encounter, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday said that "no action was taken against the Naxals" under the tenure of former Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel.

At a rally here, Shah said, "PM Modi ended terrorism from the country and Naxals are on the verge of being finished. For five years this Mahadev App brand former CM Baghel was in government and for five years no action was



Union Minister Amit Shah being garlanded at an election rally for Lok Sabha polls, in Kanker, Chhattisgarh, on Monday.

taken against Naxals. You made Vishnu Deo Sai your CM. In four months more than 90 naxals have been killed. 123 have been arrested

Kejri's plea for health VC with doc turned down

Agencies
New Delhi

A Delhi court on Monday rejected an application by Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal for a 15-minute video consultation with his doctor. The Rouse Avenue Court has, however, ordered the constitution of a medical panel to decide if the Aam Aadmi Party leader does, in fact, need regular insulin shots. This panel will also prescribe a diet and exercise plan for Kejriwal.

Even before results, BJP opens account on Surat Lok Sabha seat

First India Bureau
New Delhi/Jaipur

The ruling BJP opened its account in the Lok Sabha elections on Monday when its candidate from Surat Lok Sabha seat Mukesh Dalal was elected unopposed after all other candidates withdrew their nomination papers. On the last day of withdrawal of the nomination forms, as many as eight candidates, mostly Independents and Pyarelal Bharti of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), withdrew their papers.



BJP's Mukesh Dalal receives 'certificate of election'.

This is not the first time a candidate has been elected even before votes were cast. Before this, a total of 28 MPs had won unopposed in seven decades, in the history of Lok Sabha elections.

STORY SO FAR

- In 1951, 5 MPs elected unopposed
- In 1957, 7 MPs won without contest
- In 1962, three candidates won uncontested
- In 1967, five candidates won unopposed
- In 2012 Lok Sabha by-poll, Dimple Yadav won from Kannauj
- Till now, 20 Congress MPs have been elected unopposed
- Mukesh Dalal is the 1st BJP MP to be elected unopposed

Yashasvi bhava!



Rajasthan Royals batter Yashasvi Jaiswal plays a shot during the IPL 2024 match between Rajasthan Royals and Mumbai Indians, at SMS Stadium, in Jaipur, on Monday. Rajasthan Royals won by 9 wickets. **P7**

SHOW OF STRENGTH

CM, Diya campaign for Birla in Bundi, Kota

Bhanwar S Charan & Aishwary Pradhan
Kota/Bundi

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma on Monday said that the Airport in Kota will be constructed under any circumstances.

"We deposited the entire amount of the diversion charge as soon as the government came. We fulfilled 45 percent of the promises in just 90 days. We will expose the faces of many big people involved in the paper leak



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, Om Birla and Diya Kumari take part in a roadshow in Kota, on Monday.

business and send them to jail. Every colony of Ladpura assembly will be developed," said

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, Deputy CM Diya Kumari and BJP candidate from Kota Om Birla also joined a roadshow in Kota

BJP candidate Om Birla. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, Deputy CM Diya Kumari, BJP candidate Om Birla along with District President Rakesh Jain, local MLA and BJP officials were present on the stage.

"I consider Birla ji not a candidate but an MP.

When the Parliament took historic decisions, our Speaker was Om Birla," said Diya Kumari.

CM Sharma, Diya Kumari and Birla also joined a roadshow in Kota.

Earlier, addressing a public meeting in support of Om Birla in Bundi on Monday, the Chief Minister said that this land of Hadoti never bowed before anyone. "Congress had raised slogans to remove poverty but they never had anything to do with poverty. Prime Minister Modi worried about farmers," he said.

FIRST INDIA Ballot Beat



VOTING HOME AT



(Above) An elderly voter exercising his 'Vote from Home' franchise in presence of polling officials in Chittorgarh on Monday. (R) A divyang voter also cast vote in Chittorgarh on Monday.

Till now a total of **73,248** elderly and divyangs voters have voted at home

So far **37,723** voters have done home voting for the second phase

98% home voting under the first phase
97% home voting recorded in Phase-2 so far

97.64% Record home voting so far

HOME VOTERS PERCENTAGE

97.03%
of registered home voters on 13 LS seats of the second phase so far

97.57% Elderly Voted
97% Divyangs Voted

Home voting done by **73,248** voters so far in 25 Lok Sabha constituencies
56,284 Elderly voters
16,964 Disabled voters
1,050 voters died and 1,770 remained absent



Home voting for 13 Lok Sabha constituencies in second phase from April 14 to April 22 (1 day remaining)

97.03%
of registered home voters on 13 LS seats of the second phase so far

37,723 voters have voted from home so far
29,715 Elderly voters
8,008 Divyangs voters
632 died, while 11,56 were not found at home

98.30%
voting took place under home voting on 12 LS seats of the first phase

A total of **35,525** voters voted from home
26,569 Elderly voters
8,956 Divyang voters
418 voters died & 614 voters were not at home

BJP's RESEARCH

Voting % same as last time: BJP think tank



Women voters in Jaipur on April 19. FILE

Yogesh Sharma
Jaipur

Research of the think tank Triple V shows that the voting percentage was more or less the same as last time for the 12 LS seats

An in-depth research of the think tank Triple V regarding the voting percentage being low as compared to last year in the first phase of voting in Rajasthan shows that the voting percentage was more or less the same as last time. This is because the number of voters has increased. According to the research, the voting pattern in the towns was completely in favour of the BJP. The traditional BJP vote went to the party candidate despite the fact that the Congress tried to confuse the voters in the name of caste politics.

This could impact the margin of victory of the BJP candidate and it may be less this time. But while voting, voters did not forget national issues and PM Narendra Modi's work done in 10 years. The research says that the Congress' hopes may get a blow after results are announced. The margin of victory may be less but BJP candidates will win on all 12 seats that went to polls.

Pilot in Wayanad



Sachin Pilot campaigning for Rahul Gandhi in Kavanoor of Ernad assembly of Wayanad in Kerala on Monday.

1 lakh children of Baran create world record for voting awareness

Hanspal Yadav
Baran

A total of 1,04,564 students from class 3 to 12 of Baran district created a world record for holding pens in their little hands and making posters in their schools on Monday on the theme of 'Mharo Helo, Chaloo Vote Dalba' for voter awareness. Under the SVEEP program, on the initiative of DEO and Collector Rohitashv Singh Tomar.



Students with certificate of world record in Baran on Monday.

Future of BJP govt in hands of babus: July



GS Dotasra, Tikaram Jully, in a public meeting organised in support of Congress candidate Udail Anjana from Chittorgarh on Monday.

First India Bureau
Chittorgarh

Leader of Opposition Tikaram Jully took on the BJP government saying the future of BJP government is in the hands of bureaucracy. He said, "Handing over the governance system to bu-

reaucracy it has sent the government on tourism. Doing so is neither in the interest of the state nor good for democracy. BJP suffered a jolt in the first phase of voting on 12 seats. Government is misusing government machinery to hide its failure."

Election Commission reviews preps for Raj Phase-2 LS Poll

Dr Rituraj Sharma
Jaipur

Election Commission officials on Monday reviewed preparation for the second phase of Lok Sabha elections through video conferencing. The meeting was chaired by the Election Commission's Deputy Election Commissioner Manoj Kumar Sahu today with all the District Collectors and Superintendents of Police for the second phase of polling in the state.

Chief Electoral Officer Praveen Gupta said that in the meeting, emphasis was laid on keeping in mind all the protocols related to EVMs for the Lok Sabha elections. The officer also suggested holding meetings with representatives and candidates of political parties from time to time as



Manoj Kumar Sahu, Deputy Election Commissioner of ECI, held a meeting with all the District Collectors and Superintendents of Police for the second phase through video conference on Monday.

per the need. He took information from all the presiding officers and district superintendents of police about home voting, training, polling party departure arrangements, model code of conduct, the status of confiscation, etc. in their districts. Gupta informed the higher officials of the Commission about home voting in state and coordination with central observers. Voting will be held in second phase on 26 April in 13 LS seats.

HEAT WAVE PRECAUTIONS IN PLACE FOR RAJASTHAN

In anticipation of impending General Elections in Rajasthan, Election Commission, led by CEC Rajiv Kumar, convened a meeting to discuss measures to mitigate risks posed by rising temperatures. DG IMD assured that Phase 2 of elections on April 26th in Rajasthan and 12 other states/UTs will not be affected by heat waves. With Rajasthan often experiencing above-normal temperatures, special attention is being given to safeguard voters.

More than 2.05L poll personnel cast votes

First India Bureau
Jaipur

There is a facility for voting through postal ballots and EDC for 3.88 lakh officers and employees appointed for Lok Sabha election work. More than 2.05 lakh personnel have voted so far in the State.

Voting is being done by the personnel at the fa-

ilitation centres in the second phase Lok Sabha constituencies. So far 2,05,443 votes have been cast at the facilitation centres set up in all the districts. A total of 82,380 policemen and 12141 RAC have voted in the state. 945 GRP, 1,022 private (drivers) & 1,08,955 other polling personnel have also voted.

Ajitabh gets 'exemption' from EC as 4 IAS fail to find similar favour!

