

## Political Clash over Abolition of Nine Newly Formed Districts and Three Divisions in Rajasthan

**Jaipur:** The controversy surrounding the abolition of nine newly formed districts and three divisions during the Gehlot government's tenure has further escalated tensions between the BJP and Congress. Both parties have intensified their political attacks, with the BJP defending the move while Congress launches a strong protest campaign.

Acting on the instructions of the Bhajan Lal-led state government, the Revenue Department issued orders to divisional commissioners to transfer files of the abolished districts and divisions back to the original ones. Additionally, IT equipment, furniture, and other resources provided by the state government are to be returned immediately.

Personnel deployed in the abolished districts have been instructed to report back to their respective departments, and rented office spaces are to be vacated and handed over to the concerned departments.

In Jaipur division, orders have been issued to transfer files of Dudu, Jaipur Rural, and Neem Ka Thana districts, along with Sikar division's documents, to their original districts and divisions. Similar orders have been issued by the divisional commissioners of Banswara, Sikar, and Pali.

Former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot criticized the Bhajan Lal government for retaining Deeg as a district while abolishing Dudu, accusing them of political bias. Congress state president



Govind Singh Dotasra, speaking at a meeting in Sikar, warned of a mass agitation against the decision. Dotasra announced a state-wide protest, with Sikar observing a bandh on January 4, followed

by a memorandum submission to the SDM on January 7.

The protest will be led by Dotasra, MP Comrade Amra Ram, Churu MP Rahul Kaswan, and representatives of the Bar Association. The

meeting, organized under the banner of the INDIA alliance, witnessed participation from leaders of Churu, Neem Ka Thana, and Jhunjhunu, along with student and farmer organizations.

Addressing the gathering, Dotasra strongly criticized the BJP, stating, "The BJP has no authority to abolish Sikar division or Neem Ka Thana district. Their governance is dependent on temple visits and random decisions. We will ensure these divisions are reinstated." He further claimed that abolishing the divisions has adversely impacted Sikar's potential to host major institutions like AIIMS and IIT.

On the other hand, BJP leader Rajendra Rathore accused the Gehlot govern-

ment of hastily forming districts and divisions to satisfy political allies without assessing population, financial resources, or geographical feasibility. He defended the Bhajan Lal government's decision, calling it practical and aligned with public sentiment. BJP state in-charge Dr. Radha Mohan Das Agarwal also supported the move, stating that even Deputy CM Dr. Prem Chand Baira, the MLA from Dudu, welcomed the decision, recognizing it as being in the public interest.

The issue is expected to dominate the upcoming legislative assembly session, likely leading to heated debates between the ruling and opposition parties, adding further intensity to Rajasthan's political climate.

## MP Rawat Celebrates His Birthday with Visually Impaired Students

**Udaipur:** MP Dr. Mannalal Rawat began his birthday celebrations by offering sweets to visually impaired students. MP Rawat visited the hostel run by Samidha Drishti - Divyang Mission in the morning. He personally fed laddus to the visually impaired students to mark his special day.

During the event, social activist Chandragupt Singh Chauhan, founder of Samidha Drishti - Divyang Mission, was also present. The visually impaired students expressed immense happiness at the presence of the MP among them and extended their birthday wishes to him.



### Udaipur News Brief

Several significant events took place in Udaipur recently, showcasing the city's cultural and social vibrancy.

1. **Ahilyabai Holkar's 300th Birth Anniversary:** A lecture at Government College, Bargaon, honored the legacy of Ahilyabai Holkar. Principal Professor Anjana Gautam and Chief Speaker Professor Saroj Kumar emphasized her contributions to social justice, women's education, and secularism. Students pledged to follow her ideals.

2. **Doctor Sakka's Makar Sankranti Art:** On Makar Sankranti, renowned goldsmith Dr. Iqbal Sakka presented miniature artworks inside zero-watt bulbs, depicting traditional Indian games. These intricate silver, gold, and paper designs conveyed the message of unity across India.

3. **Apna Ghar Ashram Inauguration:** The new folder of Apna Ghar Ashram was inaugurated, with dignitaries like Pushkar Das Ji Maharaj and local leaders attending. Lifetime memberships were awarded, and the Ashram's dedication to helping the destitute was praised.

4. **Muskan Club's 2025 Celebration:** Muskan Club celebrated the new year with cultural performances, including a special Rajasthani performance by the Langa Brothers. The event featured the release of the club's quarterly magazine.

