



STATE PCS CA

(CONSOLIDATION)

RAJASTHAN

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Drishti, 641, First Floor, Dr. Mukherjee
Nagar, Delhi-110009

Inquiry (English): 8010-440-440

Inquiry (Hindi): 8750-187-501

Website: www.drishtias.com

Email: help@groupdrishti.in

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Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot submitted resignation letter to the Governor

Why in News?

On December 3, 2023, after the Bharatiya Janata Party got a clear majority in the assembly elections in Rajasthan and the defeat of the Congress, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot reached Raj Bhavan and submitted his resignation from the post of Chief Minister to Governor Kalraj Mishra.

Key Points

- Governor Mishra accepted the resignation of Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot with immediate effect and urged him to continue working till the formation of the new government in the state.
- It is worth mentioning that in Rajasthan Assembly Elections-2023, Bharatiya Janata Party has won 115 out of 199 seats. Congress got 69 seats, while other parties and independents got a total of 15 seats.
- Ashok Gehlot was elected to the 7th Lok Sabha (1980-84) for the first time in the year 1980 from Jodhpur parliamentary constituency. He represented Jodhpur parliamentary constituency in the 8th Lok Sabha (1984-1989), 10th Lok Sabha (1991-96), 11th Lok Sabha (1996-98) and 12th Lok Sabha (1998-1999). In 1998 he became the Chief Minister of Rajasthan.
- Gehlot became a member of the 11th Rajasthan Legislative Assembly in February 1999 after being elected from Sardarpura (Jodhpur) assembly constituency. Gehlot was re-elected to the 12th and 13th Rajasthan Legislative Assembly from this assembly constituency. He was also elected in the 14th and 15th Rajasthan Legislative Assembly and became the Chief Minister.
- He served as a Union Minister in the cabinets of Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and PV Narasimha Rao. He became a Union Minister three times. When Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister of India, Ashok Gehlot was the Deputy Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation in Indira Gandhi's cabinet from September 2, 1982 to February 7, 1984. After this Gehlot became the Deputy Minister of Sports.

- Gehlot served as the Union Minister of State for Tourism and Civil Aviation in the period from December 31, 1984 to September 26, 1985. After this he was made the Union Minister of State for Textiles. Gehlot was the minister of this ministry from June 21, 1991 to January 18, 1993.



Action plan will be made for safe and easy blood supply to patients

Why in News?

On December 4, 2023, Additional Chief Secretary of the Medical and Health Department, Shubhra Singh, said that an action plan will be made for easy and safe availability of blood and blood components (plasma, platelets, packed red blood cells, cryoprecipitate) to the patients in the state and Two sub-committees (regulatory and technical) will be formed.

Key Points

- Shubhra Singh gave instructions in this regard while reviewing the functioning of State Blood Transfusion Services and State Blood Transfusion Council in the Government Secretariat.
- These committees will ensure smooth operation of blood banks across the state as per the guidelines of the Government of India.

Note:

- Additional Chief Secretary said that an action plan should be made soon to ensure easy and safe availability of blood to the patients in the state. He directed to appoint a state nodal officer for effective monitoring of blood transfusion and to conduct regular reviews at the zonal level by the zone level committee of the concerned medical college.
- He directed that all the blood banks established in the state should be inspected regularly and factual reports should be submitted. If any blood bank violates the prescribed protocol or guideline, strict action should be taken.
- Additional Chief Secretary said that for easy supply of blood to the common citizen
- Wide publicity should be given about the e-blood fund portal. Besides, information in this regard should also be made available to the general public through the portal of the Medical and Health Department of Rajasthan Government and 181 helpline.

Disabled Sunita Gupta and Prashant Aggarwal of Rajasthan received National Award

Why in News?

On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3, 2023, President Draupadi Murmu honoured disabled Sunita Gupta and Prashant Aggarwal of Rajasthan with the National Award-2023 at a grand ceremony in New Delhi.

Key Points

- It may be noted that on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, President Draupadi Murmu presented the National Award-2023 to 21 individuals and 9 institutions from across the country for their exemplary contribution in various fields for the empowerment of persons with disabilities in New Delhi.
- Sunita Gupta, a 70% physically disabled person from Dausa, has been awarded the National Award for Individual Excellence-2023 in the category of 'Best Disabled Person' for her excellent work in the field of art and culture.

