

Transforming the lives of 40,000+ home-based artisans

Vodafone India, one of India's leading telecommunications service providers and Jaipur Rugs, India's largest rug manufacturer today announced a strategic partnership to facilitate payments to artisans via M-Pesa mobile wallets. This strategic partnership is aimed at driving financial inclusion further which will improve the lives of many artisans, most of whom are women.

Jaipur Rugs has close to 40,000+ home-based artisans spread across 600 villages. Around 80% of these artisans are women who live in disadvantaged communities of rural India. They do not have access to the basic financial services. In India, there are only 1 lakh plus bank branches. In rural areas, for every 1,000 km there are 33 branches. Penetration is only 5 per cent. Post Office network is tried and tested. It has a rural presence but there's a cost to it and it's not real time. It takes time for the money to reach the recipient.

The strategic partnership between Vodafone M-Pesa and Jaipur Rugs will address this latent need of the artisans and will provide them the following benefits:

Amit Bedi, Business Head, Rajasthan Circle - Vodafone India said "We see a natural synergy between Vodafone M-Pesa and Jaipur Rugs to offer financial services to the unbanked and the underbank community of India. We are delighted to partner with Jaipur Rugs to facilitate payments using M-Pesa's safe, secure, and cashless transaction capability. From process automation to instant and secure transaction, we are confident M-Pesa will bring transformational benefits to Jaipur Rugs and further drive financial inclusion by empowering the rural

community with extensive and transparent financial capabilities."

Nand Kishore Chaudhary, Founder, Jaipur Rugs said, "We are very elated to join forces with Vodafone for this first of its kind initiative for weaving community of rural India. This will not only mitigate the cash transaction risk but also save many of our resources. It will also encourage our weavers to develop a habit of saving. I am very happy to have Vodafone on-board in our journey of transforming lives in the grassroots' community."

Vodafone India provides customers with a new currency in the form of M-Pesa, the world renowned mobile wallet and money transfer service. Vodafone M-Pesa is an innovative, safe and secure mobile wallet enables complete suite of services like money transfer, bill payments, and recharge on the move from the mobile. It caters to all segments of the society, from the unbanked to the underbanked and to the net-savvy and evolved customers. Today, with a pan-India distribution of over 90,000 agents and more than 3 million customers, Vodafone M-Pesa is the largest banking correspondent in the country and is playing a vital role in enabling financial inclusion and m-commerce. Over 50% Vodafone base is rural and Vodafone already has a strong distribution and mobile penetration and the ability to provide banking services on mobile.

In Rajasthan, Vodafone M-Pesa was launched in July 2013. In a very short span, the service has reached out to 195 tehsils in 34 districts through a network of 7000 authorized agents and 255 Vodafone exclusive stores, in Rajasthan, including Jaipur.

Taj Lake Palace ranks 5th in World's Best Resorts

Udaipur prestigious hotel The Taj Lake Palace brought accolades home when it was being listed on number 5 in terms of World's Best Resorts. This is the only hotel in India to have made it to the list.

Price Line Group's Booking.com, an accommodation website on Wednesday unveiled The Booking's Best Awards- an exclusive award that goes to only 260 accommodations out of possible 600,000 and is decided by over 40 million real, relevant cus-

tomers reviews.

Adding to the success, Taj Lake Palace also made its mark at number 8th in the list of Best Asia. The other Indian hotel to have gained this success was 1st Gate Home-Fusion of Jaisalmer which stood at number 6 in the list.

According to the reviews, the customers felt delighted to be treated with first-class hospitality and luxurious rooms. One of the reviewers called Taj Lake Palace as a luxurious romantic getaway.

Raje Invites PM as Chief Guest to Inaugurate the Resurgent Rajasthan Summit

CM Meets Prime Minister Modi

Delhi : Dr. Gopendra Bhatt

Chief Minister Smt. Vasundhara Raje has invited Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi as Chief Guest to inaugurate the Resurgent Rajasthan Summit being organised on 19-20 November, 2015.

Smt. Raje gave invitation to PM during her meeting with PM at 7 RCR on Monday. She raised various issues related to the central assistance keeping in view the peculiar conditions of Rajasthan.

The Chief Minister said Rajasthan be given the status of special state keeping in view the harsh climate, geographical conditions and the natural calamities. She urged the Prime Minister for the sanction of relief package of Rs. 11,886 crore under the norms of NDRF

to provide relief to the natural calamity affected farmers of Rajasthan.