5. **Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao Campaign on YouTube:** The Jai Eklingnath National Service Organization launched a YouTube channel to support the Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao campaign, focusing on women's empowerment and education for daughters.

6. **Kayaking Support for Udaipur Players:** Udaipur MP Dr. Mannalal Rawat announced the provision of a ₹15 lakh rescue boat and the opening of a Water Sports Academy at Fatehsagar Lake, supporting local kayaking players heading to a national competition in Delhi.

## Mewar Jan Shakti Dal's Commitment to Cleanliness and Social Welfare

**Udaipur:** The Municipal Corporation and Mewar Jan Shakti Dal will jointly organize a felicitation ceremony titled "You and Us: A Step Towards Cleanliness" on January 12, 2025, at 2 PM at Sukhadia Auditorium. This event aims to recognize individuals and organizations contributing to the city's cleanliness, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Swachh Bharat vision.

During a press conference held on Monday, Swachh Bharat Mission Coordinator K.K. Gupta, the chief guest, stressed that cleanliness is not just a civic duty but a moral responsibility. He emphasized the importance of collective efforts in realizing the nation's cleanliness goals and highlighted the media's role in spreading awareness. Gupta also outlined how modern technology and human resources are being deployed to maintain hygiene at the household, street, village, and city levels.

### Mewar Jan Shakti Dal's

Patron Atul Sharma announced that the Mewar Gaurav Pratibha Felicitation Ceremony will be conducted under the Swachh Bharat and Swachh Udaipur Mission. Key dignitaries, including Cabinet Minister Baboolal Khara, District Collector Arvind Poswal, and Municipal Commissioner Ram Prakash, will attend the event. The ceremony will also feature cultural performances, a martial arts demonstration, and individual and group felicitations. The organization is also set to form a cleanliness monitoring team to oversee hygiene efforts across the city, involving the youth in spreading awareness. Mewar Jan Shakti Dal, founded on September 15, 2014, has been dedicated to social welfare for the past decade, focusing on areas like cleanliness, cow welfare, women's safety, child education, and free meal distribution.

The organization remains committed to making Udaipur a cleaner, safer, and more socially conscious city, reinforcing its message of cleanliness and social responsibility.

## Udaipur Catering Dealers Committee Unveils New Year Calendar

**Udaipur:** The Udaipur Catering Dealers Committee launched its colorful New Year 2025 calendar in a grand ceremony at Rasam Resort, Badi Road. The event also served as a New Year meet-and-greet for catering professionals.

The ceremony was graced by Chief Guest Rajya Sabha MP Chunnal Garasia, Calendar Unveiler Narendra Paliwal (State President of VIPRA Foundation), and other distinguished guests, including social worker Pramod Samar, former State Minister Jagdish Raj Shirmali, and key members from various catering associations. MP Garasia praised the role of Udaipur's catering professionals, emphasizing their contribution to both royal weddings and the city's cultural image. He also highlighted the challenges faced by professionals, particularly with late-night food services. Social worker Pramod Samar lauded their dedication, while former Minister Shirmali commended their culinary expertise, which has helped position Udaipur as a hub for destination weddings. Paliwal suggested introducing time limits for catering services, akin to sound restrictions, to protect workers' well-being. Committee President Kamal Gurjar expressed gratitude to supporters, and Secretary Naresh Bandwal acknowledged the challenges in catering services, pledging to initiate discussions for better labor practices.

The event concluded with the launch of the "Respect Food: UCDS Initiative" to reduce food wastage at events. The ceremony was a grand success, attended by numerous catering workers and enthusiasts.

## Badi Sadri Jain Mitra Mandal Holds Successful Annual Meet and Honor Ceremony

**Udaipur:** The Badi Sadri Jain Mitra Mandal hosted its annual meet and honor ceremony at Shri Vardhman Sthanakwasi Jain Shrivak Sangh in Hiran Magri, Sector-4. The event brought together community members from across the Udaipur division, as well as participants from India and abroad, in a celebration of unity and collective progress.

Arvind Jaroli, President of the Mandal, highlighted the importance of the occasion, which was graced by the Chief Guest, Rajasthan's Minister for Cooperation and Civil Aviation, Gautam Dak. Other notable dignitaries included Udaipur MLA Tarachand Jain, UDA Commissioner Rahul Jain, and Dr. Manish Mehta, Vice President of JAINA Academy, USA.