Rajendra Chhabra
Jaipur

IAS Ajitabh Sharma will not be leaving for election duty now. The Election Commission had appointed him to discharge duty as observer in Telangana and he had to join on Wednesday, April 24. But the Rajasthan government had requested the Election Commission to exempt Ajitabh from the election duty and this request was accepted and now as Ajitabh's alternative - Rajendra Vijay - is being sent for the purpose. Meanwhile, the ECI has

not extended the same favour to 4 IAS of the state namely T Ravikanth, KK Pathak, Manju Rajpal and Punam even though the state government had made recommendations for them too, but now they will have to carry out the role assigned to them by the ECI.

Ajitabh Sharma is currently serving as Principal Secretary Industries and Chairman, RIICO. Notably, prior to him, even IAS Samit Sharma was exempted by the Election Commission after the state government made a similar request. In this instance, it was said that owing to



Ajitabh Sharma

summer season, there will be a dire need for the PHED Secretary to be available in the desert state to oversee the water related issues and hence Samit was granted the exemption. Ajitabh is currently

working to give final shape to several major investment projects and the 'Invest Rajasthan Summit' to be held in December this year. If he would have gone for election duty the work would have suffered for one whole month and hence an exemption was sought.

Furthermore, Ajitabh has recently been given the additional charge of Secretary, Mines in absence of Anandi who is on election duty to Maharashtra. On Monday, Ajitabh conducted an on the spot review of the ongoing refinery project in Barmer with CS Sudhansh Pant. During this

time, senior officials of HPCL were also present in Pachpadra.

All 16 IAS who were appointed as election observers for the first phase of poll on April 19 have returned. Now the DoP will hand them additional charge of the posts of 16 IAS that will leave on April 24. It should be noted that 52 IAS from Rajasthan were short-listed by the Election Commission for the Lok Sabha election which is being held in seven phases and the Commission approves exemption only in a situation when there is a robust reason to do so.

4 IAS DENIED EXEMPTION

Four Rajasthan cadre IAS officers, for whom the Rajasthan government had sent recommendation regarding exemption from election duty to the Election Commission of India, have been denied the said exemption by the authority. The state government had requested the ECI for senior IAS T Ravikanth, KK Pathak, Manju Rajpal and Punam, and also sent the names of other officials as their replacements. But the ECI denied giving them the exemption that it has given to Samit Sharma and Ajitabh Sharma and now these four officers will have to discharge the respective duties assigned by the ECI in their respective allotted states.

Notably, T Ravikanth has been appointed as election observer for West Bengal while Manju Rajpal and KK Pathak have been allotted Andhra Pradesh and Punam has been allotted Karnataka. The officers will have to stay in their allotted states for a minimum of 25 days during



the course of elections.

Interestingly, with Principal Secretary UDH and LSG T. Ravikanth discharging election related duty in West Bengal from 24th April, JDC Manju Rajpal leaving for the said undertaking on Tuesday to Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh and JDA Secretary Hempushpa Sharma having already left to carry out election related role, the work in JDA would come to a halt as the three 'top-tier' officials of the Authority will be out for about a month's time. This is perhaps the first time that such a situation has occurred.



FIRST INDIA

Follow



**THE FIRST INDIA
WHATSAPP CHANNEL**

WIN EXCITING PRIZES



1st
PRIZE
**55'
INCH TV**
(1 UNIT)

2nd
PRIZE
**43'
INCH TV**
(1 UNIT)

3rd
PRIZE
**JUICER/
MIXER**
(3 UNITS)

4th
PRIZE
TOASTER
(5 UNITS)

5th
PRIZE
**POWER
BANKS**
(25 UNITS)

FIRSTINDIA.CO.IN

**FOLLOW OUR WHATSAPP CHANNEL TO 'READ FREE' THE FIRST INDIA
ENGLISH NEWSPAPER EVERYDAY, AND WIN EXCITING PRIZES**

CLICK HERE

FAKE NOC FOR ORGAN TRANSPLANT CASE

Panel sends notices to Dr Bhandari and Dr Mehta

Asked for complete information about transplant done through SOTO; Clarification sought from Dr. Achal Sharma as well

Vikas Sharma
Jaipur

The Medical Education Department is in action mode in the case of issuance of fake NOC for human organ and tissue transplantation. Additional Chief Secretary Shubhra Singh is continuously monitoring the matter closely.

Following her instructions, committee constituted under the chairmanship of the Medical Education Commissioner has issued notice in this matter to Dr. Sudhir Bhandari, Dr. Amarjeet Mehta, and Dr. Achal Sharma. Information related to transplant has been sought and asked to be informed about the actual situation and also to inform about the working, maintenance and monitoring of SOTO.



CENTRE INSTRUCTS STATES TO ACT AGAINST FAULTY HOSPS

The Union health ministry, taking serious note of the case involving issuing of fake NOCs for organ transplant, has asked all states and UTs to investigate any violations and take strict action, including suspension of licences of hospitals involved in illegal organ transplants. The health

ministry has also asked all states and UTs to submit an action-taken report within 15 days. In Jaipur alone, after Fortis Hospital, EHCC and Manipal Hospitals came under the investigative agency's lens. This was because most of the transplants of foreign patients took place in these three hospitals.

COMMITTEE REACHED SMS, CHECKS PAPERS

The state-level committee reached SMS Hospital to scrutinize the documents related to organ transplant fake NOC case. Committee member Dr SN Dholpuriya reached the hospital with Organ Transplant Authorized Officer Dr Rashmi Gupta. After checking the documents of private hospitals, the committee members reached SMS Hospital.

However, it remains to be seen whether the Medical Education Dept understands the seriousness of the matter and takes action against the erring private hospitals involved in organ trafficking. Jaipur Police on Sunday took records collected from ACB in the EHCC and Fortis Hospital An FIR has already been registered.

Man tries crossing border, courtesy 'Bajrangji Bhaijaan'



Suryaveer Singh Tanwar
Jaisalmer

Inspired by Slaman Khan starrer 'Bajrangji Bhaijaan', a youth from Hyderabad tried to cross border when he was caught on the India-Pakistan international border. People handed him over to the police when they felt something suspicious about him.

Syed Majid, 29, allegedly wanted to go for Haj. He had documents, including passport, Aadhaar card but did not have visa. He has been arrested under section 151 and was presented in the SDM court, where the court ordered to send him home.

Now, police are preparing to send Majid back to Hyderabad. He left from Hyderabad on April 16, came to Jaipur by train and from there reached to Jaisalmer. He tried to cross the border on foot from Jaisalmer.



The accused Sayed Majid allegedly wanted to go for Haj.

BOY GOES FOR A SWIM WITH FRIENDS IN JAIPUR, DROWNS IN SWIMMING POOL

In Jaipur, a youth died due to drowning in swimming pool at SR swimming pool in Mansarovar. The young man had entered the swimming pool with his friends while he lost his footing and fell into deep waters. The relatives of the deceased have registered a case against pool owner and employees. Mansarovar police station is investigating the case.

POLICE RAIDS HUKKAH BAR, ARRESTS MANAGER

On receiving a complaint, the Bajaj Nagar police station raided a hookah bar that was operating as a restaurant. A rooftop restaurant named Stardust, came under the police scanner for running a Hukka bar. Flavors and hookahs were seized from the location. Meanwhile, the restaurant manager was also detained by the police and is currently being questioned.

RETIRED ARMY MAN ATTACKED OVER RTI

Asind: Members of Sarpanch's relatives are charged for attacking Pokhar Poswal for filing an RTI in order to get information about the work being done in Borla Panchayat. Pokhar, a retired soldier, suffered severe injuries in the assault. At Asind Community Health Centre, he is still receiving treatment. The police has filed a complaint and has started investigations.

IN BRIEF

Khatu Shyam ji: 3-month-old girl dies in road accident

Sikar: At Khatushyamji, a speeding car crashed into an e-rickshaw carrying worshippers who had come to see Baba Shyam. Three to four devotees were hurt in the collision, and a 3-month-old innocent girl perished instantly when the e-rickshaw overturned. According to Head Constable Mohanlal, Dipul Gupta and his family had come to Khatushyamji this morning at 9:30 am for darshan. After that, they were riding an e-rickshaw when a Swift Dezire struck the e-rickshaw from behind.

Two kids die of food poisoning, mother falls ill as well

Bhilwara: In the Lachhuda village in the Asind police station area, food poisoning claimed lives of two children. Their mother also became unwell and was sent to Bhilwara hospital. The Medical Board is performing a post-mortem on the two deceased people's corpses. According to Hanspal Singh, In-charge of Asind Police Station, two children's health declined as a result of food poisoning at their home resulting in their death.

1 dead, 2 injured as wall of under construction building collapses

Satyannarayan Sharma
Jaipur

A collapsed wall of a house in Jaipur caused three people to be buried beneath it. Among them, 1 passed away. Following first aid, both injured parties have been released from the hospital.

Following the incident, Kailash Bairwa, the brother of the deceased, filed a complaint at the Sanganer Sadar police station against the land-



One of the workers Banwari, lost his life in the mishap.

lord and the contractor. According to ASI Kalyan Prasad, The abrupt collapse of the soil during

masonry caused the wall to collapse and all three workers were buried in the rubble.

UGC regulation passed in RU Syndicate meeting

Bharat Dixit
Jaipur

UGC regulation was passed in syndicate meeting of Rajasthan University on Monday. Before the syndicate meeting, For the last three years, PhD entrance test could not be conducted in Rajasthan University, but now with the passing of UGC regulation in the syndicate, exams like PhD will be able to be conducted again.