Smt. Raje requested to the Prime Minister to direct NABARD that, in the current financial year, District Central Cooperative Banks in Rajasthan should be allowed to get refinance at the rate of 50% as per the policy of NABARD at 2014-15 and NABARD further be directed to increase refinance on short term loans to 60% in 2015-16 in view of the recent adverse climatic conditions and its adverse impact on farmers of the state.

The Chief Minister raised the issue of representation of Rajasthan in Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB). She said till now Rajasthan has no representation in this



board. She requested for rotating the post of member among sharing states so that Rajasthan gets its representation in BBMB and the state can secure its interest. Mentioning the interlinking of rivers programme Smt. Raje said Rajasthan has enacted 'The Rajasthan River Basin and Water Resources Planning Act, 2015. She requested to PM

regarding initiating dialogue with the Nepalese authorities for the diversion of surplus water of the Sharda River to Sabarmati River through Uttar Pradesh, NCR, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat-Sharda-Yamuna-Rajasthan-Sabarmati Interlinking Project.

She urged the Prime Minister that provisions under

NREGA be given complete flexibility so that State Employment Guarantee Council could be strengthened and any kind of works of local needs could be covered under NREGA. Smt. Raje informed the PM that 3,85,987 Soil health cards have been distributed from December 2013 to April 2015 in the state. A campaign has been launched and about 55,000 soil samples have already been collected for testing for the financial year 2015-16, she said.

The Chief Minister said the Western Rajasthan offers maximum potential for solar power generation and Rajasthan shall become the biggest Solar Hub of the country in the near future. She said against the target of 25 GW the state has signed the MoUs for generating 32.7

GW solar power. She requested that in order to fully utilize the solar power to be generated, it is important that a robust transmission infrastructure is also put in place. She requested the Prime Minister that Power Grid Corporation of India be directed to set up evacuation system that can allow off-take of solar power from Rajasthan to other states. Smt. Raje said that the state government has requested the Department of Atomic Energy to set up the state-of-the-art Cancer Hospital in Jaipur on the lines of similar institutions set up in Chandigarh and Vishakhapatnam. She requested to the PM for positive consideration for this and said that the state was ready to provide land free-of-cost for this project.

Hillary Clinton took Blessings from Indian Saint

America and India should together fight against violence, terrorism and poverty- Hillary

Mrs. Hillary Clinton, strong candidate of United States of America Presidential election said in New York said that America and India should together fight against violence, terrorism and poverty. Presently India is the emerging economy of world. In future India will play a larger role on international platform. Hillary Clinton took blessings from Indian Spiritual leader Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni for the upcoming USA Presidential elections. She was addressing the delegation which met her in the leadership of Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni on 10th foundation year of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti. International coordinator of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti Mr Karamjit Singh Dhaliwal, Congressman Joe Crowley, Congresswoman Gracemeng & Jasbir Singh were part of the delegation.

Mrs. Clinton said that violence and terrorism cannot solve any problem. Violence gives rise to counter violence. Problems can be solved through Dialogues and discussions. Appreciating the 'Peace Education' program of Acharya Lokesh she said that religious leaders can play a vital role in making the world a bet-



ter place to live in.

Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni blessing Hillary Clinton for achieving victory in upcoming USA Presidential elections said that he was invited to USA for the first time by Ex-President of USA Mr. Bill Clinton, it is an amazing coincidence. On his invitation Acharya Lokesh during his first visit to USA presented the 'Peace Education' program at UNO. We are now inviting Mrs. Clinton to India for participation in 10th Anniversary celebration of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti. Acharya Lokesh said that 21st century will be of Spirituality.

Emphasising the importance of joining religion with spirituality and science he said that to make this world better religion should serve the purpose of social welfare and it should help in removing social evils. Acharya Lokesh dis-

cussing Jan Dhan Yojna (People Money Scheme), Suraksha Bima Yojna (Insurance scheme) and Swachhata Abhiyan (Cleanliness Drive) launched by present Indian Government for social change and social development said that peace is necessary for development. Peace and prosperity are deeply linked. He emphasised introducing 'Peace Education' as part of school education.

Acharya Lokesh gave information Mrs. Clinton about the JAINA Convention 2015 to be held in Atlanta from 2 to 5 July. In the Convention besides representatives from 69 Jain Centres of North America, more than 5000 Jain representatives from Canada, America, Britain and India will also participate. There is more than 1.5 lac Jain population in USA.