- Disabled Sunita Gupta, despite being from a rural area, started the business of artificial jewellery by taking a loan of Rs 50 thousand from the government.
- He is also associated with the Rain Water Harvesting Mission and Sweep Team Voter Awareness. He has also worked in the film Vicky Donor.
- For the commendable work being done by 51-year-old Prashant Aggarwal, President of Narayan Seva Sansthan, Udaipur, he has been honoured with the National Award-2023 for Personal Excellence in the category of 'Best Individual - Working for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities'.
- Prashant Aggarwal has been playing an important role in the upliftment of persons with disabilities and bringing them into the mainstream of society through initiatives like residential schools, vocational rehabilitation centres, free distribution of assistive aids and appliances, free marriage ceremonies through the organisation .
- In the year 2017, he has also been awarded the Best Social Worker in the Field of Disability by the Government of Rajasthan.
- It is worth mentioning that in 1969, the Central Government had approved a scheme for conferring National Awards to outstanding persons with disabilities as employers and employees. These awards have been instituted with the objective of focusing public attention on issues related to persons with disabilities and promoting their inclusion in the mainstream of society.
- National Awards are given every year on 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities' on 3 December to outstanding individuals/organisations working for the empowerment of persons with disabilities.
- National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for the year 2023 have been given under the following categories-
 - I. National Award for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities-2023-Individual Excellence**
 - Best disabled person
 - Super disabled person
 - Locomotor Challenge - (Locomotor, Muscular Challenges, Dwarfism, Acid Attack Victim, Leprosy Recovered, Cerebral Palsy)
 - Visual impairment – (Blindness, Low vision)

Note:

- Hearing loss (Deaf, Hard of hearing, Speech and Language challenges)
- Intellectual disability (Mental retardation, Psychotic behaviour, Specific learning challenges, Autism spectrum disorder)
- Any specified disability other than those mentioned above.
- Best Disabled Child/Girl
- Best person - working for the empowerment of persons with disabilities
- Best Rehabilitation Professional (Rehabilitation Professional/Worker) – Working in the Field of Disability

II. National Award for institutions engaged in empowering persons with disabilities-2023

- Best Institute for Empowerment of Disabled (Private Organization, NGO)
- Best Employer for Disabled - (Government Organization/PSE/Autonomous Body/Private Sector)
- Best State/UT/District in implementation of Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan/creation of barrier free environment
- Best accessible means of transport/information and communication technology (government/private organisations)
- Best State/UT/District in implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act/UDID and other schemes for empowerment of persons with disabilities.
- Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities of the State best in implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 in his/her State.
- Best organisations engaged in development of rehabilitation professionals.

Announcement to honour 2 Officers, 5 Personnel and One volunteer of Rajasthan Home Defense Department with 'Director General Citation and Disc'

Why In News?

On the eve of 61st Home Defense Foundation Day-2023 on December 5, 2023, it has been announced to

honor 2 officers, 5 personnel and one volunteer of Rajasthan Home Defense Department with Director General Citation and Disc by the Director General, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

Key Points

- Senior staff officer of the department Navneet Joshi said that Rajasthan Home Defense Department Commander Vikas Lamba, Deputy Commander Ravindra Singh, Company Commander Balveer Singh, Raghunath Singh, Additional Administrative Officer Bhanwar Virendra Singh, Platoon Commander Narnaram, Senior Assistant Madan Mohan Joshi and This award will be given to volunteer Bhagwat Singh.
- Similarly, for the commendable services rendered in the department by the Director General and Commandant General, Home Defense Rajasthan, Commandant Vikas Lamba, Deputy Commandants Ramjilal and Lalit Bihari, Company Commander Ganga Singh, Additional Administrative Officer Ram Prakash Singh, Platoon Commander Deshraj and Shubhakaran Sharma, themselves. It has been announced to give 'Director General Commendation Disc' and Director General Commendation Certificate to servants Dinesh Damor, Gautam Gehlot, Mohammad Afzal, Umed Singh and Late Santosh Kumar Mudgal.

Construction Work of Rajasthan's Longest High level Bridge Begins

Why In News?

On December 5, 2023, PWD Executive Engineer Mukesh Meena informed that the construction work of Rajasthan's longest high level bridge on Chambal river near Balaji Ketuda village of Jharer on Sawai Madhopur-Etawah road has started.

Key Points

- PWD Executive Engineer Mukesh Meena said that this high level bridge will be completed in about 2 years at a cost of Rs 165 crore. Its length will be 1880 metres.
- With its construction, people of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh will also get transportation facilities.

Note:

Apart from this, Sawai Madhopur will be directly connected to Khatoli, Etawah and Baran districts.

- At present the Gainta Makhida bridge built on Chambal river is the longest bridge in the state. Its length is about 1562 meters. This was also built in the Etawah area in the past. This bridge will connect Kota district as well as Sawai Madhopur of Bharatpur division.
- In the budget announcement last year, the state government had released Rs 30 lakh for the construction of DPR of Balaji Bridge in Jharer. After that, the Public Works Department had prepared its DPR worth Rs 165 crore and sent it to Jaipur. Chief Minister Gehlot had announced the construction of this bridge in the budget announcement.
- Mukesh Meena said that this will be a prestressed concrete garden bridge. It will have four girders. The 12 meter wide bridge will have a carriageway of seven and a half meters. A 280 meter approach road will also be built from the bridge towards Sawai Madhopur. In this way, a 486 meter approach road will be built towards Kota. Two small minor bridges will also be built in it.
- 48 pillars will be erected in the construction of the bridge. There will also be two abutments on both sides, which will be built at the beginning of the bridge towards Sawai Madhopur and Kota. On these 48 pillars, 40 meter long spaces will be kept between each pillar. In this, five pillars will be built on top of the rock along with a bell foundation. Apart from this, 36 ankle foundations will be made, which are built on soil and rocks. These include two abatements.