On the other hand,

Before the meeting, a demonstration was held by ABVP members regarding abolition of ward quota

ABVP activists demonstrated at the Vice Chancellor's Secretariat regarding the abolition of ward quota in PhD entrance, but no decision regarding ward quota was taken in the syndicate meeting.

PHED secy gives 24-hr deadline to solve water woes in the city

First India Bureau
Jaipur

There have been issues for the people living on Goner Road in the Rajhans colonies, Gorakhnath, and Ramnagar.

Because the area hasn't had a sufficient supply of drinking water for the past 20 days. On Sunday, Amitabh Sharma, the department's additional chief engineer, and Dr. Samit Sharma, the government secretary



Dr. Samit Sharma.

of the public health engineering department, visited the location and assessed the circumstances. He gave the bureaucrats

a 24-hour deadline to find a solution.

Dr. Samit Sharma gave the order to notify Assistant Engineer Abhay Meena and Junior Engineer Rashid Khan of their incompetence in their duties in accordance with 17 CCA regulation. Work on the hookup was initiated immediately. Additional Chief Engineer notified that regular water supply for drinking will be established till 5:30 a.m. on Monday.

Roadways CMD writes to ACS Finance for funds

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Roadways CMD Shreya Guha has written a letter to ACS Finance Akhil Arora citing contempt action and has sought help. This is being done in order to pay the outstanding allowance amount of Rs 123.77 crore to the drivers of 51 units.

However, due to lack of funds in the department, roadways has paid

The Supreme Court gave orders regarding day and night outing allowance for drivers and conductors

only Rs 24 crore so far. In order to resolve this situation, Guha has written a letter to ACS Finance and has requested to transfer Rs 30 crore out of Rs 150 crore deposited as PD amount to pay.



Hanuman Janmotsav

Lighting and decorations, ahead of Hanuman Janmotsav at the Hanuman Mandir at Ambabari in Jaipur on Monday. The preparations for Hanuman Janmotsav are in full swing throughout the state and specially at renowned temples of lord Hanuman in the City.

SANTOSH SHARMA

'Black Thunder' to strike down unlicensed hosps

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Enforcement action against unlicensed private hospitals will intensify. The state's "Black Thunder" operation will be managed by the medical department. Additionally, a district-level committee will be established for this activity.

ACS Shubhra Singh of the medical department stated: "There have been complaints about illegal

Joint directors are in charge of this activity.

In the operation, the joint director will serve as the nodal officer

pvt hospitals, with no allopathic doctors. The complaints claim that operations are being carried out arbitrarily." An operation has been started to impose severe penalties on these facilities.

PLANET VS. PLASTIC

Kids engage in Earth Day activities at Nahargarh

First India Bureau
Jaipur

School children received a free tour of Nahargarh Biological Park on World Earth Day. Children took part in a series of engaging activities aligned with this year's World Earth Day theme, "Planet vs. Plastic."

These activities included a quiz contest, an essay writing competition, and a painting competition. DCF Jagdish Gupta graced the event with his presence, likely

The event aimed to instill a sense of responsibility in the next generation, highlighting the imperative of a plastic-free planet through hands-on experiences like a cleanliness drive at the park

adding significance and encouragement to the participants.

It's great to see young minds engaging with

such important topics and showcasing their talents in various creative ways! The tour included 184 Golden Era School students.

According to DCF Jagdish Gupta, it is up to us all to preserve the planet and make it plastic-free. Through a variety of contests and field trips, an attempt was made to teach the kids that the planet won't be safe until pollution and plastic are eliminated completely. In the park, a cleanliness drive was also held.

JMC LAUNCHES "PICK PLASTIC" DRIVE TO COMBAT PLASTIC MENACE IN CITY

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Nagar Nigam Jaipur Jhotwara Zone launched the "Pick Plastic" campaign on World Earth Day to combat plastic pollution. The campaign includes clean-up drives, plastic collection points, and awareness by officials. DC health Naveen Bhardwaj, DC Jhotwara zone Kamlesh Kumar Meena and Xen NK Ag-



Several children along with the members of transgender community also joined the cleanliness drive.

MUKESH KIRADOO

garwal among with other officers and team jhotwara zone participated

by cleaning and picking plastic from teja circle to 200 ft bypass.

125 judicial officers transferred in reshuffle

First India Bureau
Jaipur

High Court Registrar General Pramil Kumar Mathur has issued orders for transfer of 125 judicial officers of the Senior Civil Judge cadre.

Judicial officer Poonaram Godara has been transferred to Dungarpur. Godara has been in the news in SI recruitment paper leak case.

Vikas Kaler has been appointed as Senior Civil Judge-

cum-CJM of Bikaner, Payal Agarwal has been appointed as Deputy Director Raj State Judicial Academy Jodhpur, Karuna Sharma appointed as Senior Civil Judge-cum-CJM Jodhpur, while, Rahul Chaudhary has been appointed as Senior Civil Judge-cum-CJM Udaipur, Dudaram Khokhar as senior civil judge-cum-CJM Kota and Gunjan Goyal as Senior Civil Judge-cum-CJM Sawai Madhopur.

BJP President criticises Congress

PM focused on everyone's development: JP Nadda

PTI

Lormi

BJP president JP Nadda on Monday accused the Congress of indulging in the politics of vote bank and appeasement and said PM Narendra Modi has changed the culture of politics in the country with focus on development of everyone.

Addressing a rally in Lormi town of Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur district, Nadda highlighted the BJP-led central government's achievements in the last 10 years.

He referred to the Ram temple construction in Ayodhya, abrogation of Article 370 (which provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir), notification of rules for the Citizenship (Amendment) Act implementation, and ban on the practice of instant triple talaq.

The rally was held to campaign for BJP candidate Tokhan Sahu in the Bilaspur Lok Sabha seat, which will go to polls on May 7. "Today the culture of politics has changed under the leadership of Modi ji. Earlier it was asked to which caste (a person) belonged, either forward or backward, from this side of the river or the other side, from



BJP National President JP Nadda being garlanded during a public meeting for Lok Sabha elections, in Lormi, Chhattisgarh, Monday. PTI

PM MODI TO HOLD ROADSHOW IN BHOPAL ON APRIL 24

Bhopal: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold a roadshow on Wednesday evening in Bhopal Lok Sabha constituency, a stronghold of the BJP, a party functionary said on Monday. It will be PM Modi's second roadshow in Madhya Pradesh and fifth visit to the state in the last 18 days. The prime

minister kickstarted his poll campaign in MP on April 7 with a roadshow in Jabalpur constituency, another bastion of the BJP which it has been winning since 1996. BJP's Alok Sharma is pitted against Congress candidate Arun Shrivastava in the Bhopal Lok Sabha seat, where polling will be held on May 7. "Modi ji will lead

the roadshow in the city on April 24 evening," Madhya Pradesh BJP's media cell chief Ashish Agrawal told PTI. The roadshow would cover a distance of 1.5 km from the old Vidhan Sabha to New Market area. It will commence around 7 pm, Bhopal Commissioner of Police Harinarayanachari Mishra said when contacted over phone.

hills or plains," he said. "The Congress made brothers fight with each other and indulged in the politics of vote-bank. Modi ji changed the definition of politics of India. He changed the way of

doing work. Under his leadership, the country has been heading ahead with the slogan of 'sabka saath, sabka vikas, sabka vishwas, sabka prayas'," Nadda said. While they (Congress)

did politics of appeasement, PM Modi did politics of "vikaswad" (development), he added. Nadda also claimed the Congress has always opposed Lord Ram and Sanatan Dharma.

LDF's move against Tharoor a mistake: Raj

PTI

New Delhi

The CPI(M)-led LDF made a mistake by fielding a candidate against Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, according to actor **Prakash Raj**, who is known for his pro-Left political stand on various socio-political issues.

The actor said, "I know the Left candidate (CPI leader Pannyan Raveendran). He is a nice person and a good politician. But I think the Left made a mistake by fielding a candidate against Tharoor."

Put 'Aligarh lock' on the fate of Congress, SP-BSP: Yogi

First India Bureau

Aligarh

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Monday that the SP, BSP, and Congress neglected the development of Aligarh, manipulated faith, and tried to breach security. He stated, "Now is the chance to put 'Aligarh lock' on their fate and entrust the country's leadership to PM Modi for the third term." Seeking votes in favour of Aligarh MP/BJP candidate Satish Gautam and Anup Valmiki 'Pradhan' from Hathras, the CM continued, "By doing so, India will emerge as a major global power. The



PM Narendra Modi and UP CM Yogi Adityanath and others during an election campaign rally in Aligarh, on Monday. PTI

entire nation's voice is uniting with the PM's vision for a self-reliant and developed India. From all corners, the chant 'Phir ek bar, Modi Sarkar, Abki bar 400 paar' is echoing." PM Narendra Modi

was also present during this address. The CM urged the audience to simply look for the lotus symbol and show appreciation for Modi's decade-long efforts by casting their vote.

LS elections: EC holds meeting to discuss measures to mitigate risks due to heat wave

PTI

New Delhi

With forecast of above-normal temperatures and heat waves in parts of the country, the Election Commission held a meeting on Monday with different stakeholders, including officials of the weather office.

The meeting discussed measures to mitigate risk due to heatwaves during the Lok Sabha polls. Six more phases of the seven-phased exercise are yet to be held in the country. "In view of forecast of



CEC Rajiv Kumar with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar & Sukhbir Singh Sandhu during a meeting, in New Delhi, Monday.

above normal temperatures & heat waves in parts of the country, Commission is holding a meeting with different stakeholders this morning. The meeting is discussing measures to

mitigate risk," the spokesperson of the poll body posted on X, "adding that the meeting was attended by officers from the (IMD), (NDMA) and Ministry of the Home Affairs.