Team XI will make the city number 1

Udaipur: The job of making the city number 1 is now in the hands of team XI formed by the district administration. Collector Rohit Gupta has also set work for these teams. ADM City OP Bunkar shall review the activities of the teams regularly. Solution of various problems of the city and the beautification of town have been entrusted to team XI's officials of different departments. These officials will visit the city regularly and will identify the problems and take action plan for the beautification of the city.

Sale, Barter of Fresh Water Fishes

Jaipur: The State Government through a notification has prohibited the offering of exposing for sale or barter of fresh water fishes throughout the state with effect from June 16, 2015 to August 31, 2015.

35th Meeting of the National Capital region Planning Board Held

Delhi : Dr. Gopendra Bhatt

The National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) has held a meeting in New Delhi June 9, 2015 to discuss various issues relating to development of the National Capital Region. The 35th Meeting of the NCRPB has been chaired by the Minister of Urban Development Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu.

NCRPB has constituted a committee to review status of regional rapid transit system (RRTS), approved the delineation of Natural Conservation Zone according to ground realities, and given the approval of Rajasthan Sub-Regional Plan.

Rajasthan Urban Development Minister Shri Rajpal Singh Shekhawat attended the meeting. He said that the government of Rajasthan had requested NCR Planning Board to modify the alignment of regional rapid transit system (RRTS) in the Shahjahanpur, Neemrana and Behror (SNB) Urban Complex, now the board has made a committee to review status of Regional Rapid transit System.

He said that Government of Rajasthan has taken a decision that instead of proposing the RRTS from SNB to Alwar the alignment should be proposed from SNB to Sotanala RIICO industrial area as this would serve the industrial hub

of Shahjahanpur, Neemrana and Behror, in future this RRTS could be extended upto Jaipur City, Jaipur is a counter magnet City of NCR.

"It is to bring to the notice of the NCRPB that at present Alwar is connected to Delhi by approximately 22 trains and hence, there is a very good rail link between Delhi & Alwar. The areas of the Rajasthan sub region that today are not connected by rail are Bhiwadi and SNB Urban Complex. The major and upcoming industrial hubs of the Rajasthan Sub Region of NCR are Bhiwadi and SNB Urban Complex, so this modified RRTS is needs of the time". He said.

Shri Shekhawat said that the need of the day is to connect these two areas directly to Delhi. So, as to give an economic boost to these areas and help in decongestion of NCR. The development of the RRTS would be parallel to NH-8 so it will help to reduce the pressure on current highway traffic and reduce the travel time from Jaipur-Delhi from 6 hrs to 2 hrs. Now SNB Urban Complex is also developing as a major industrial hub in the Rajasthan Sub Region so it should be encouraged.

Rajasthan Additional Chief Secretary (Urban Development) Shri Ashok Jain and Chief Town Planner Shri J.B. Jakhar was also present in the meeting.

Saving Life! : Jeevni Ashraya Dhaam

A daughter can really change the way a family feels. She can show you what the real life is. She can bring a sense of responsibility in you. She can fill your empty house with lot of creative ideas. She can color your imaginations and surprise everyone. A girl child has these capabilities. She is the one who is a form of love, prosperity, and peace.

And very few of us get this opportunity to have a girl child. Nature, I believe, carefully selects the people who are capable enough to raise a girl child. You cannot be a common and ordinary human being and be blessed with a girl child, rather you must be possessing enormous power in your heart, a sea of love, and a will power to protect the angel. It won't be exaggerated to say that the nature picks a special couple and hands over then angel to them who the nature believes will be strong and soft enough to be able to take care of a delicate gift of nature.

But, then, sadly there are some unfortunate people who get the opportunity to have an angel and then kill her in the womb only. This though is a crime with a meagre punishment of several years of imprisonment, but the real punishment comes from the nature which needs lives to fulfill.

While there are fortunate



and extremely unfortunate people all around us, there are some who try and lend a helping hand to mothers who want to deliver a child but have been abandoned by the society or family for some stupid reasons. Mostly these are mothers that have conceived in a rape or family has discovered the sex of the child and want the lady to abort it. At times, even a sane couple who are not ready to have a child get one and want to abort it.

For all such cases that lie between worse and worst kind of people, there are rare people from outside who can understand the plight of a woman who wants to deliver. And Maa bhagwati Ashram of Udaipur is the one that is there to help.

