

## Nehru Garden Reopens in a New Avatar

**Udaipur:** The long wait of four years finally came to an end on Friday as Nehru Garden, nestled in the middle of the world-famous Fatehsagar Lake, was reopened in its rejuvenated form. Citizens and tourists alike witnessed the fresh look of the historic garden after its extensive restoration. The inauguration was led by Rajya Sabha MP Chunnihal Garasia, Lok Sabha MP Dr. Mannalal Rawat, Udaipur City MLA Tarachand Jain, Udaipur Rural MLA Phool Singh Meena, along with officials and dignitaries.

Constructed in 1967 on a two-hectare island, Nehru Garden has long been a



favorite retreat for locals as well as domestic and international tourists. However, it often became submerged during high water levels in the lake. Following its transfer from the Udaipur Municipal Corporation

to the Udaipur Development Authority (UDA), systematic efforts were made for its revival. Under the 2024-25 state budget declaration, the UDA undertook comprehensive works including civil renovation, foot-

paths, water bodies, heritage structures, and horticulture development. The footpath levels were also raised in alignment with the lake's maximum capacity to prevent flooding. Jetty inaugurated, new works launched

The ceremony began with the ribbon-cutting of a newly constructed jetty opposite Rajiv Gandhi Park on Rani Road, from where guests sailed to the island garden. Upon arrival, traditional rituals were performed before formally dedicating the garden to the public. Alongside, the foundation stones for a musical fountain in the water bodies and façade lighting across the premises were laid. The event was attended by

Divisional Commissioner Pragna Kevalramani, IG Gaurav Srivastava, District Collector Namit Mehta, social workers Gajpal Singh, Pushkar Teli, Takht Singh, and several other representatives. UDA Commissioner Rahul Jain, Secretary Hemendra Nagar, and Special Officer Jitendra Ojha welcomed the dignitaries. Lawmakers highlighted that tourism is Udaipur's lifeline, and with Nehru Garden reopened, visitors can once again admire Fatehsagar's beauty from its heart.

### Boost for night tourism

District Collector Namit

Mehta and UDA Commissioner Rahul Jain announced that the garden will remain open from 9 AM to 6 PM initially. With the completion of musical fountain and façade lighting works in the next two to three months, timings will be extended until 9:30 PM, providing a major boost to night tourism in Udaipur. Boating to the garden will be facilitated through eco-friendly electric boats from the newly built jetty near the open gym park at Rajiv Gandhi Smriti Udyan, Rani Road. In addition, a night food court has been proposed on Rani Road, which is expected to establish the area as a new tourist hub and ease pressure on the main Fatehsagar promenade.

## River is attaining its boundaries, let we do not cross ours: Mehta



**Udaipur:** Ayad River is restoring its channel and healing the wounds inflicted upon its bed and boundaries by itself. Hence, there is no need for the Corporation, Smart City Limited, or UDA to interfere. These cautionary thoughts were expressed during a lake dialogue held on Sunday. In the dialogue, expert Dr. Anil Mehta said that the river is reclaiming its boundaries, and we should not overstep ours. For the past three years, the river has been sending the message every monsoon that it will not tolerate the tampering with its original flow path and bed. Last year, in the first week of September 2024, even with slight flow, the stone pavement laid in the riverbed, the filled soil, the gardens, and paths were all destroyed. Iron in the centre channel were exposed. However, as soon as the monsoon ended, government agencies arrived to reinstall the pavement, soil, and grills in the name of repair and restoration. This year, the river has flowed at full capacity. It is highly likely that the pavements, filled soil, and debris have all washed away. It should be believed that respecting the message of Ayad river, part of the Ganga river system, the government agencies will not repeat previous mistakes.

Former member of the Lake Development Authority, Tej Shankar Paliwal, said that Udaipur City has been included in the River City Alliance constituted by the Ministry of Water Resources and Ministry of Urban Development. Udaipur received the status of a River City due to Ayad. However, encroachment and constructions in the floodplain are damaging the river's original form.

