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UDAIPUR | MONDAY, MARCH 04, 2024 | PAGE 1 - 4 | PRICE : 5.00* (Vol. 10, No. 02)

Rajasthan Government's Gift to Mewar

Udaipur: In response to the growing demand for drinking water supply in Udaipur, the state government has approved the third and fourth phases of the Devaas project, aiming to satisfy the city's water needs for decades. The groundbreaking ceremony for this anticipated project is scheduled for March 1, led by Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma and Governor Shri Gulabchand Kataria of Assam. Suresh Singh Rawat, the Minister of Water Resources for the state, stated that the government is committed to ensuring an ample and un-

interrupted supply of drinking water and irrigation water in the state.

The recent MOU with ERCP and the Yamuna River waters has been a significant step in this direction. Considering the increasing demand for drinking water in Udaipur, the state government has approved the third and fourth phases of the Devaas project, with the groundbreaking ceremony scheduled for March 1.

Devaas Project Overview
So Far Minister Suresh Singh Rawat highlighted the history of the Devaas project, which

began with the construction of Devaas-First (Gorana Dam) in the year 1973-74, with a total capacity of 120 MCF. In 2011, responding to Udaipur's increased demand, the Devaas-Second project was initiated, featuring the construction of the Madri Dam with a capacity of 85 MCF. The completion of a 1.21-kilometer tunnel connecting the dam to Akodara main tunnel was also a part of this project, ultimately facilitating an annual water inflow of 550 MCF into the Pichola Lake. The Devaas-Second project was successfully completed in 2015.

Devaas Project: The Future
Considering the estimated population of Udaipur reaching 875,874 by 2031, the annual demand for drinking water is projected to be 2397 MCF. However, the available supply is only 1738 MCF. To address this shortfall and ensure future water supply, the third and fourth phases of the Devaas project have been proposed. The third phase includes the construction of the Devaas-Third Dam near Nathiyathal village, providing a capacity of 703 MCF. Additionally, a 11.04-kilometer tunnel will connect Devaas-Third to Devaas-

Second, enabling water transfer.

The fourth phase involves constructing the Devaas-Fourth Dam near Ambawa village, with a capacity of 390 MCF. A 3-kilometer tunnel will connect Devaas-Fourth to Devaas-Third, ensuring uninterrupted water flow. The total land acquisition for both phases is estimated to be 156.18 hectares, including 133.45 hectares of private land acquisition.

Completion Target and Financials
The estimated cost for the Devaas Phase III and IV pro-

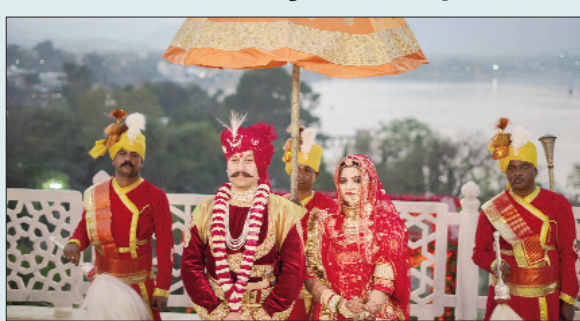


ject is 1690.55 crores, with a target to complete it within 44 months. The goal is to provide an annual inflow of 1000 MCF

into Udaipur's lakes, effectively addressing the city's water requirements. The administrative and financial

approvals for the project have already been issued by the Department of Public Health Engineering.

Royal Wedding Unites Rajkot's Shahi Family in Udaipur



Udaipur: The auspicious wedding ceremony of Maharajkumarsaheb Ranshurvir Singh, grandson of His Highness Thakursahab Shri Pradyumansinghji of Rajkot, was solemnized on February 29, in Udaipur. The grand event brought together members of royal families from Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Gujarat, including dignitaries such as Yuvrajsaheb Pratapsinghji of Kutch, Raja Bahadur Yogendrasinghji of Gangiasar, Yuvrajsaheb Rajratsansinghji of Mandwa, Rawsaheb Vijayendrapalsinghji of Judah, Rawa Harendra Palsinghji of Posina, Rajkumarsaheb Hemkarnsinghji Govindrasinghji of Tori Fathpura, Maharaj Lavdevsinghji Kurabada, Thakur Duragapratapsinghji Jhalamand, Rajrana Saheb Ranipat, Thakor Saheb Wandia, and many others. The grand celebration, hosted at The Ramada and Vivah The Lalit Hotel, was meticulously organized by Udaipur's Rajasthan Royal Wedding Company. The wedding marked a union of princely families, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of India. The attendees witnessed the traditional rituals and cultural festivities, making it a memorable event.