OTHER LS HIGHLIGHTS

- NCP releases manifesto, supports demand for caste-based census
- 12 members of royal families contesting Assembly, Lok Sabha elections in Odisha
- Panic in BJP camp after sensing defeat in first phase of LS polls: Mamata Banerjee
- BJD announces names of 6 more candidates for Assembly elections, drops 5 sitting MLAs
- Caste Census, MSP To Farmers Among NCP's Top Poll Promises

Assembly polls in J-K to take place soon: Singh



Jitendra Singh during a road show for Lok Sabha elections, in Jammu, Monday. PTI

PTI

New Delhi

Union minister Jitendra Singh on Monday said that Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir will be held soon and the people of the Union Territory are enthusiastic about participating in the electoral process to support the BJP's development agenda.

Speaking to PTI, he asserted that normalcy has

been restored in J-K but the opposition parties were involved in a "wrong" portrayal of the ground situation after the 2019 abrogation of Article 370 which gave a special status to the erstwhile state. "Opposition parties are engaged in a wrong portrayal of the ground situation in J&K. Normalcy has been restored in Jammu and Kashmir after scrapping Article 370."

BJP raises concerns over 'Jungle Raj' in K'taka

Opposition parties resorting to 'appeasement' politics as NDA graph rising in polls, says BJP

PTI

New Delhi

The BJP alleged on Monday that the opposition has resorted to blatant appeasement politics, anti-Hindu agenda and joining hands with anti-India forces in desperation, as it is becoming clear that the ruling NDA will reach its target of winning over 400 seats in the Lok Sabha polls.

Its spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia cited the murder of Neha Hiremath (23), daughter of Congress councillor Niranjan Hiremath in Karnataka, and claimed that the state government is not taking appropriate action due to the



Gaurav Bhatia

religion of the accused. Fayaz, who allegedly stabbed the victim on a college campus, has been arrested by the police. Bhatia said Niranjan Hiremath has stated that he had given to police names of eight persons who were allegedly involved in his daughter's murder but none of them has been arrested and that the CBI should probe the case.

BJP DEFENDS PM NARENDRA MODI'S 'SPADE A SPADE' REMARK AMID OPPOSITION BACKLASH



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called a spade a spade and has echoed people's sentiments, the BJP asserted on Monday after the opposition termed his remarks at a poll rally in Rajasthan as communally divisive. BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia told reporters that the opposition is in pain as PM Modi has showed them the mirror about its past. His remarks have resonated with people as for the opposition INDIA bloc those who have illegally entered the country are more important than citizens if they happen to be Muslims, he alleged. Addressing a rally in Rajasthan's Banswara, PM Modi alleged that the Congress plans to give people's hard-earned money and valuables to "infiltrators" and "those who have more children".

Govt decimated MSMEs across country, Aligarh is no exception: Cong

PTI

New Delhi

Attacking Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Congress on Monday alleged that the government has "decimated" MSMEs across the country and asked why is Aligarh's 100-yr old lock industry struggling under his dispensation.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh had posed questions to the prime minister ahead of his rally in Aligarh, and asked why has the BJP failed to deliver justice to the Hathras rape victim.

Elaborating on what he said were "jumla details", Ramesh alleged that the decades-old lock industry in Aligarh has suffered under the Modi govt.



'MODI'S '400 PAAR' CALL AIMED AT 2/3RD MAJORITY IN LS'

Channaptana: Congress President M Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday alleged that PM Modi's call for "400 paar" during the election campaign is aimed at getting NDA two-thirds majority in LS that is required to change the Constitution. Kharge also said that he was ready for an open debate to discuss Congress' manifesto for the LS elections, as he hit out at Modi for his statement that it completely bears the imprint of the Muslim League.

EMPTY CHAIRS SPEAK VOLUMES

Opposition camp sees the rise of the spouses

Agencies

New Delhi

The arrest of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and JMM's Hemant Soren has put their wives in the limelight. Sunita Kejriwal and Kalpana Soren have become important faces in the INDIA camp in the absence of their spouses during the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, hinting that they are ready for larger political roles.

They joined other INDIA bloc leaders at a



Sunita Kejriwal and Kalpana Soren interact with each other during the INDIA Bloc's 'Ulgulan Nyaya Maha Rally', in Ranchi. FILE

rally in Ranchi yesterday, which saw the opposition camp launch a fierce attack on the BJP for allegedly misusing central

agencies to harass opposition-ruled states.

Two chairs were left empty on stage for Kejriwal and Soren - with

Kejriwal was arrested last month by the ED in a money laundering case linked to the liquor policy scam. He remains the CM even after his arrest with the AAP asserting no law stops him from running the government from jail

their name tags on - as their spouses were seated on the dais.

The 'Ulgulan Nyaya Mahrally', organised by

the JMM amid the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, served as a major show of strength that saw the leaders of 28 political parties in attendance, including Mallikarjun Kharge, Tejashwi Yadav, Bhagwant Mann, and Akhilesh Yadav.

"They want to kill my husband Arvind Kejriwal. His food is under camera observation; he is denied insulin. My husband is a sugar patient who has been on insulin for the last 12 years; he needs 50 units of insulin daily," she said at the rally.

Rahul will come & try to create division, don't fall for it: Irani

PTI

Amethi

Union minister and local MP Smriti Irani on Monday alleged that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will come to Amethi after April 26 and divide the people in the name of casteism and visit one temple after the other.

Addressing roadside meetings during her election campaign in Bhetua and Bhadar areas, Irani said, "After the voting in Wayanad on April 26, Rahul Gandhi will come here to tell everyone that Amethi is his family and



Smriti Irani shares a light moment with an elderly woman during her election campaign in Bhetua and Bhadar areas in Amethi.

stoke the fire of casteism in the society here." She added, "Rahul Gandhi & the Cong party rejected the invitation for the consecration ceremony

of Lord Shri Ram in Ayodhya but he will be seen roaming around the temples in Amethi. So there is a need to be careful and alert."

INDIA KA TYOHAR



Raj did it like Royals, yet again

Decoding the key players

- Yuzvendra Chahal of RR scripts history, become first bowler to complete 200 IPL wickets
- Sandeep took a historic five-wicket haul as Royals stopped MI from going past 200



Mumbai Indians batters Nehal Wadhwa and Tilak Verma during the IPL match between Rajasthan Royals and Mumbai Indians, at Sawai Mansingh Stadium, in Jaipur on Monday.

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Rajasthan Royals beat Mumbai Indians by 9 wickets at Sawai Mansingh Stadium, in Jaipur on Monday.

Sandeep Sharma grabbed his maiden five-wicket haul in the IPL to help Rajasthan Royals restrict Mumbai Indians to 179/9 after Yuzvendra Chahal entered history books with 200 dismissals in their clash here on Monday.

Coming back after an injury layoff, Sandeep (5/18) claimed three of his five wickets in a terrific final over while also accounting for Tilak Varma, whose 45-ball 65 (4x4s, 3x6s) lifted MI from a precarious position.

The right-arm spinner achieved the feat during the first innings of the IPL clash between Rajasthan Royals and Mumbai Indians here at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium, dismissing Afghan batter Mohammad Nabi. Sanju Samson has completed 3,500 runs for the Rajasthan Royals in the IPL match on Monday.



Rajasthan Royals players celebrate the wicket of Mumbai Indians batter Rohit Sharma during the IPL match between RR and MI in Jaipur on Monday.



Rajasthan Royals' fans cheer during the match at SMS Stadium, in Jaipur, Monday. **SANTOSH SHARMA**

At world's highest battlefield Rajnath visits Siachen to assess on-ground security situation



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh lays a wreath at Siachen War Memorial during a visit to Siachen Base Camp, in Ladakh, Monday.

PTI
Leh/New Delhi

Siachen is India's capital of "courage, grit and determination", Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Monday after carrying out an on-the-ground review of the security situation at the world's highest snow-clad battlefield.

Addressing soldiers at a forward post at an altitude of 15,100 ft, Singh lauded the "iron-clad" will of the Indian Army soldiers deployed in the icy cold glacier and said that their bravery will forever be an inspiration for future generations.

The defence minister described Siachen as a symbol of India's sovereignty and determination.

He said that just as Delhi is India's national capital, Mumbai is the financial capital and Bengaluru is the technology capital, Siachen is the "capital of courage, grit and determination."

The Siachen glacier in the Karakoram range is known as the highest militarised zone in the world where the soldiers have to battle frostbite and high winds.

"The success of Operation Meghdoot is a matter of pride for all of us," Singh said.

Drone, rocket attacks targeted US forces in Iraq, say US officials

Agencies
Baghdad

U.S. forces in Iraq and Syria faced two separate rocket and explosive drone attacks in less than 24 hours, Iraqi security sources and U.S. officials told Reuters on Monday, the first reported after a near three-month pause.

At least one armed drone was launched at the Ain al-Asad air base that hosts U.S. troops in the western Iraqi province of Anbar, a U.S. official said.

That followed five rockets fired from northern Iraq towards U.S. forces at a base in Rumayn in remote northeastern Syria, on Sunday, according to U.S. and Iraqi officials.

There were no reports of casualties or significant damage from the drone attacks.