Director of Gandhi Manav Kalyan Society, Nand Kishore Sharma, said that constructions in the river are an atrocity against the river's natural form and original flow.

Environmentalist Kunal Rawal said that the exploitation of the Ayad river is an insult to spiritual, cultural, and archaeological heritage. Drupad Singh said that public money worth 100 crores has been wasted.

## Mahi-Banswara Nuclear Project to Transform Rajasthan

**Banswara:** Rajasthan is set to witness a historic leap in energy and development with the Mahi-Banswara Nuclear Power Project, scheduled for foundation stone laying by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 20. With a planned



capacity of 2,800 MW, it will be among India's largest nuclear stations, powering Rajasthan and neighboring states while boosting industries, irrigation, and rural electrification.

Strategically located near the Mahi Dam, the project benefits from abundant water resources and fulfills a vision dating back to former Chief Minister Haridev Joshi. Revived under the Modi government, it is coupled with railway expansion projects like the Ratlam-Banswara-Dungarpur and Neemuch-Banswara-Vadodara lines, connecting Rajasthan's tribal heartland with Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

The impact promises to be transformative:

- **Employment & Economy:** Thousands of construction jobs, long-term technical roles, and growth in ancillary sectors.

- **Social Change:** CSR initiatives will bring schools, hospitals, and drinking water facilities, while consistent electricity enables digital education.

- **Infrastructure Boost:** New townships, roads, bridges, and railway links will encourage tourism to sites like Tripura Sundari Temple.

- **Tribal Empowerment:** Skill development, artisan support, and integration of local industries into wider markets.

While challenges of displacement and environmental impact must be handled sensitively, the project holds potential as a model of inclusive development. More than a power plant, it symbolizes the dawn of opportunity, progress, and empowerment for southern Rajasthan's long-neglected tribal belt.

## First Meeting of Accredited Journalists' Association in Udaipur

**Udaipur:** The inaugural meeting of the Accredited Journalists' Association of Udaipur Division was held at the Information Centre, Chetak Circle, with participation from journalists across Udaipur, Rajsamand, Chittorgarh, and nearby districts. Presided over by Vishnu Sharma Hitaishi and convened by Lalit Chordia, the gathering began with traditional honours, followed by discussions on the association's framework, constitution, and executive committee.

Key issues highlighted included RGHS benefits, medical liability, accreditation challenges, and concessional residential plot allotments. Journalists unanimously resolved to submit a memorandum to the Chief Minister seeking: concessional housing plots, expansion of RGHS with OPD, unrestricted Jaipur Secretariat entry, continuation of accreditation for transferred journalists, swift disposal of land cases, and free RSRTC travel up to Ahmedabad. Members also demanded revival of the Volvo bus service on the Udaipur-Rajsamand-Jaipur route.

## Grand Celebration of Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi in Udaipur



**Udaipur:** The city of lakes came alive with devotion and joy as the 1500th birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was celebrated with grandeur under the banner of Anjuman Taleemul Islam, Udaipur. The two-day Jashn-e-Eid Milad-un-Nabi commenced at Anjuman Chowk. The second session on Thursday night began after Isha

prayers with recitation of the Holy Quran and concluded late into the night with Salat-o-Salaam.

Highlights of the Gathering  
Anjuman President Haji Mukhtar Ahmed Qureshi informed that the chief guest, Khalifa-e-Tajush Shariya Alhaj Mufti Masiheuddin Hashmati of Uttaroula, Balrampur, urged the faithful to adopt

the Prophet's life and teachings to eradicate social evils and walk on the righteous path.

In his address, Syed Shah Hasnain Bakaai Qadri of Shafipur Sharif inspired the community to excel in all fields while staying rooted in the principles of Islam. The gathering was further uplifted by soulful Naatiya Kalam recited by renowned scholars including Maulana Rafiq Raza Qadri (Mumbai), Hamdam Faizi Dhanbadi (Delhi), and Shamim Faizi, as the atmosphere echoed with chants of "Mere Aaqaa Aaye Marhaba, Mere Daata Aaye Marhaba."

