

# Landmark Move: One Nation, One Election

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has initiated a historic change by introducing the "One Nation, One Election" concept, following its first 100 days in office. In a recent Cabinet meeting chaired by Modi in New Delhi, recommendations from a high-level committee led by former President Ram Nath Kovind were accepted. The committee proposed simultaneous elections for the Lok



Sabha and state assemblies in the first phase, with local body elections to follow within 100 days.

This significant step aims to streamline the electoral process across India, covering 543 Lok Sabha and 4,130 state assembly seats. The initiative has received mixed reactions, with 32 out of 62 political parties, including the BJP and its allies, supporting it, while 15 parties, including Congress, opposed the move.

Critics argue that this shift mirrors the American electoral system and may have political motives. In defense, Modi stated that the proposal responds to public demand for stable governance, as frequent elections disrupt development and law enforcement.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw emphasized that India previously held simultaneous elections until 1967, and noted the need to revive this practice to enhance gov-

ernance efficiency.

The government plans to introduce the One Nation, One Election Bill during the winter session of Parliament. If passed with a two-thirds majority, the system could be implemented by 2025, potentially reshaping India's electoral landscape and providing governments with the time needed to implement their policies effectively.

-Gopendra Nath Bhatt

## 23 Talents Honored at Mewar Gaurav Samman Ceremony

Udaipur: The third season of the Mewar Gaurav Samman ceremony was held at the Fateh Prakash Hotel's Durbar Hall in City Palace.

The chief guest was Punjab Governor Gulabchand Kataria, alongside distinguished guests including Chittorgarh MP C.P. Joshi, Udaipur MP Dr. Mannal Rawat, former member of the Mewar royal family Dr. Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar, city MLA Tarachand Jain, rural MLA Phoolsingh Meena, IG of Police Ajaypal Lamba, Vice

Chancellor of Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth Prof. S.S. Sarangdevot, District Collector Arvind Poswal, SP Yogesh Goyal, and Congress state general secretary Pankaj Sharma. The event was presided over by Pawan Arora, CEO and Managing Editor of First India News.

During the ceremony, 23 individuals excelling in various fields were honored. Gulabchand Kataria stated that Mewar is indeed a land of sacrifice and valor, noting that

anyone who visits longs to pay homage to this region.

He emphasized that Mewar's sacrifices, bravery, and valor are respected worldwide, leading people to identify with the phrase, "You are from Mewar."

Dr. Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar remarked that the Mewar Gaurav Samman is a true honor for Mewar. He highlighted that Mewar has historically contributed the concept of freedom, pointing out that the Durbar Hall, where the

event took place, has seen significant historical moments, including the first nuclear press conference held by former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and the G20 Summit. He congratulated First India for organizing the event and expressed the importance of maintaining connections that celebrate Mewar's pride.

The program commenced with a Ganesh Vandana, followed by a welcome address from Udaipur Resident Editor Ravi Sharma.



Pawan Arora noted that the Gaurav Samman, organized by First India, is a unique initiative aimed at inspiring others. During the event, the channel also extended birthday wishes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi from the stage.

## Collective Efforts for India's Development

Udaipur: During the district-level event for the Prime Minister's Housing Scheme and the Chief Minister Employment Festival at Sukhadia Rangmanch, Minister of Revenue and Rehabilitation, Shri Hemant Meena, stressed that realizing the vision of a developed India by 2047 requires the collective efforts of all citizens. He highlighted the government's commitment to comprehensive development, focusing on uplifting marginalized communities and promoting India as a production hub through the Self-Reliant India campaign.

As the chief guest, Minister Meena addressed attendees during the virtual launch of various development projects by Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma. He pointed out that the state government is attentive to societal needs, enhancing social security through increased pension schemes and supporting investments to boost employment opportunities under the "Rising Rajasthan" initiative.



Symbolic presentations of certificates and sweets were also made.

During the event, Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually transferred housing approval and funds to 10 lakh beneficiaries nationwide. In Udaipur and Salumber districts, ₹19.47 crore was allocated to 12,980 beneficiaries under the PM Awas Yojana, with each receiving ₹15,000.

The Chief Minister Employment Festival recognized approximately 400 newly appointed personnel in various departments, who were welcomed with traditional rituals. The Chief Minister also inaugurated multiple development projects across the state, including a 220 kV substation in Menar and community health centers. Additionally, the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign was launched to promote cleanliness in rural areas, reflecting the government's commitment to hygiene and environmental awareness.

## A Vision for Water Prosperity

New Delhi: Dr. Anil Mehta, Principal of Vidya Bhavan Polytechnic and renowned water conservationist, emphasized the need for a holistic approach to water management at the 8th India Water Week, organized by the Ministry of Jal Shakti. He stressed integrating social, cultural, spiritual, and ecological aspects into global water dialogues to create a water-prosperous world.



Management," highlighted India's rich legacy of combining spirituality with scientific principles in water management.