Over 34,000 people have since been confirmed killed as per the authorities, with thousands more bodies feared lost in the rubble.

ISRAELI TROOPS STORM BACK INTO KHAN YOUNIS

→ Gaza Strip: Israeli troops fought their way back into an eastern section of Khan Younis in a surprise raid, residents said on Monday, sending people who had returned to abandoned homes in the ruins of the southern Gaza Strip's main city fleeing once more. Elsewhere in Khan Younis, scores more bodies were recovered from what Palestinian authorities said were mass graves on the site of the city's main hospital. Further south there were fresh air strikes on Rafah, the last refuge where over half of the enclave's 2.3 million people have sought shelter.

On Saturday, a massive explosion at a military base in Iraq killed a member of an Iraqi security force that includes Iran-backed groups.

for another five days, the India Meteorological Department said on Monday.

Reliance Ind quarterly profit stays flat; annual earnings hit record at ₹69,621 cr

Agencies
New Delhi

Reliance Industries Ltd on Monday reported an almost flat March quarter net profit, while its annual earnings hit a record high on the back of a recovery in its core oil and petrochemicals business and sustained momentum across the consumer-facing telecom and retail businesses.

The oil-to-telecom-and-retail conglomerate's consolidated net profit stood at Rs 18,951 crore, or Rs 28.01 per share, in January-March quarter of the 2023-24 fiscal compared to Rs

19,299 crore, or Rs 28.52 a share, a year ago, as per company's stock exchange filing.

The profit was, however, higher quarter-on-quarter when compared to Rs 17,265 crore in October-December period. For the full fiscal FY24 (April 2023 to March 2024), Reliance posted a record net profit of Rs 69,621 crore as compared to Rs 66,702 crore earnings in the preceding financial year. Reliance also became the first Indian company to hit Rs 10 lakh crore turnover in FY24 when revenue from operations rose 2.6% from Rs 9.74 lakh crore in 2022-23.

No heatwave but temp likely to hit 40 deg C in next 3 days: IMD

Agencies
New Delhi

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday said that the maximum temperature in the national capital will hit 40 degrees Celsius in the next three days.

"There are no heatwave conditions expected in the upcoming days, but Delhi's temperature will reach 40 degrees Celsius in the next three to four days," Kuldeep Srivastava, scientist and head of the Regional Meteorological Centre in Delhi, told PTI.

He said the new western disturbance will approach northwest India but it will have no impact in the capital. The sky, therefore, will stay clear in Delhi in the coming week and there is no prediction of rain as well.



An uprooted tree blocks a road after strong winds and heavy rain, in Nagpur, Monday. **PTI**

MORE RAIN TO HIT UAE WEEK AFTER RECORD DELUGE

→ New Delhi: The UAE is preparing for additional rain from Monday (April 22) nearly a week after the downpour that dumped a year's worth of rain in Dubai. However, Khaleej Times quoted the country's meteorological department as saying that the forthcoming showers pose no threat and won't be "comparable" to last week's rain. The storm hit Oman, killing 20 people before pounding the UAE with its heaviest rains in 75 years of records. The Dubai airport was flooded for four days before resuming normal operations on Saturday.

The intense heat wave scorching large parts of east India will continue for another five days, the India Meteorological Department said on Monday.

CIVILIAN HONOURS

Naidu, Mithun, Uthup, others conferred Padma Awards

PTI
New Delhi

Former vice president M Venkaiah Naidu, founder of Sulabh International Bindeshwar Pathak and a host of other prominent persons were conferred with Padma Awards by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here on Monday.

Pathak, who was given the award posthumously, and renowned Bharatanatyam dancer Padma Subramanyam were conferred with the Padma

Vibhushan. Pathak's wife Amola received the award from the President.

Actor Mithun Chakraborty, singer Usha Uthup, former Uttar Pradesh governor Ram Naik and industrialist Sitaram Jindal were conferred Padma Bhushan.

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, among others, were present at the function.

Gujarat-based cardiologist Tejas Madhusudan Pa-



President Droupadi Murmu, VP Jagdeep Dhankhar, PM Narendra Modi, Union Ministers Amit Shah, S Jaishankar and dignitaries during the Padma Awards 2024 ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan on Monday. **PTI**

tel, veteran Marathi film director Dattatray Ambadas Mayaloo alias Rajdutt and Chandreshwar Prasad Thakur, a distinguished Physician known globally

for contribution to research and policy on Kala Azar, were given Padma Bhushan.

Padma Shri awardees include master carpet

weaver from Uttar Pradesh Khalil Ahamad, Madhya Pradesh's folk singer Kaluram Bamaniya, Bangladeshi singer Rezwana Choudhury Bannya and Chikankari embroidery artist from Uttar Pradesh Naseem Bano.

Rajbongshi folk singer from West Bengal's Cooch Behar Gita Roy Barman, tennis player Rohan Bopanna, spiritual figure from Tripura Chitta Ranjan Debbarma, banker Kalpana Morparia, philanthropist Kiran Nadar, social worker from Haryana Gurvinder Singh and folk sing-

er from Uttar Pradesh Urmila Srivastava were also given the Padma Shri.

Padma Awards, one of the highest civilian honours of the country, are conferred in three categories -- Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri. For 2024, President had approved conferment of 132 Padma awards. List comprises 5 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 110 Padma Shri awards. While almost half of the awardees were conferred awards on Monday, remaining are likely to get them next week.

Candidates Chess Tournament

Gukesh becomes youngest ever challenger for world title

PTI
Toronto

India's 17-year-old Grandmaster D Gukesh scripted history by winning the Candidates Chess Tournament here to become the youngest ever challenger to the world title, bettering a record created by the legendary Garry Kasparov 40 years ago.

Gukesh played out an easy draw with American Hikaru Nakamura in the 14th and final round to finish with nine out of a possible 14 points in the



D Gukesh

tournament that is held to decide the challenger to the world champion.

The triumph entitles Gukesh a clash against reigning world champion Ding Liren of China in the last quarter of the year.

FIRST INDIA 2ND FRONT

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Every opportunity to do something comes with a chance for us to rise above the ordinary with the attitude of 'seva', choose wisely, every day.

Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



08

CM: Gurjar community's role vital for nation's economic & social progress

The CM predicts BJP hat-trick with 25 seat sweep in LS polls in Rajasthan

Shubham Jain
Ajmer

In the battle of Lok Sabha elections 2024, BJP has given its full strength to win Mission 25 in Rajasthan. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma has been on a whirlwind tour and on Monday, he reached the JLN Medical College Auditorium and participated in a social dialogue programme. Minister of State for Home Jawahar Singh Bedham, Devnarayan Board Chairman Omprakash Bhadana and local leaders were also present. Amidst the presence of a large number of people of Gurjar community,



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma addresses the gathering during the 'Social Dialogue programme' held at Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Auditorium, JLN Medical College in Ajmer on Monday. Jawahar Singh Bedham, Omprakash Bhadana and other local leaders are also seen.

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma said that the Gurjar community is a symbol of the country's economic and social progress and has been playing an important role in the development of the country since the beginning. CM Bhajan Lal Sharma said that the Gur-

jar community has been with BJP since the beginning. "No matter how hard the opponents tried, but the community has never shirked from its responsibilities," he said and appealed that in the first 90 days of the change of power in the state, 45 percent of the

promises made by BJP have been fulfilled and the rest will also be fulfilled soon. Sharma claimed that BJP will win on 12 seats in the first phase of the state, while in the second phase on April 26, BJP will also win on 13 seats and will make a hat-trick by win-

OUR PARTY RUNS ON IDEAS: CM IN AJMER

Addressing a dialogue programme in Ajmer, CM said, "Our party operates on ideas aligned with yours. We acknowledge the Gurjar community's contributions through farming and animal husbandry, sustaining nation's economy. BJP, at the Centre & State, honours society's contributions. Unlike others, we fulfill promises rather than making false announcements and deceiving."

ning all the 25 seats in the state for the third consecutive time and PM Narendra Modi will get a chance to serve the country for the third time.

CM Sharma addressed a workers' conference in Kishangarh on Monday during which he stressed that workers need to dis-

charge their responsibility effectively. "The work is decided only in BJP. One phone alerts thousands of workers, this system is in BJP only. Elections are a test for workers. We have to celebrate Holi and Diwali together on June 4. Every booth has to be won,"

"PM Modi has transformed politics, fulfilling our manifesto promises and holding wrongdoers accountable. Congress makes false claims while we deliver, including river-linking and reducing fuel prices. Every commitment made by our workers will be honored to earn public trust and secure victory. This election is our test, and every worker must contribute to our success with increased voter support," further said the Chief Minister.

Public love confirms historic win for BJP's Om Birla, asserts Diya



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma, Diya Kumari and Om Birla being felicitated during Booth Workers' conference in Kota on Monday.

First India Bureau
Kota

Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari was on a tour to Kota-Bundi assembly constituencies on Monday. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma also participated in a massive roadshow held in support of BJP's Lok Sabha candidate from Kota-Bundi constituency & Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla.

Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari posted on X, saying, "Appealed to

the public to make BJP victorious by voting in maximum numbers. It is confirmed by the immense love received from the public that the victory of BJP candidate Om Birla ji is going to be historic."

The Deputy Chief Minister further said that the BJP government is moving towards realising the resolve of 'Developed India' by crossing 400 seats this time in the Lok Sabha polls in the State.