Distinguished scholars such as Maulana Jalkarnain, Mufti Ahmed Hussain, and Maulana Aas Mohammad graced the occasion, alongside city dignitaries and youth

workers. The Anjuman committee members, including Naib Sadar Farukh Qureshi, Joint Secretary Izhar Hussain, and cabinet members Anees Raza, Fakhruddin Sheikh, Tauqeer Mohammad, Tanveer Chishti, Firoz Basheer, Siraj Mohammad, Adil Khan, and Irshad Khan, ensured the event's success.

Procession Schedule  
Anjuman Secretary Advocate Mustafa Sheikh announced that the Julius-e-Mohammadi will be held on Friday, September 5, after Jumma Namaz at 1 PM from Anjuman Chowk. The procession will pass through Sindh Bazaar, Bada Bazaar, Ghantaghar, Moti Chohatta, Harvenji Ka Khurra, Hathipol, Silawatwadi, Bichhughati, Jatwadi, Nai Pulia, Ambargarh Kachhi Basti, and Ayurvedic College Square before

heading to Raza Colony.

It will then move towards Badi Masjid and culminate at the shrine of Hazrat Imrat Rasool Shah (RA) at Dargah Mufti Zaheerul Hasan (RA). A Chadar Sharif will be offered at the Mazar Sharif of Bada Maulana Sahib as part of the Urs rituals. Children from madrasas, school groups, community organizations, and various religious and social bodies will participate with recitations, naats, and salaams. The grand procession is expected to conclude by 10 PM.

Parallel Procession  
Spokesperson Rashid Khan further informed that another procession will start from Khanjipir after Jumma Namaz. Beginning at Noori Chowk, it will proceed to Anjuman Chowk and merge with the main celebration.

## Cheque Bounce Cases Languish in Udaipur

**Udaipur:** Udaipur is witnessing a massive backlog of 47,000 cheque dishonour cases, of which nearly 40,000 remain stalled due to police negligence in serving summons and warrants. As a result, accused individuals roam freely while complainants struggle for justice. Many victims are traders and citizens who



lost money in business transactions or loans when cheques bounced. Senior Advocate Sushil Kothari stated that timely service of summons could resolve most cases, but police failures prolong them. The Bombay High Court earlier suggested digital alternatives for faster service. Meanwhile, delays have left victims financially burdened and mentally distressed.

## Grand Ganesh Festival in Kishanpol



**Udaipur:** The 36th Shri Ganesh Mahotsav and Cultural Festival 2025 was celebrated in Kishanpol with devotion and grandeur. A dazzling Mahaarti of 2100 lamps, followed by sky-high fireworks and cultural performances, enthralled devotees. On Anant Chaturdashi, rituals began with a sacred Havan, followed by a majestic Shobha Yatra featuring dancing horses, tableaux, 21 dhols, and nearly 700 devotees. The procession passed through major city routes, with rituals at Gangaur Ghat before concluding at Shri Siddhi Vinayak Temple. The festivities ended with Mahaprasad distribution, spreading blessings, joy, and spiritual fervor among all devotees.

## 'Apon Se Apni Baat' Concludes Udaipur



**Udaipur:** The five-day 'Apon Se Apni Baat' ceremony concluded at Narayan Seva Sansthan's Seva Mahatirh premises under the guidance of President Prashant Agarwal. Patients, differently-abled individuals, and families from across India participated, sharing emotional stories of transformation through free artificial limbs, medical aid, and rehabilitation services.

Agarwal emphasized that while individuals are free in action, they cannot escape consequences, urging a life devoted to humanity's welfare. He highlighted the Sansthan's mission of empowering the differently-abled through advanced technologies, training, and support. The event instilled confidence, inspired independence, and underscored the value of humanitarian service.