Dr. Mehta lamented the loss of the deep community connections to water sources, advocating for a revival of reverence towards water. He introduced the HARIT approach, promoting sustainable practices rooted in indigenous traditions. The session featured key speakers, including Swami Chidanand Saraswati and Dr. Yogita Dashora, who discussed traditional conservation techniques and the importance of scientific insights in water management. The event, inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu, saw participation from international delegates and industry leaders, all united in the mission of "Sarvodaya - Water for All."

## Closing Ceremony of Yudh Abhyas-24

Jaipur: The closing ceremony of the joint military exercise Yudh Abhyas-24 between the Indian Army and the US Army took place at the Mahajan Field Firing Range, marking the successful conclusion of this significant exercise. Focused on counter-terrorism operations

in semi-urban and semi-desert terrain, Yudh Abhyas-24 involved over 1,200 personnel, showcasing tactical drills, physical fitness, and the exchange of best practices.

Representatives included an Infantry Brigade Headquarters from India and the 1-24 Infantry Battalion from the US, with a series of joint operations validating their training. The exercise featured operations such as Cordon and Search, House Clearing Drills, and Airborne operations, demonstrating precision through Live Firing Exercises using advanced artillery systems. Major General NS Jakhra and Major General Joe Hilbert addressed the troops, while a Weapon and Equipment Display highlighted India's indigenous manufactured systems, underscoring the significance of this exercise in strengthening the Indo-US defense partnership.

## BCI Launches Chapter in Jaipur

Jaipur: Business Circle India (BCI) officially launched its new chapter in Jaipur today, bringing together 20 leading businesspeople and professionals to explore opportunities for collaboration, innovation, and growth. Mukesh Madhvani, the founder of BCI, emphasized that this chapter will serve as a platform for traders to enhance business progress through mutual cooperation. Himmat Singh Nathawat, CEO of Just Health and Wellness, was appointed president of the Jaipur chapter.



During the event, Nathawat remarked, "BCI is not just a platform; it is a community of traders dedicated to supporting each other's businesses." Chief guest Balvinder Singh Walia, Finance Director of Narayana Hospital, highlighted challenges and opportunities in the healthcare sector, praising BCI for facilitating

effective networking. Madhvani noted that after the successful launch in Udaipur, the Jaipur chapter marks the beginning of BCI's expansion across India, aimed at fostering collaboration and elevating business enterprises to new heights.

## Rajasthan Government's Investment Initiatives

Kota/Bhilwara: Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari emphasized the Rajasthan government's commitment to attracting significant investments during her address at the Rajasthan State Conference 2024 of Laghu Udyog Bharati in Bhilwara. She assured attendees that both the Chief Minister and the Industries Minister are actively supporting industries to maximize employment opportunities in the state.

Industries Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore announced a collaboration with Laghu Udyog Bharati for Stone Mart 2026 and revealed plans to introduce 21 new policies while amending 60 existing ones to benefit industries. Sanjay Sharma, Minister of Forests and Environment, pledged strict action against industrial pollution affecting farmlands. Key concerns raised by Laghu Udyog Bharati State President Shanti Lal Balar included issues related to solar policies, banking charge limits, and the need for comprehensive industrial support. Conference Coordinator Ravindra Jaju highlighted Bhilwara's rich mineral resources and proposed lower electricity rates and the establishment of a textile park. The event saw participation from representatives of 160 industrial areas across the state, focusing on industry challenges and solutions, while also discussing plans for expanding the organization.

## Demand Presented to Minister for Bhinder-Kanod Municipalities

Udaipur: Former MLA Randhir Singh Bhinder met with Minister Jhabbar Singh Kharra to discuss budget allocation for the Bhinder

and Kanod municipalities in the Vallabh Nagar Assembly constituency. During the meeting, Singh informed the Minister that the Department of Autonomous Governance has allocated the first installment of grants based on the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission to 184 municipal corporations and municipalities. However, neither the Bhinder nor Kanod municipalities received any funds. He emphasized that both municipalities are facing serious financial challenges and requested immediate orders to allocate the 15th Finance Commission grant to them.

## Breathing Techniques for Mental Health

Dr. Meena Jain Babel, Director at Naval Yoga Seva Sansthan, highlighted the mental and physical benefits of deep and slow breathing, or 'diaphragmatic breathing,' in alleviating anxiety and depression. Speaking at a recent event, she recommended practicing this technique for 15 minutes daily, using methods like Sukhasana or Gyan Mudra. Deep breathing slows the rate to three to four breaths per minute, enhancing levels of "happy hormones" such as dopamine and serotonin. Research shows this practice increases alpha and theta brain waves, promoting relaxation and mental balance, making it beneficial for all individuals.