CP Joshi's Efforts to Fill Bagolia Dam Bring Colors to the Region



In a proactive move to tackle water scarcity and irrigation challenges in Mavli, Udaipur, Member of Parliament CP Joshi urged Chief Minister Bhajan Lal to fill Bagolia Dam. Following the CM's directives, District Collector Arvind Poswal assessed the dam's storage, catchment, and irrigation potential. Engaging with locals and officials, Poswal explored three proposals: diverting water from Udaisar Dam, constructing a feeder from Nand Samand Dam, and connecting Mahi and Anas basins via Jakham Dam. Key stakeholders, including former MLA Dalchand Dangi and officials, participated in discussions. Bagolia Dam, constructed in 1956, remains crucial for the region's water needs. The collaborative efforts aim at sustainable solutions.

Dr. Sakka's 110th World Record

Udaipur, on the occasion of Mahashivratri, renowned sculptor Dr. Iqbal Sakka, popularly known as the World Record Man of Udaipur, introduced interfaith harmony by creating the world's smallest golden sculptures - a Shivaling, Snake Deity, Damru, Kamandal, Shiv Chimta, and Trishul. These artistic creations have been officially recognized as the 110th World Record in the World Record Book. Upon this achievement, Dr. Ahmed Sheikh, the Chief Manager of the Indian Office, presented Dr. Sakka with a certificate and a gold medal.

निःशुल्क नेत्र सेवा प्रकल्प
सोमवार से शनिवार तारा संस्थान
के नेत्र चिकित्सालय तारा नेत्रालय में निःशुल्क
PHACO पद्धति द्वारा मोतियाबिन्द ऑपरेशन,
नेत्र परीक्षण एवं लेन्स प्रत्यारोपण तथा चश्मे के नम्बर
236, सेक्टर 6, हिरण मयरी (जे.डी. हॉस्पिटल के पास वाली गली),
उदयपुर - 313002 (राज.) भारत (+91) 9549399993, 9649399993

BJP Announces First List of Candidates for 2024 Lok Sabha Elections

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has released its initial list of candidates for the upcoming 2024 Lok Sabha elections after extensive deliberations. The announcement of 195 candidates on Saturday reflects the BJP's strategic move, gaining an edge over its opposition parties. The inclusion of candidates in key constituencies, particularly in Rajasthan, signals the party's intent to maintain its political dominance.

The first list not only features Prime Minister Narendra Modi but also unveils the names of 34 central ministers, including Lok Sabha Speaker and two former Chief Ministers. In a bold move, the BJP has allotted tickets to 28 women and 47 youth candidates under the age of 50. The list comprises 57 candidates from Other Backward Classes (OBCs), 18 from Scheduled Tribes (ST), and 27 from Scheduled Castes (SC).

Following an extensive meeting of the BJP Central



Election Committee that lasted into the late hours on Thursday, the first list presents a significant political lineup, with tickets allocated to 34 central ministers. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to contest again from Varanasi, while other notable figures include Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla from Kota-Bundi, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh from Lucknow, and Home Minister Amit Shah from Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Uttar Pradesh takes center stage in the first list, with the announcement of candidates for 51 out of the 80 seats. Additionally, constituencies in states such as West Bengal

(20), Madhya Pradesh (24), Rajasthan (15), Kerala (12), Telangana (9), Assam (11), and Gujarat (15) have also seen the revelation of candidate names.

Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Goa, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have one seat each with their candidates announced.

The national capital, New Delhi, witnesses interesting developments as senior leaders such as Dr. Harsh Vardhan and former cricketer Gautam Gambhir secure tickets. The BJP has chosen Bawana's Swaraj from North-East Delhi, replacing current MP Manoj Tiwari, while Chandni Chowk sees Praveesh Khandelwal replacing Harsh Vardhan.

