

PAGE 2 : Director Sammir I Patel's short film 'p f a: Love Mom and Dad' for film festivals

PAGE 3 : BJP Names Minister Jaswant Singh is for Alwar by poll

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What ails Higher Education in the state, His Excellency?

The apex office in the sphere of higher education in the state is that of the Governor of Rajasthan. As the Chancellor of all the state Universities he is the custodian of all these institutions and also if not legally, morally at least, a custodian of all other institutions of higher education in the state. There are fifteen state universities and eight deemed to be universities in the state. There are 219 government colleges in the state. As opposed to these there are nearly fifty private universities in the state. The list on UGC website dated 2015 gives the names of 38 private universities and the number of private colleges is 1639. Rajasthan may boast of having the highest number of universities in the country, but when it comes to enrolment of students for higher studies, the state continues to be a laggard.

The desert state has 64 universities, which is 8.4% of the total varsities in the country, according to a recent report titled 'Annual Status of Higher Education of States and UTs in India' prepared jointly by the Deloitte and the Confederation of Indian Industry. In terms of total number of universities, Rajasthan is followed by Uttar Pradesh (63), Tamil Nadu (58), Karnataka (51) and Gujarat (49). But in terms of enrolment, with 2.35 lakh students in the universities, Rajasthan lags behind Tamil Nadu (8.63 lakh), Maharashtra (7.15 lakh), Delhi (6.87 lakh) and a few other states.

When it comes to number of colleges, Rajasthan stands fifth with 2,190 colleges out of 34,452 in the country. Only Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have more colleges than Rajasthan. In terms of enrolment in these colleges, Rajasthan with 17.2 lakh students out of country's 342 lakh, comes behind UP (60.6 lakh), Maharashtra (37.4 lakh), Tamil Nadu (33.5 lakh), and a few other states.

The state's gross enrolment ratio in institutes of higher education is 20%, which means of the five students of college going age, only one is attending college. The state has nearly fifty private universities, 19 state public universities, 8 deemed private universities, 3 institutes of national importance, 1 state open university, and only one central university. Rajasthan has an average enrolment rate of 3,677 students in the universities, while in the colleges it is 562, and in stand-alone institutions it is 333. The corresponding figures for total enrolment are 2.35 lakh, 17.2 lakh, and 0.8 lakh.

"Of the total enrolment among different courses in regular mode, 9.17 lakh are boys while 6.99 lakh are girls. Overall, the gross enrolment ratio (GER) in the state is 20, whereas it is 21.9 and 17.9 for males and females respectively. Among SCs the GER is 14.7 while among STs it is 15.8." The female enrolment is higher in both the categories.

Despite the figures stated above what ails the sphere of

higher education in Rajasthan today is the norm less conduct of the managements of the Universities and colleges. The Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan University J.P. Singhal had to resign after the order of the High Court of Rajasthan since he did not have the requisite qualifications and experience necessary for the post of Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor of J.N. Vyas University, Jodhpur Prof. Rajpurohit had to be removed due to large scale irregularities in appointments. Similar charges are against the Vice Chancellor of Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology and Chancellor of Kota University, Kota. These Vice Chancellors have political background and have been associated with RSS, BJP and Congress in one case. They have been in the cadre of RSS for long and that has been their qualification.

The case of Deemed Universities is worse. Present Vice Chancellor of Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth got himself appointed as a Vice Chancellor in 2012 as officiating Vice Chancellor when he was not the senior most Professor of the University. Later he got himself appointed on regular basis in 2013 even when he had only five years' experience as professor. The Chancellor of the University B.S. Garg later wrote a letter to the HRD Minister Smriti Irani that he had made a wrong appointment and that Dr. S.S. Sarangdevot did not fulfill the qualifications required. Recently, the Supreme Court of India has cancelled the Engineering degrees issued by Rajasthan Vidyapeeth after 2005 and the ex post facto approval given to technical degrees which results in the cancellation of MCA degree of the Vice Chancellor Dr. Sarangdevot. Despite this he continues to enjoy the chair of the Vice Chancellor.