## Solar Cookers: Empowering Working Women

Udaipur: At Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Dr. Manju Jain, Vice President of Bharat Vikas Parishad Subhash, shared insights on solar cookers with Engineering and Technology and Architecture students. She highlighted the convenience they offer to working women, allowing them to prepare meals effortlessly while they are at work. Dr. Jain demonstrated that dishes like 'dal-bati', rice, and cookies can be cooked using solar energy. Branch Secretary R.L. Jain emphasized the environmental benefits of solar cookers.

## Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Seminars

Udaipur: The annual oath-taking ceremony for Rotary Club Panna for the year 2024-25 was held at a private hotel, with Rotary District Governor Mrs. Rakhi Gupta as the chief guest.

Club Patron Bhanupratap Singh Dhabhai shared that this year, under the leadership of Club President Kunal Bhatnagar, the club has decided to focus on several initiatives, particularly for women and girls. Additionally, the Rotary Club's permanent project, "Hair Donation for Cancer Patients," will receive further attention and expansion. Throughout the year, various schools and colleges will host seminars on mental health and suicide prevention as part of the club's initiatives.



The event was graced by former District Governor Nimal Singhvi, outgoing District Governor Dr. Nirmal Kunawat, Seema Singh Bhati, Deepak Sukhadia, Pankaj Gupta, Asha Kunawat, and several other dignitaries.

Former Club President Hemant Dhabhai mentioned that just like last year, Rotary Club Panna will continue to lead in its service activities this year. During the oath-taking ceremony, former Secretary Hitendra Mehta, former Presidents Ashok Palival, Rakesh Sen, Rajesh Sharma, Mahesh Sen, Surbhi Khatri, Vipin Jain, Neeraj Bolia, Kamal Gaur, Jyoti Bolia, Anjali Dhabhai, and Asha Mehta took their oaths of office. Five new members also joined Rotary Panna during the event.

Presidents and secretaries of other Rotary Clubs were present, and the event was hosted by Club Treasurer Tarika Bhanupratap.

## "Abhishapt" Play Honors Riyaz Tehseen

Udaipur: On September 22, the Indian Folk Art Mandal staged the emotional play "Abhishapt" to commemorate the birth anniversary of the late Riyaz Ahmad Tehseen. Dr. Laiq Hussain, director of the Mandal, noted that this annual event, in collaboration with the Performers Cultural Society, honors



Tehseen's legacy as a social activist and educator.

Written by veteran playwright Sartaj Mathur and directed by Kaviraj Laiq, this year's presentation focused on accessibility for the audience.

The event began with a tribute to Tehseen, featuring the garlanding of his photograph and the lighting of a lamp. The play centers on Karn, a legendary character from the Mahabharata, depicted as a noble warrior facing numerous struggles. Despite his divine origins, Karn's life is marked by rejection and sacrifice, culminating in his selfless donation of armor to the deity Indra.

The narrative emphasizes the emotional depth of Karn's wife, Vrishali, and highlights themes of nobility and righteousness. The cast included Sudanshu Aadha as Karn and various other talented actors, supported by a dedicated production team that ensured a memorable experience for all attendees.

## Yoga Guru Guneet Monga Awarded Lifetime Membership of Indian Yoga Association

Udaipur: Yoga Guru Guneet Monga, who has been teaching yoga in the city for several years, has been awarded lifetime membership of the Indian Yoga Association for her exceptional and noteworthy contributions to the field of yoga in Udaipur.

Joint Secretary of the Indian Yoga Association, Himanshu Paliwal, stated that the lifetime membership was granted on the recommendation of the association's President Dr. Hansa Yogendra and General Secretary Subodh Tiwari. This prestigious membership will enable Monga to participate as a subject expert in various government-organized yoga programs, such as Yoga Festivals, training initiatives, and promotional activities conducted under the aegis of the central and state governments.

Notably, under the leadership of Guneet Monga, numerous yoga camps, workshops, online and offline seminars, and training programs have been organized across the city in recent years, benefiting thousands of people through the efforts of skilled yoga instructors.



## Lt Gen Singh Meets Chief Minister

Jaipur: Lt Gen Manjinder Singh, Army Commander of the South Western Command, met with Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma, at the Chief Minister's Office on September 20, 2024. The discussion focused on various important topics, including veterans' welfare, internal security, and the integration of Agniveers into state government roles. The Chief Minister assured the Army Commander of support regarding military personnel issues. In turn, Lt Gen Singh promised the Army's assistance to civil administration, expressing gratitude for the army's unwavering support during emergencies and natural disasters in the state.

## Zeal Martial Arts Academy Triumphs

Udaipur: The Zeal Martial Arts Academy showcased exceptional talent at the 68th District-Level School Karate Competition held at Prajapati Samaj Bhavan, Bedla, organized by Prerna Public School. With 75 participants, the academy secured an impressive total of 51 medals, including 20 gold, 14 silver, and 17 bronze, in the Under-17 and Under-19 categories. Additionally, they achieved success in Wushu, winning 2 silver and 1 bronze, and claimed 1 silver in Taekwondo. All gold medalists will represent Udaipur at the state-level karate competition in Jaipur, which runs until September 23.