CS Sudhansh Pant visits Barmer Oil Refinery, reviews progress

Banshi Choudhary and
Rajeev Gaur
Balotra/Jodhpur



Sudhansh Pant

CS Sudhansh Pant on Monday, reached Sambhra village of Balotra on Monday to inspect and review the under-construction oil refinery.

Pant saw the model of the refinery and then held a detailed review of the project with the officials of Mines and Petroleum Department,

HRRL and HPCL. During this, the cost of the refinery, work done so far, water pipeline

coming from Nachna, crude oil pipeline as well as running of completed units inside the refinery and other issues were discussed in detail. Pant gathered details on the ancillary industry and petrochemical complex. District Collector Sushil Kumar Yadav, Addl District Collector Nanuram Saini, SP Kundan Kanwar accompanied him. "The refinery project will finish this year," CS Pant told the reporters.

Raj govt draws petition against PM CARES Fund

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The previous Cong govt in Rajasthan withdrew its petition against PM CARES Fund from the SC. It was withdrawn from bench of Justices Abhay S Oka Ujjal Bhuyan. The decision was taken after change of govt in State. AAG Shiv Mangal Sharma advocated on behalf of state govt. Now the dispute between the Centre and State is over.

Gehlot campaigns for son Vaibhav in Jalore-Sirohi LS race



Ashok Gehlot waves at his supporters during the roadshow in Sheoganj tehsil in Sirohi district on Monday.

Ashok Kumawat
Sirohi

Former CM Ashok Gehlot has put all his strength into the campaign for his son Vaibhav for the Jalore-Sirohi LS seat. Gehlot campaigned door-to-door for half an hour in Jalore on Monday. During this time, he had in his hand the election manifesto of Congress and a leaflet of the 'Tarakki Express.'

He distributed pamphlets and appealed to support and vote for his son. During the campaign, Gehlot also took information about the commuting fare from the

passengers sitting in the taxi. BJP candidate Lumbaram and Congress candidate Vaibhav Gehlot are in the fray for Jalore LS polls. Big leaders are turning to Jalore-Sirohi in support of both.

The former CM took to the streets at 11 am on Monday morning to campaign for his son. Gehlot handed over campaign leaflets at shops, vegetable stalls, to taxi drivers & passers-by on Bagora Road. However, this publicity remained limited to a few selected shops and people. He roamed around for half an hour and met people & then left for Congress office.

'Modi magic' intact despite lower voter turnout: Rathore

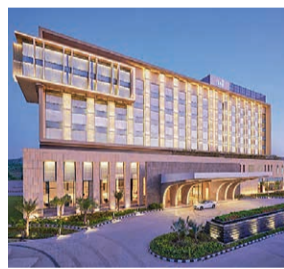
Wajahat Akhtar
Tonk

Claiming that Modi magic was intact, BJP leader **Rajendra Rathore** on Monday, said that the voting percentage has decreased due to various factors like heat and crop season. "If the voting percentage has decreased, it was because of the heat. People had crops in fields and unfortunately there was a storm that day that is why they couldn't step out of their fields."

"Modi magic is intact and Congress has accepted its defeat thus, Cong workers & voters didn't come out of their homes to vote," he said at a press conference. Rathore criticised PCC Chief GS Dotsara's 'Morya' remark, highlighting Bhajanlal govt's action on SI paper leak. He challenged Dotsara to win four more elections to match him & emphasised the ineffectiveness of ego in politics.

Setback to Kanha Hotel and Spa Pvt Ltd

Nirmal Tiwari
Jaipur



National Wildlife Board flags proposal regarding Wildlife clearance to the hotel just 95 meters away from boundary of Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary

The National Wildlife Board has not cleared a proposal regarding Wildlife clearance to Kanha Hotel and Spa Private Limited. The proposal was not approved in the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Board held under the chairmanship of Union Forest and Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav. The hotel is just 95 meters away from the boundary of Nahargarh

Wildlife Sanctuary. Nahargarh Forest and Wildlife Protection and Service Committee has been continuously complaining about this project at Kunda, Amer Delhi Road. Now Nahargarh Forest and Wild-

life Protection and Service Committee has decided to present an environmental petition before the National Green Tribunal, Central Zone, Bhopal to demolish this hotel and stop its operation with immediate ef-

fect. The hotel has been constructed in Chimanpura village of Amer tehsil.

Committee Chairman Rajendra Tiwari said that the hotel operator now has no right to conduct business activity within the limits of the eco-sensitive zone of Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary. Following development, uncertainty surrounds the fate of the Taj Group project. The Forest Dept may decide to demolish or seize the hotel construction.

HANUMAN JANMOTSAV CELEBRATIONS

Draw inspiration from the life of Lord Hanuman: Guv

Dr Nareshpuri briefs Guv Kalraj Mishra about temple trust's social activities

Monu Singh Rajput
Dausa

Governor Kalraj Mishra participated in the Hanuman Janmotsav celebrations at Mehandipur Balaji Temple on Monday. He attended the special 'Phool Bangla Jhan-ki' and also inaugurated the 'Ram Katha.'

Governor Mishra said



Governor Kalraj Mishra inaugurates the 'Ram Katha' programme being held to mark the Hanuman Janmotsav Samaroh at Mehandipur Balaji Temple in Dausa district on Monday. Kumar Vishwas & Mahant Dr Nareshpuri are also seen.

that Hanuman is a 'living deity.' He has received the blessing of immortal-

ity. Hanuman, who has attained the 'Asht Siddhis & Nav Nidhis', is a



Governor Kalraj Mishra, along with the Governor of Maharashtra, Ramesh Bais, offers prayers to Lord Hanuman at Mehandipur Balaji Temple in Dausa district on Monday. He performed the 'Abhishek' of Lord Hanuman and also prayed for the welfare of the State and its people.

symbol of strength and courage. Through his worship, individuals ex-

perience the energy within themselves. Governor Mishra fur-

ther added saying that Hanuman ji conveys the message of his master Lord Shri Ram throughout the world. In the Sundarkand, he introduced himself as the messenger of Lord Shri Ram at every place instead of his own name.

The Mahant of Mehandipur Balaji, Dr Nareshpuri, extended a warm welcome to Governor Mishra upon his arrival at the shrine. He also informed the Governor about various social service activities carried out by the temple trust.

All for the Game...



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra attends the IPL 2024 match held between Rajasthan Royals and Mumbai Indians at the SMS Stadium in Jaipur on Monday. Akanksha Bhalla and Astha Khandelwal are also seen.



City First

JAIPUR, TUESDAY | APRIL 23, 2024



AUDITIONS BEGIN!

The 26 edition of Rajasthan's esteemed beauty pageant commenced with fervour as aspiring contestants from 20 cities across the state gathered in Jaipur for the initial auditions on Monday. **P12**



City First introduces Kaziah Liz Mejo, the newly crowned Miss Teen International India, whose victory on her 17th birthday at Zee Studios, Jaipur, marked the dawn of a remarkable journey in fashion and inspiration!

The Reign Begins!



Mitali Dusad

mitalidusad@firstindia.co.in

Amidst the glitz and glamour of Zee Studios, Jaipur, a new star ascended on April 17, capturing hearts and headlines alike. Meet Kaziah Liz Mejo, the newly crowned Miss Teen International India, a title she clinched on her 17th birthday, marking the beginning of a remarkable journey.

Though hailing from Abu Dhabi, UAE, Kaziah's roots trace back to the scenic landscapes of Kerala. From a tender age, her aspirations were larger than life, fueled by a passion for acting and a wanderlust to explore the globe. Trained rigorously in classical dance since the age of four, Kaziah's artistic inclinations found expression not just on stage but also on the ramp, where she effortlessly captivated audiences with her grace and poise.

Behind every successful individual lies a supportive family, and Kaziah is no exception. With her parents, Mejo Abraham and Suja Mejo, and her older sister Karen Mejo, who shares her love for acting, Kaziah finds unwavering encouragement to pursue her dreams. Together, they embody the spirit of resilience and determination that defines her journey. In an industry often



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra greets Kaziah Liz Mejo (Miss Teen International India 2024)



dominated by stereotypes, Kaziah stands tall as a beacon of change, breaking barriers and shattering norms. Her mantra, "Your only limitation in life is the size of your dreams and scope of your imagination," reflects her relentless pursuit of excellence and her unwavering belief in the power of dreams.

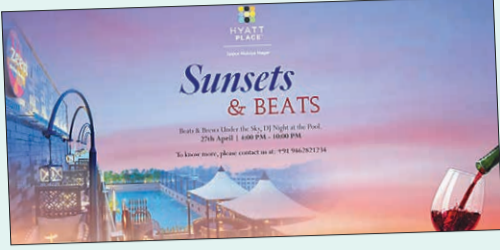
Dr Jagdeesh Chandra, extending his heartfelt congratulations to Kaziah Liz Mejo, expressed his wishes for her boundless success in the realms of fashion and beyond. As Kaziah embarks on this exhilarating odyssey, she envisions a future

where her talents transcend borders, inspiring generations to come. With aspirations to conquer the worlds of modeling, acting, and law, Kaziah Liz Mejo is poised to leave an indelible mark on the tapestry of fashion and lifestyle.

In five years, when she looks back at her journey, Kaziah hopes to find herself not just as a successful model and actress but as a catalyst for change, inspiring countless others to dream fearlessly and live without regrets. For Kaziah Liz Mejo, the sky is not the limit—it's just the beginning.



WHAT'S NEXT?