The list also introduces new faces in Rajasthan, with six candidates bringing fresh energy to the political spectrum. Notable inclusions from Rajasthan are Kota-Bundi MP and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, State BJP President CP

Joshi, Jodhpur MP Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, and Union Minister of Law, Parliamentary Affairs, and Culture Arjun Meghwal from Bikaner.

While the BJP has successfully allocated tickets to prominent leaders, it has also emphasized the significance of local leaders in various constituencies. The party aims to strike a balance between experienced politicians and fresh faces to maintain its strong political footing.

The remaining ten Lok Sabha seats in Rajasthan are yet to see candidate announcements. It remains to be seen whether the BJP will continue to rely on its existing leaders in these constituencies or introduce new and surprising faces to the electorate. As the election season progresses, the BJP's approach to candidate selection will undoubtedly play a crucial role in shaping the political landscape in Rajasthan and across the country.

- GOPENDRA BHATT

Samarth Janve Honored with Ustad Bismillah Khan Youth Award

In a distinguished announcement, the General Council of the Sangeet Natak Akademi in New Delhi has conferred the Ustad Bismillah Khan Youth Award for the year 2022 upon Samarth Janve, a young classical vocalist hailing from Udaipur, Rajasthan.

For his exceptional contributions to the field of classical singing, Samarth Janve has been selected as one of the 80 national-level talents recognized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi for the years 2022 and 2023. Raju Das, the Secretary of the Akademi, mentioned that these talents, spanning various art forms including music, drama, dance, puppetry, and other traditional performances, will be felicitated by Dr. Sandhya Purecha, the President of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, at a special ceremony.



Samarth Janve, representing the youthful prowess of classical music in Rajasthan, has been acknowledged for his excellence in the realm of Shastriya Gayan (classical singing). In recognition of his achievements, he will be honored with a cash prize of ₹25,000, a tamrapatra (copper plaque), and an angavastram.

Initiating his training at the tender age of 10 under the guidance of renowned music guru Pandit Chauthmal Makhhan, Samarth Janve later sought mentorship from the legendary maestro Pandit Jasraj, receiving invaluable guidance in the intricate art of classical singing. His persistent dedication to the art form and the teachings of his gurus have led him to swift progress in Shastriya Gayan.

Samarth Janve has been the recipient of various awards, including the Sur Sangam Samman from the Western Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur, the Nada Sadhak Samman from the Music Arts and Culture Society, Agra, and the Youth Award from the Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2013.

In addition to his notable achievements, Samarth Janve has actively contributed to the cultural landscape by participating in and enchanting audiences across various prestigious events and festivals. His enchanting and emotive renditions have garnered him recognition not only in Rajasthan but also across states like Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh.

A graduate of Music Alankar and a successful candidate in the SET examination conducted by the Rajasthan Public Service Commission, Samarth Janve has also served as a guest lecturer at Mohan Lal Sukhadia University's Department of Music for 11 years. Born on May 23, 1984, in Ajmer, Samarth Janve's early exposure to the artistic ambiance of his family, with his father Vilas Janve being a renowned director and silent actor, and his mother Kiran Janve having an affiliation with theater, set the stage for his musical journey.

Samarth Janve attributes his success to his gurus and expresses gratitude for their guidance. His journey reflects a harmonious blend of tradition and innovation, showcasing the rich musical heritage of Rajasthan.

Dr. Divyani Honored with National Prestigious Award

Udaipur's Dr. Divyani Kataria, a former Social Welfare Board member and Save the Girl Child ambassador, was lauded with the National Prestigious Award for Social Empowerment at the National Pride Awards in Jaipur. Recognized alongside 50 other notable figures, Dr. Kataria's commendable efforts in advancing women's empowerment in tribal areas were acknowledged. The ceremony, held at Janaki Devi Sabha Ghar, featured dignitaries like Jaipur MP Ramcharan Bohra. Renowned for her social service and modeling endeavors, Dr. Kataria, a Dungarpur native based in Udaipur, previously received the Dada Saheb Phalke Award, further enhancing her impressive list of accolades.

- Shabnam Bano