The worst part of the higher education scenario of Rajasthan is that the nearly fifty percent posts of Lecturers in Government colleges is lying vacant. In Universities too, majority of teaching work is carried out by contract teachers and guest faculty who have been working for years without proper salary. Of the nearly fifty private universities and one thousand seven hundred colleges not even one institution pays proper UGC scales. The number of teachers working on contract or as guest faculty could be somewhere around thirty thousand. Neither the state government nor the UGC exercises any control over the management of these private universities and colleges. This ultimately affects the academic environment of these institutions and the level of the students. Will the state government and His Excellency the Chancellor of the Universities of the state give heed to the suffering of the contract teachers and the irregularities in the appointment of Vice Chancellors, teachers and other employees of the Universities and colleges of Rajasthan?

Udaipur : Chief Minister Smt Vasundhara Raje has said that the state government is committed to overall development of tribal areas of the state. She said that the plan to bring the water of Mahi and Jakhham rivers to keep Jaisand Lake full throughout the year, and the state government has released the amount for its DPR. CM said that this will provide adequate irrigation and drinking water to tribal farmers and people of Southern Rajasthan.

Mrs. Raje was addressing the public meeting on Sunday after inaugurating various development works in Salumpur in Udaipur district and laying the foundation stone. She said that the state government is not keeping any deficiency in the direction of development of the tribal area. To fulfill the demand of the people and the local needs, the government has made every effort and will continue in the future.

The Chief Minister said that it is our goal to make the peo-



ple happy with the development of infrastructure and to make Rajasthan the pioneer in every field. Rajae said that the work done for tribal uplift and regional development in the last four years has been a historic achievement.

500 crore rupees are being spent on the development of temples across the state. Under this, development works are also being done on the main Vensehwar Dham of tribals. Chief Minister, Mrs.



Vasundhara Raje laid the foundation stone of development works worth more than Rs. 362 crores. They laid the foundation stone of the 33 and 11 KV GSS and line improvement works that were built at a cost of 240 crores for the Salumbar-Udaipur mega highway and Rs. 44.43 million.

Mrs. Raje also inaugurated 23 programs worth Rs 118 crore t at this juncture. Devendra Anikat and Water Refraction Tunnel project, built

Open To Suggestions To Cleanse Political Funding: Arun Jaitley

NEW DELHI: The electoral bonds mechanism is a substantial improvement in transparency over the present system and the government is open to suggestions to further cleanse political funding, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said today.

In a Facebook post, Mr Jaitley said the conventional practice of funding the political system was to take donations as well as undertake expenditures in cash. The sources are anonymous or pseudonymous. The quantum of money was never disclosed and the system ensures unclean money coming from unidentifiable sources.

"It is a wholly non-transparent system. Most political groups seem fairly satisfied with the present arrangement and would not mind this status-quo to continue.

"The effort, therefore, is to run down any alternative system which is devised to cleanse up the political funding mechanism," Mr Jaitley said.

The finance minister had last week announced the contours of the electoral bonds, which will be sold by country's latest lender SBI and will have a tenure of just 15 days.

The bonds are being pitched as an alternative to



cash donations made to political parties.

Mr Jaitley said the choice has now to be "consciously" made between the existing system of substantial cash donations involving unclean money and other transparent options like cheque, online transactions or electoral bonds.

"While all three methods involve clean money, the first two are totally transparent and the electoral bonds scheme is a substantial improvement in transparency over the present system of no-transparency," he said.

"The government is willing to consider all suggestions to further strengthen the cleansing of political funding in India. It has to be borne in mind that impractical suggestions will not improve the cash denominated system. They would only consolidate it," Mr Jaitley wrote.

He said India, despite being the largest democracy in the world, has not been able to evolve a transparent political

funding system in the last seven decades.

"The round the year functioning of the political parties involves a large expenditure...

These expenditures run into hundreds of crores. Yet there has not been a transparent funding mechanism of the political system," he said.