Sundowner DJ Pool Party Free Entry: Get ready to groove under the stars at the ultimate Sundowner DJ Night! With poolside vibes, flowing drinks, and panoramic views, this event promises an unforgettable evening of music and fun.

When: April 27, 4:00 PM
Where: Hyatt Place Jaipur Malviya Nagar, Jaipur



MAIN SHAYAR TOH NAHI - India Tour Leg-2!!!! Manhar Seth's comedy set "Main Shayar Toh Nah!" along with some crowd work. This event offers unparalleled laugh-out-loud opportunities and engaging conversations.

When: April 28, 7:00 PM Onwards
Where: Taxila Auditorium, Jaipur



Startup Mixer @Jaipur: The 345th Startup Mixer, where innovators and trailblazers come together to ignite connections, gain valuable insights, and discover hidden gems in the startup ecosystem. With a dynamic community of founders, investors, and enablers, this event offers unparalleled networking opportunities and engaging discussions.

When: April 27, 4:00 PM Onwards
Where: Jaipur

BIRTHDAY FORECAST!



MANOJ BAJPAYEE
Taurus
APRIL 23

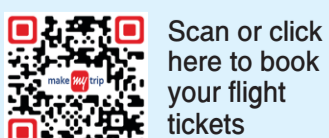
It will be a good time for you. You will remain energetic throughout the day and will have a positive outlook. Today, Ganesh finds you in a good mood. You might wish to plan for something and according to Ganesh, it is a good day to plan your routine. Those who had spent their money on betting or gambling are likely to suffer losses today.

Lucky Number: 5 **Lucky Colour: Orange**



Jaipur Flight Plan

- MUMBAI-** Air India, Air India Express, IndiGo, Vistara
- DELHI-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, IndiGo
- KOLKATA-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air
- CHENNAI-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, IndiGo, SpiceJet, Vistara
- SURAT-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, IndiGo, Vistara
- INDORE-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, Vistara
- CHANDIGARH-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, IndiGo, Vistara
- JAMMU-** Air India, Air India Express, IndiGo, Vistara
- KOCHI-** Air India, Air India Express, Alliance Air, IndiGo
- ITANAGAR-** IndiGo



Scan or click here to book your flight tickets
<https://www.makemytrip.com/>

Earth & Plastic
FROM BOON TO CURSE



Dr Vivek S Agrawal

cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

The conflict between earth and plastic is increasing at a rapid pace and the entire humanity and biodiversity is being continuously affected by it. Plastic, which was invented as one of the biggest achievements of the 20th century and a boon for human life, has gradually distorted its form and has appeared as a big threat to the entire civilization. After the first invention and use of plastic in the form of Bakelite in 1907, its various types and use by the common people continued to increase without thinking about the future consequences. The situation has reached to such a point that on April 22 this year World Earth Day will be observed with the theme Planet v/s Plastics. Today, the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on plastic is beginning in Ottawa, the Capital of Canada. It is aimed at reaching to binding treaty to overcome plastic pollution. It is expected that this time

the INC will agree on the agreement and will also pass a resolution regarding the action plan for implementation.

In the past years, steps have been taken to ban plastic, especially single-use plastic materials, but even at present, with continuous growth, about 400 million tons of plastic worth US\$ 600 billion is being produced every year which amounts to approximately 50 Kg per Capita per year. Plastic production will increase to more than 100 tonnes per year by 2050. Also, there is the fact that only 9 per cent of the production quantity is recycled. According to the United Nations Environment Programme, most of the plastic is either being incinerated/burnt through various means or in the open or discarded in a way manner. Due to its longevity, it continues to be used or misused. Given these facts, a target is being set to increase all types of plastic production to 60 per cent by 2040, otherwise, this cycle will go endless.



Among the many arguments presented by the supporters of plastic, it is that it is responsible for only three and a half per cent of GHG emissions. But, the reach and magnitude of plastic can be gauged from the fact that plastic has been found in abundance at a depth of 36,000 feet in the Western Pacific Ocean and as high as 29,000 feet in Mount Everest. This is the thick plastic which is visible to all of us. Despite widespread public awareness and efforts at every level, we are still unaware of the plastic that has made its way into our bodies. We do not even know how many types of chemicals harmful to health have entered the body along with plastic. Probably, there is no place left on this earth where plastic has not reached. The use that started in urban areas has reached rural areas also in some form or the other. After that, the disorganised or unavailability of disposal has made the

problem more severe. Any aspect of our life including food, water, clothes, house etc. all act as carriers for plastic to reach the body in some form or the other. Even for cosmetics and health care, plastic is used in abundance. Twenty years ago, for the first time, microplastics, i.e. particles of 2-5 mm size, were discovered which were either formed by breaking of larger pieces or manufactured specifically for industrial use. After this, nanoplastics were also discovered which are very minuscule. This discovery itself points towards serious dangers in the future. Nano means

particles that can reach anywhere and everywhere, are invisible from normal sight and can be embraced with any medium at any moment. While microparticles accumulate in the body tissues and cause far-reaching effects, nanoparticles have the dreaded ability to breach the blood-brain barrier. Various studies have also made it clear that plastic is also a major factor in increasing serious conditions like cancer and brain haemorrhage. The biggest obstacle to the concept of a plastic-free environment on this Earth Day is the lack of a meaningful alternative. Even if some alternatives

The biggest obstacle to the concept of a plastic-free environment on this Earth Day is the lack of a meaningful alternative. Even if some alternatives have been suggested, they are far away from plastic based on ease of handling and convenience

have been suggested, they are far away from plastic based on ease of handling and convenience. Intensive research is being done in this regard, which will emerge with time and will also be used for good. To get rid of this serious problem at the immediate level, the most important thing is to strengthen the system of plastic handling, recycling and re-use. After the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan in India, there has been a significant reduction in plastic use and projects for plastic collection, separation and reuse have also been established through many start-ups. However, all these efforts are not effective in stopping micro and nanoplastics. Ultimately, it is impossible to get rid of this huge problem without bringing changes at the individual level. Strict steps will have to be taken at the policy level to reduce plastic production. Until suitable alternatives to plastic are developed, a policy to encourage recycling and up-cycling will have to be implemented. Plastic left in the open has the potential to attack nature from all sides. Every person has to behave responsibly to avoid disaster, minimum or prohibited use of plastic is for our good only.

The writer is a specialist on Urban Health and Environment



Police 100 **Fire 101** **Ambulance 102/108** **Child Helpline 1098** **Help in Suffering 2760012**

Do you want to add your establishment here? Email your details to cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

WHAT'S JAIPUR WATCHING TODAY?

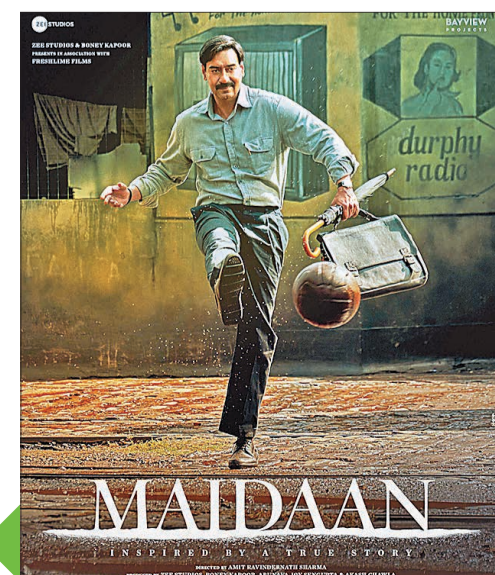
<https://in.bookmyshow.com/>



Movie: Bade Miyan Chote Miyan
Director: Ali Abbas Zafar
Cast & crew: Akshya Kumar, Tiger Shroff & Sonakshi Sinha



Scan or click here to book your movie tickets



Movie: Maidaan
Director: Amit Ravindernath Sharma
Cast & crew: Ajay Devgn, Priyamani, Gajraj Rao, Rudranil Ghosh



Scan or click here to download App of First India newspaper



AU Banking

Innovation Unleashed



The unveiling of 'AU Remit' and 'AU DigiTrade' heralded a new era of customer-centric financial solutions, designed to meet the diverse needs of retail and MSME customers. With 'AU Remit', the bank introduces a revolutionary platform enabling Non-Resident Indian (NRI) customers to effortlessly transfer funds digitally from their AU NRE Savings Account to their overseas accounts in foreign currency. This seamless digital experience not only streamlines the transfer process but also enhances the overall customer experience, marking a paradigm shift in international fund transfers

the pipeline, AU Small Finance Bank aims to redefine international fund transfers for retail customers, setting a new standard of excellence in the banking landscape. In his address, Sanjay Agarwal reiterated the bank's unwavering commitment to innovation and customer-centricity, emphasizing the significance of the latest offerings in enhancing customer experience and fostering financial inclusion. With AU Remit, AU DigiTrade, and a range of trade finance and forex services, AU Small Finance Bank embarks on a

journey of transformation, poised to cater to the evolving needs of its diverse customer base and drive sustainable growth in the banking sector. As the curtains drew to a close on the grand launch event, attendees were left inspired by AU Small Finance Bank's unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation. With its bold initiatives and visionary leadership, the bank continues to redefine the banking landscape, setting new benchmarks of success and transforming the lives of millions across the nation.