In their own words, "We con-

demn the killing of youngest and weakest member of the human race. We believe that they too have the right to live"

Jeevni Ashraya Dhaam is a place which provides all facilities and help to the pregnant women who want to deliver their child but find it difficult to variety of reasons. Reasons that foster women to abort their unborn child could be extreme poverty, death of husband, and abandoned by husband.

Women who are taken care by the Maa Bhagwati Vikas Sansthan get many benefits and the organization tries best to ensure that the woman feels good and homely. They not only provide medical assistance, proper diet, the organization also provides emotional support, legal or governmental advices, and maternal love to



these women who themselves are at the line of turning into a mother from a girl.

The organization also ensures a proper care to the new-sprung baby. Such efforts are in total contrast to what the society and most of the people do to a woman who is pregnant without being married or has been raped, or has conceived due to mistakes.

We need such people to construct the society and take forward. Those who condemn or force women to take extreme steps of abortion or giving up life are actually burden on society and are taking the country backwards. Let's try and encourage a child protection, emotional and social care for abandoned women, and pledge to prove that we are human and care for human, no matter what.

Own course to be introduced in Rajasthan

Udaipur: Four subjects of classes 6 to 8, viz., Hindi, Mathematics, Science and Sanskrit books will be redesigned. The new curriculum will be implemented by next session. In addition, all subjects will be reviewed and necessary changes may be required. The task of reviewing the course of classes 1 to 8 to be made the apex body of the state, SIERT Udaipur where subject matter experts have been convened by the state. This work will be done till 2nd to 6th June, after that a detailed report will be delivered to the state government.

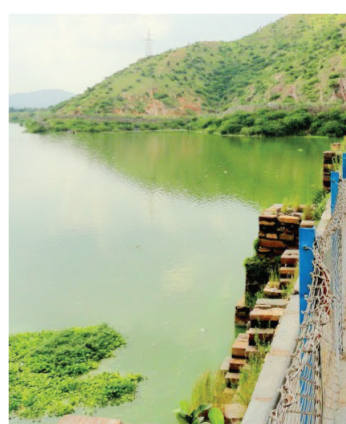
Prior to 2009-10, the curriculum prepared at the state level was being run in government schools. Then under NCF, National Curriculum Framework the classes 1 to 8 approved NCERT Textbooks were extended, but again the government is in the mood to revise the course. From classes 1 to 5, the work has been amended, from 6th to 8th, the revision of the course is still going on. Around 40 subject matter experts have been engaged in the review of the upcoming school curriculum. Four subjects will be made in a new manner. Current issues are also being added. The students will also study the booklet on the subject of Road Safety booklet from the same session.

Udai Sagar & Govardhan Sagar Lake still far from tourists

Udaipur: The city's two major lakes, Udai Sagar and Govardhan Sagar's beautification could not be undertaken by the administration. UIT and Municipal Corporation is not prepared for this; both the bodies are awaiting approval of the DPR for 66 million for the development of the lakes.

Because of this situation, both the lakes have not been recognized as a tourist centre.

For the protection of Govardhan Sagar and Udai Sagar, administration has made DPR under NLCP but it was fixed at the last administrative meetings that the beautification must be started at the local level without waiting for approval of the DPR. In this regard, the actions were directed to the UIT, but have not yet commenced.



No tourist attraction

Big lakes like Pichola and Fatehsagar seem to have come as tourists' favourites, but Udai Sagar and Govardhan Sagar have not yet fully developed. In terms of tourism, in fact, administration has not taken any such action for the beautification of lakes to attract tourists. There is also a lack of publicity. Although a substantial amount has been spent on the development work of Govardhan Sagar, but there are no tourists as had been expected. The promotion of enhanced security as well as development work by Municipal Corporation at Govardhan Vilas Lake could not be done. Therefore, there is no reach of tourists here. Municipal Corporation has spent millions of rupees on the island, gallery, park, etc.



No facility at Udaisagar

Udai Sagar was also proposed to be developed in terms of tourism, but work has not started yet. Earlier in the chairmanship of Home Minister Gulab Chand Kataria, this was fixed in the administrative meeting. It had been planned that Udai Sagar to be had seats for tourists to sit on, and the planning garden be initiated at the local level. 66 crores for both projects: 56 crore for Udai Sagar and 10 crore for Govardhan Sagar had been proposed for development project. It contains several provisions for the development of the lakes. Govardhan Lakes being worked on. For security, guards are have been kept. In the future, through corporation's website and tourist guides, promotion of the lakes will be done in order to get the tourist there. - Chandrasingh Kothari, Mayor, Municipal Corporation