In his address, Gautam Dak acknowledged the role of the Central Government's rail services in enhancing connectivity for Badi Sadri, contributing to the region's growth. He emphasized the importance of such events in maintaining ties between residents and the diaspora.

MLA Tarachand Jain underlined how events like this foster a sense of brotherhood and belonging, especially for those living away from their hometowns. He added that honoring talents during such gatherings motivates others to achieve greater success.

Rahul Jain, UDA Commissioner, emphasized the significance of such events in uniting people, especially as the youth, focused on their careers, may lack engagement in social and religious activities. Dr. Manish Mehta, a distinguished member of the diaspora, reflected on the core values of Jainism, stressing self-realization and the teachings of the Tirthankaras for self-realization.

Secretary Kamlesh Samota presented the annual report, sharing details of the Mandal's initiatives and future plans, including a pilgrimage to Ayodhya Dham. Treasurer Kanak Mehta presented the financial report with two balance sheets for transparency.

In a notable announcement, Board Member Shyam Nagori revealed plans to build a new structure on the Mandal's land in Balicha within two years. The assembly unanimously voted to extend Arvind Jaroli's term as President for another two years.

The event also featured the launch of the Mandal's New Year calendar and included awards for community leaders like Ashok Pittia, Devendra Mehta, and others for their contributions to society.

The ceremony, which commenced with a lamp lighting and a garlanding of Lord Mahavir, was hosted by Sonal Kanthaliya and concluded with a vote of thanks from Vice President Vinod Gadia. The program exemplified the Mandal's dedication to community welfare and strengthening bonds among its members.



## Rajasthan to Launch 'Naveen Prasarak Policy' for Government Scheme Awareness

The Rajasthan government, led by Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, is set to launch the innovative "Naveen Prasarak Policy" to enhance the promotion of government welfare schemes.



This policy aims to achieve Antyodaya—reaching the last person in the social hierarchy—by leveraging social media influencers to raise awareness.

Under this initiative, influencers will be categorized as:

- **Category A: Over 1 lakh followers.**
- **Category B: 7,000 to 1 lakh followers.**

At the district level, one influencer from each category will be selected, while divisional levels will feature two from Category A and one from Category B. These influencers will post daily updates on platforms like Facebook, X, Instagram, and YouTube, and amplify content from official government handles. The Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) will oversee their activities, providing training in content creation, video editing, SEO, and branding.

While Rajasthan's publicity methods have evolved from traditional fairs and puppet shows to social media, conventional approaches remain vital in remote tribal and desert areas with limited internet connectivity. The Naveen Prasarak Policy seeks to blend digital and traditional methods, ensuring government schemes reach every corner of the state.

-Gopendra Nath Bhatt

## Bhagwati Prasad Devpura Memorial Festival Concludes

**Nathdwara/Kota:** The two-day Bhagwati Prasad Devpura Memorial and National Children's Literature Festival wrapped up with insightful discussions on children's literature and the release of 24 literary works. 82 writers, artists, and medical professionals were honored, including renowned Kota-based writers Mahesh Pancholi, Vijay Sharma, and Vishnu Sharma Harihar.

The festival, organized by Sahitya Mandal, featured presentations and tributes to Bhagwati Prasad Devpura, with essays highlighting his literary legacy and contributions. Personal memories were shared by Rameshwar Sharma, Rekha Lodha, and others.

A symposium on children's literature covered various topics, including the importance of literature in moral development, the role of animals in stories, and the need for contemporary children's literature.

Special awards were presented, including the Kama Devi Agnihotri Memorial Award to Suklata Tripathi, the Medical Service Ratna titles to Dr. Y.N. Verma and others, and the Bhagwati Prasad Devpura Memorial Award to Professor Pratul Chandra Thakur. Honorary titles like Bal Sahitya Bhushan were awarded to distinguished writers such as Dr. Ajay Janmejay and Dr. Dayaram Maurya.

The festival showcased a wealth of contributions to children's literature, fostering meaningful discussions and recognizing outstanding literary work.



inmates, whose winners will also be recognized. As Udaipur becomes a melting pot of stories, this festival invites everyone to witness an unforgettable cultural journey, uniting tales from Rajasthan, India, and beyond on a single platform.

The organizing committee thanked philanthropists and volunteers, including Bharat Garg, Kundan Garg, Kamlesh Garg, Pankaj Garg, and others, for their contributions.