## Eco-Friendly Clay Idols in Kota



Kota's Hum Log Sanstha has intensified its campaign to promote eco-friendly clay idols during Ganeshotsav, discouraging the immersion of POP idols in natural water bodies like Chambal River and Kishore Sagar Lake. Convener Dr. Sudhir Gupta noted a significant rise in clay idol installations due to public awareness and idol makers' efforts. To highlight POP's harmful impact, water samples will be tested before and after immersions, with data shared publicly. Members emphasized safeguarding future water resources, preventing encroachments in flood-prone areas, and promoting tree plantation. Concerns over Chambal Safari's exclusion from tourism plans were also raised.

## Centre to Review Urban Forests Proposals

**Udaipur:** MP Dr. Mannalal Rawat raised in Parliament that the Union Environment Ministry will consider fresh proposals



for establishing Urban Forests and Gardens under the Nagar Van Yojana (2020). Union Minister Bhupender Yadav said the scheme aims to conserve forest land, expand green cover, and protect urban spaces from degradation. He highlighted related initiatives like the Green India Mission, MISHTI, and CAMPA. Mass plantation drives are also

promoted during events such as Van Mahotsav and Wildlife Week. The "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign launched in June 2024 has inspired nationwide citizen participation in tree plantation.

## Literacy as the Foundation of



## Strong Society

Literacy is more than reading and writing—it is the foundation of progress, equality, and democracy. At a panel discussion in Kota, convened by Dr. Prabhat Kumar Singhal, speakers emphasized literacy as a transformative force in India's journey. From 17 percent literacy at Independence to 80.9 percent today, the nation has progressed remarkably, though gaps remain between men and women, rural and urban areas, and across states.

Dr. Manisha Sharma called literacy "a pillar of intellectual, cultural, and economic strength," while Yogendra Sharma recalled how illiteracy once fueled exploitation. Beyond traditional education, speakers highlighted the importance of digital, financial, and social literacy in modern India. Ram Mohan Kaushik stressed digital literacy as a governance necessity, and Dr. Anita Verma emphasized its role in confidence-building and responsibility. Panelists also highlighted women's literacy as central to societal upliftment, noting that literate mothers shape generations. Dr. Vaidehi Gautam linked literacy to humility and social awareness, while others underscored its power to fight superstition and injustice. Challenges persist, particularly in reaching marginalized communities, but literacy campaigns have instilled courage and dignity. Speakers like Advocate Akhtar Khan Akela and Dr. Aparna Pandey reminded that literacy must include empathy and ethics, not just skills. The collective vision was clear: literacy is a nation's strength, balancing tradition with modernity and individual aspirations with national goals. For India to emerge as a global leader, literacy must remain its strongest guarantee of equality, sustainability, and human dignity.

## Sangthan Opens Gogunda Training Branch

**Udaipur:** Shri Ekling Nath National Seva Sangthan inaugurated its Gogunda branch on Friday, marking its first rural center under the "Nari Vaibhav" initiative. More than 450 women will be trained in tailoring and beauty parlour skills to promote self-reliance. The event was inaugurated by MLA Pratap Gameti, with National General Secretary Advocate Nirmal Kumar Pandit and other dignitaries present. Founder-President Akash Bagdi informed that space has been provided by Gram Seva Cooperative Society and announced plans for a cowshed in Kaya. The launch ceremony witnessed enthusiastic participation of rural women and leaders, reflecting strong community support.

## Army Drone Rescues Man Udaipur



**Udaipur:** In a first-of-its-kind rescue, the Indian Army saved a 30-year-old man stranded in the swollen Ayad River on 6 September 2025. Around 3 PM, the District Collector requested urgent help from Headquarters Trimshat Brigade of Battle Axe Division. A rescue team comprising officers, JCOs, and soldiers swiftly reached the site. Using a drone, troops delivered a rope and safety jacket to the individual trapped near Hiran Magri. He was safely extricated at 6:50 PM. The innovative operation, executed with courage and precision, was conducted in close coordination with the SDRF, Rajasthan.