Lalu gets 3.5-yr jail in fodder scam case

Ranchi The special CBI court in Ranchi, which last month had convicted RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav in a second case related to the Rs 950-crore fodder scam, on Saturday sentenced him to three-and-a-half years in jail and fined him Rs 10 lakh. The court of Shivpal Singh pronounced the punishment for Lalu Prasad and 15 others via video-conferencing. All convicts are lodged in Birsamunda Central Jail, Ranchi. Lalu's counsel said: "We will move the High Court for bail. We had pleaded for minimum punishment in view of my client's 'ill-health' as he has already turned 69."

In the same case, the special CBI court had on

December 23, 2017, acquitted six persons, including former Bihar CM Jagannath Mishra. They had been accused of fraudulently withdrawing Rs 89.27 lakh from Jharkhand's Deoghar treasury between 1994 and 1996.

The Rs 950-crore fodder scam came to light in 1996 when Lalu Prasad was CM of undivided Bihar (Jharkhand was carved out of Bihar in 2000). In Jharkhand's five cases, Lalu Prasad has been convicted in two. He faces trial in three more - for fraudulently withdrawing Rs 3.97 crore from the Dumka treasury, Rs 36 crore from the Chaibasa treasury and Rs 184 crore from the Doranda treasury.

at a cost of Rs.44.84 crore among these works, inaugurated. apart from this mega project constructed 19 km of road rehabilitation on the Chirki-Salumbar road at a cost of Rs 20 crores, Kharka-Loda bridge on the Gomti river at a cost of Rs.130 million, Baroda and Badawali Primary Health Center building costing Rs.130 million. , Inaugurated several works including Sarada and Baroda Vivekananda Model School, costing Rs.6.77 crores.

Mrs. Raje said that concrete efforts have been made in the last four years to give agricultural connections to the farmers. In the four years alone 9 thousand agricultural connections have been released in the Salumbar region alone. The target of deepening of 18 thousand wells in the area has been fixed until June. Similarly, people of general category will also get domestic electricity connections on demand from 1st April.

The Chief Minister said that in the coming days two police battalions will be established

in the area. Pratapgarh has got approval to start Maharana Pratap Battalion. Similarly, another battalion of Mewar Bhil Corps will be set up in Banswara, for which land has been identified.

The Chief Minister launched Annapurna Kitchen Van during this time and served food to women with their hands. He also benefited 28 beneficiaries of the various public welfare schemes of the government.

On this occasion, Home Minister Mr. Gulabchand Kataria, District In-Charge Minister Mr. Dhan Singh Rawat, Minister of PHED Mr. Sushil Kataria, MP Mr. Arjun Lal Meena, MLA Mr. Amrit Lal Meena, Gautamlal Meena, Nanalal Ahari, Dillichand Dangi, Randhir Singh Bhindar, Phul Singh Meena, Pratap Bhil, President of Rajasthan Scheduled Tribes Commission, Mrs. Prakra ti Kharadi, Zila Pramukh , Mr. Shantilal Meghwal, People Represent-tatives And officials were present.

garbage bins to vendors

garbage bins have been distributed to roadside vendors. On Thursday Municipal Corporation distributed wet and dry waste bins to roadside vendors at Udiapole crossing.

Members of Municipal Corporation health committee provided garbage bins to street vendors and appealed them to contribute in keeping the city clean. Both wet and dry garbage bins were handed over to these street vendors. They were directed to follow instructions of administration failing which strict action would be taken against them.

अब अच्छे इलाज के लिये अहमदाबाद नहीं जाना पड़ेगा

हर्निया एवं पाईल्स क्लिनिक

समय- दोपहर 4.00 बजे से सांय 6.00 बजे तक
स्थान- फोर्टिस जे के हॉस्पिटल रूम नं. - 14 (ओ.पी.डी.)

प्रत्येक मंगलवार

हर्निया

सभी प्रकार के हर्निया का इलाज

प्रत्येक बुधवार

पाईल्स

- फिस्टूला (भंगनर)
- फिशर • बवासीर (मस्से)

डॉ. अभिलेख त्रिपाठी

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