## Laughter and Wit Shine at Poetry Festival

**Udaipur:** The Pt. Vishweshwar Sharma Geet Samman 2024 was celebrated with a grand Kavi Sammelan at Sukhadia Rangmanch, organized by the Udaipur District Administration and Rotary Club Mewar. The event featured a blend of humor, satire, romanticism, and valor in poetry, captivating the audience.

The festival opened with Saraswati Vandana by poetess Shikha Deepti Dixit. Sumit Orcha's poems, deeply rooted in Sanatan Sanskriti, enthralled the crowd, while Kailash Mandela's parodies on political themes sparked laughter. Surendra Sarthak's witty satire on rural life brought uncontrollable chuckles.

Sardar Manjeet Singh's romantic humor and Buddhi Prakash Dadhich's soulful verses were met with appreciation. Veteran poet Ramendra Mohan Tripathi mesmerized with his romantic lines, and Udaipur's own Rao Ajatshatru added vibrancy with his humor.

Shikha Deepti Dixit's poignant poetry celebrating feminine strength touched hearts. The poets were honored by Chief Guest Lakshyraj Singh Mewar and District Collector Arvind Poswal. The event was brilliantly anchored by Anil Mehta, leaving the audience with lasting memories of wit and wisdom. The evening celebrated not only poetic excellence but also the unity of culture and community through the art of storytelling.

## Asan Team Wins Volleyball Championship at Garg Annual Sports Tournament

**Banswara:** The Asan Chowkhare volleyball team emerged victorious at the Garg Annual Sports Tournament, defeating Ghatuatar Chowkhare 21-18. Jitendra Garg Metwala, the Asan team captain, received the winning shield, while Bhagirath Garg Kumji, captain of Ghatuatar, was awarded the runner-up shield. Dhanpal Garg (Senavasa) and Kishore Garg (Sundani) were the top scorers, with commentary provided by Balvant Garg (Devda).



Nayan Garg Honored for University Cricket Selection

Nayan Garg from Dungaria was congratulated for his all-round performance and selection to the University Cricket Team.

Acknowledging Event Supporters

## RCA to Adopt Sushila Meena to Shape Her Cricket Future: Manna Lal Rawat

**Udaipur:** After the tweet by cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar, the daughter of Ramera Ka Talab village, Sushila Meena, who has recently come into the spotlight, will be adopted by the Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) for cricket training and future development.

It is worth noting that Udaipur MP Manna Lal Rawat and MLA Kanaiya Lal Meena had recently visited Sushila's village, Ramera Ka Talab, where they met with Sushila and her family. They evaluated her cricket talent and even played cricket with her. They also examined her family's circumstances. MP Manna Lal Rawat stated that after seeing her skills,



he believed that with proper coaching, Sushila could bring fame to both Mewar and Rajasthan on the global stage.

During a recent visit to Jaipur, MP Rawat and MLA Meena discussed Sushila's coaching prospects with Neeraj Ke Pawan, the Chairman of the Rajasthan State Sports Council (RSSC), and requested his support for her future coaching. MP Rawat also shared that Chief

Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma had directed to nurture Sushila's talent. As a result, RCA has decided to adopt her and provide the necessary coaching and facilities.

MP Rawat and MLA Meena expressed their happiness over this decision and thanked Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma and RCA for their support in shaping Sushila's future.

## Udaipur Tales: Paving the Way for Udaipur as India's Storytelling Capital

**Udaipur: (Mohsina Bano)** The Udaipur Tales International Storytelling Festival, organized by Maa My Anchor Foundation, will be held from January 10 to 12 at Park Exotica Resort, Udaipur. This three-day cultural extravaganza aims to position Rajasthan on the global cultural map by celebrating the timeless art of storytelling.

Co-founders Salil Bhandari and Sushmita Singha envision Udaipur as India's storytelling capital, reviving the rich tradition of oral narratives. Renowned storytellers like Devdutt Pattanaik, Makrand Deshpande, Fozia Dastango, Ajay Kumar, and international artists from France and Latin America will weave their tales. Dastango artist Syed Sahil Agha will add a unique touch with Jumlebaazi, a storytelling style inspired by 13th-century poet Amir Khusro.

Adding to the charm, the Qutbi Brothers will perform soulful qawwalis. Students from Vidya Bhawan and other schools competed in storytelling contests, with winners set to be honored at the event. A heartfelt initiative this year included a storytelling competition at Udaipur Central Jail, uncovering untold stories from