City First
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

In a momentous stride towards enhancing its customer-centric financial solutions, AU Small Finance Bank, India's largest SFB, celebrated its 29th Foundation Year and 7th banking anniversary with a grand unveiling of two groundbreaking initiatives: 'AU Remit' and 'AU DigiTrade'. The prestigious event took place on April 19, 2024, in the bustling metropolis of Mumbai, symbolizing a significant milestone in the bank's journey of innovation and growth.

Graced by the esteemed presence of Sanjay Agarwal, the Founder, MD & CEO of AU Small Finance Bank, the launch event was a star-studded affair attended by distinguished guests, industry leaders, and esteemed stakeholders. Against the backdrop of the bank's remarkable success story, Agarwal expressed heartfelt gratitude towards the bank's 1.1 Crore customers, 46,000 plus employees, 2 lac domestic and

international shareholders, regulatory bodies, and the Government for their unwavering support throughout the bank's transformative journey.

The unveiling of 'AU Remit' and 'AU DigiTrade' heralded a new era of customer-centric financial solutions, designed to meet the diverse needs of retail and MSME customers. With 'AU Remit', the bank introduces a revolutionary platform enabling Non-Resident Indian (NRI) customers to effortlessly transfer funds digitally from their AU NRE Savings Account to their overseas accounts in foreign currency. This seamless digital experience not only streamlines the transfer process but also enhances the overall customer experience, marking a paradigm shift in international fund transfers.

Furthermore, 'AU DigiTrade', the digital trade portal, promises to revolutionize trade transactions for MSME customers, empowering them to initiate, track, and manage trade transactions from anywhere, anytime. Offering a wide spectrum of trade finance and forex services, the platform provides comprehensive support for export-

ers and importers, facilitating cross-border trade with ease and efficiency.

The launch event also shed light on AU Small Finance Bank's recent milestone achievement of obtaining the Authorized Dealer Category 1 (AD 1) license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in April 2023. Leveraging this authorization, the bank has unlocked a plethora of opportunities in the realm of foreign exchange transactions, paving the way for innovative financial solutions.

Notably, AU Remit offers a plethora of benefits for customers, including multiple currency options, high transaction limits, a user-friendly interface, and accessibility through online portals and branch networks. With plans for expansion to New-To-Bank (NTB) customers in



FROM STAGE TO SOIL!



(L-R) Amaira, Paridhi, Aanya, Saanvi, Apoorva, Swara and Shreyasi



Students of Dr Seemaa Goel, Director of Nriya Sanskriti Institute, showcased a stunning celebration in honour of World Earth Day. Their mesmerizing classical traditional dance performances captivated audiences, highlighting the importance of environmental conservation. With graceful movements and intricate choreography, they conveyed the message of preserving our planet for future generations. Through their art, they emphasized the need for sustainable living practices and raising awareness about environmental issues. Dr Goel's students exhibited not only their talent but also their dedication to promoting a greener, healthier Earth. Their performance served as a poignant reminder of our collective responsibility to protect our precious planet.

GREETINGS!



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra was greeted by Yogesh Mishra and Nimisha Mishra, Founders & Directors, Miss Rajasthan, as they reached the former's residence to seek blessings on the occasion of their marriage anniversary, which was on Sunday. During the meet and greet, their son, Suryansh Mishra was also present.



In a regal ceremony fit for the annals of cricket history, Rajasthan Royals bestowed the honour upon the unsung heroes of the game, the Scorers, at SMS Stadium, Jaipur on Monday. Under the esteemed presence of Rajeev Khanna, the distinguished Vice President of RR, and the illustrious CEO, Jake Lush McCrum, along with the esteemed Romi Bhindar, manager of RR, the occasion radiated with grandeur. Notable luminaries including Jayesh Vangani, CEO of SPARKS, and the esteemed individuals Abhijeet Singh, Alok Chitre, Aditi Sisodiya, and Bhupendra Singh Bhati of Rajasthan Royals graced the ceremony with their presence, adding a touch of splendour to the event.



Dr Jayshree Periwal being felicitated by Pankaj Sharma & Dr Deepak Vohra
Dr Jayshree Periwal, Chairperson of Jayshree Periwal International School (JPIS), Jaipur, was bestowed with the esteemed GSLC-Edulegend Award at Hotel Leela Ambience, Gurgaon on Monday. The Global School Leaders' Consortium recognized her exceptional dedication to education. Ambassador Dr Deepak Vohra and Pankaj Sharma lauded her achievements. Dr Periwal emphasized the pivotal role of education in national development, expressing gratitude for the honour. With a vision to impart holistic knowledge, she aims to empower students for success in various fields. Her leadership has elevated the education landscape, impacting numerous schools in Jaipur. Dr Periwal remains committed to guiding students towards realizing their aspirations.

MISS RAJASTHAN 2024

Auditions Begin!

City First
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

The 26th edition of Rajasthan's esteemed beauty pageant commenced with fervour as aspiring contestants from 20 cities and villages across the state gathered in Jaipur for the initial auditions on Monday, supported by Fusion Group and Prime Safari. The event saw organisers Yogesh and Nimesha Mishra orchestrating the proceedings. They announced that the final audition is scheduled for April 26 at Hotel Prime Safari.

Eligible candidates, aged 17 to 28 and with a minimum height of 5.3 feet, eagerly participated. The top 70 contestants will undergo rigorous interview rounds at the esteemed Nivara Academy of Design. With anticipation running high, this year's Miss Rajasthan promises to showcase the beauty, talent, and grace of Rajasthan's finest women. As participants vie for the coveted title, the pageant serves as a platform for young women to showcase their charisma and potential, embodying the essence of Rajasthan's rich cultural heritage. Stay tuned for updates as the journey to crown Miss Rajasthan 2024 unfolds, promising glamour, excitement, and a celebration of Rajasthan's beauty. For further details, individuals can contact 9314612168.



Aanchal Bohra, Tarushee Rai, Priyan Sain, Paridhi Sharma & Riya Jakhar

HANUMAN JANMOTSAVI!



Hanuman Janmotsav events commenced at Ambabari, on Sunday, featuring visits to Gangotri, Yamnotri, Badrinath and Kedarnath. The 46th anniversary celebration at Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple included bhajan evenings. Devotees appreciated tableaux, such as the Char Dham Yatra and scenes of Shri Ram and Mata Shabari. Temple committee members finalised arrangements, including lights and 1000 lotus flowers. On Tuesday, Panchabhishek of Balaji will start at 7 am, followed by Aarti and a day open for devotees.

WORKSHOP!



The IT department of SKIT, alongside IEEE Computer Society and LNB (Learn and Build), hosted a successful five-day workshop on Blockchain and Smart Contracts on Monday. Led by Anil Choudhary and faculty members, the event saw active participation from over 70 students. Bhanu Pratap Singh Chouhan conducted the training, offering practical insights into blockchain, cryptography, and smart contracts. Faculty coordinators Ritu Shukla and Vipin Jain, alongside an organising team including Praveen Yadav, Astha Joshi, Manoj Raman, and Shalini Singhal, ensured the smooth execution of the workshop.

SPOTTED!

MUKESH KIRADOO



Anant Ambani and Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, were spotted at Jaipur International Airport on Monday. Anant Ambani's presence was in solidarity with his team, the Mumbai Indians, in their IPL clash against the Rajasthan Royals at the Sawai Mansingh Indoor Stadium. Meanwhile, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar was on his way for an event at the Mehandipur Balaji Temple in Dausa district.



WHAT'S HAPPENING!



Nagar Nigam Jaipur Jhotwara Zone initiated the "Pick Plastic" campaign on World Earth Day to tackle plastic pollution on Monday. The campaign features community clean-up initiatives, plastic collection centres, and awareness efforts by officials. DC Health Naveen Bhardwaj, DC Jhotwara Zone Kamlesh Kumar Meena, Ex En NK Aggarwal, along with other officers and the Jhotwara Zone team, actively participated in cleaning and picking up plastic from Teja Circle to the 200 ft bypass in Jaipur. They emphasized citizen participation in environmental protection.



The Seedling Challengers Trophy 2024 has sparked Jaipur's sporting fervour, showcasing talent and sportsmanship at Jaipur National University Indoor Sports Complex on Monday. The sports event features basketball, volleyball, karate, and skating competitions over three days. Dr Sandeep Bakshi's inspiring address set the tone, emphasizing sports' role in character-building. Major General RS Godara, as Chief Guest, inaugurated the event. Dr Preeti Bakshi administered the oath of fair play, promoting integrity. With over 100 schools participating, the atmosphere is electric, promising thrilling action ahead.



The rampant use of domestic gas cylinders over commercial ones in Jaipur has raised concerns, with a survey highlighting risks and tax losses. The 'Customer Efficiency Welfare Foundation' emphasized these issues in a press conference on Monday. Executive Director Shubham Rangari and others explained how domestic gas is illegally refilled into commercial cylinders, evading higher taxes. Despite government initiatives like QR code-based tracking, challenges persist, including distributors engaging in black marketing, posing a threat to safety and national revenue.

Renowned social activist Mohit Yadav, hailing from Rajasthan, champions the cause of preserving cultural heritage through ancient coins. Recently, garnering national and state accolades for his impactful social contributions, Yadav's passion lies in safeguarding history. His extensive collection of over 300 ancient Indian coins stands as a tribute to our rich past. Beyond mere collection, Yadav envisions these coins as gateways to our cultural legacy, inviting enthusiasts to join him, Yadav seeks to enrich collective understanding and ensure the endurance of our heritage for generations to come.