Rawat Educational Group Director Narendra Singh Rawat honoured with 'Director of the Year-2023' Award

Why in News??

- Narendra Singh Rawat, Director of Rawat Educational Group, was honoured with the 'Director of the Year-2023' award by the Universal Mentors Association in

the felicitation ceremony held at Hotel Clark Amer on 5 December 2023.

Key Points

- In the program, Elizabeth Taylor, founder of Indase International, who came from America, honoured all the educationists with awards. Various stalwarts of the education world were honoured in this.
- Even before this, Narendra Rawat has been honoured with many international and national awards for his remarkable contribution in the field of education, the main one being the Educational Entrepreneur of the Year award from Mauritius President Prithviraj.
- Apart from being an educationist, Rawat is also a social worker and motivational speaker and is the secretary of Akshendra Welfare Society.
- Universal Mentors Association, established in 2019, is a cutting-edge research-based media organisation focused on revolutionising the education, BFSI, HR and marketing sectors.



International Camel Festival begins in Bikaner from January 11

Why in News??

On December 5, 2023, Bikaner Collector Bhagwati Prasad Kalal said in the meeting held in the Collectorate Auditorium that to promote tourism at the international level, the International Camel Festival will be held in Bikaner from 11 to 14 January.

Note:

Key Points

- District Collector Bhagwati Prasad Kalal said that this time the camel festival will be organized on the theme of 'Icons of Bikaner'. In this, artists who have made special achievements in local art, music and culture will be provided a global platform through the festival.
- A special event regarding classical forms of arts will be organized on January 11 in the Camel Utsav. During this period, special presentations will be given by artists associated with classical music and classical dance.
- During the festival, a fusion show of art and culture will be organised at Dharanidhar Stadium on January 12, in which the colours of local folk art culture as well as contemporary art will be combined. Local cuisine will also be the attraction of this show.
- The District Collector said that kite flying competitions will also be organised during the Camel Festival. During the fair, foot walk and tanga ride, Haveli Sangeet and other cultural programs will be organised every day in the urban park.
- Assistant Director Tourism Krishna Kumar said that during the International Camel Festival, Celebrity Night will be organised at Raiser, in which a special celebrity will be invited to perform along with fire dance.
- He informed that horse racing in Raiser horses and horse dance will also be the special centre of attraction in the International Camel Festival this year. Like every year, a camel race will be organised in Camel Farm. Camel makeup competition, camel race competition, camel dance competition and camel cutting competitions will be organised in the Camel Farm.



'Lab Day' was organised in Government Schools of the state on 'No Bag Day'

Why in News?

On December 9, 2023, 'Lab Day' was organised by the School Education Department of Rajasthan in the government schools of the state under the activity of 'No Bag Day'.

Key Points

- Various activities were organised under 'Lab Day' by the School Education Department to improve the learning process of students through systematic, regular, smooth and effective operation of laboratories in schools.
- On this occasion, the state, division, district and block level officials of the department inspected the physics, chemistry, geography, biology, computer lab, home science & vocational education labs of the school.
- On this occasion, the labs were organised very well as per the instructions given by the department. Labeling of chemical substances was done. Students showed special interest in doing chemistry and physics experiments. On this occasion, project work and science projects were demonstrated by the students.
- Government Secretary Naveen Jain said that the purpose of celebrating 'Lab Day' on the occasion of No Bag Day is to increase effective teaching and learning opportunities for students through laboratories run in government higher secondary schools of the state.

Note:

Alwar's Gaurav Yadav received IMA's most Prestigious Award 'Sword of Honor'

Why in News?

On December 9, 2023, in the passing out parade at the Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehradun, Gaurav Yadav from Alwar district of Rajasthan received IMA's most prestigious award 'Sword of Honor' and was also the gold medal winner.



Key Points

- It may be noted that 343 young cadets passed out from the Indian Military Academy (IMA) and joined the mainstream of the army to serve the country. Along with this, 29 cadets overseas also passed out.
- Gaurav Yadav got the gold medal for standing 1st in the order of merit in the passing out parade. Saurav Badhani of Chamoli, Uttarakhand got the silver medal for standing 2nd in the Order of Merit and Alok Singh of Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh got the bronze medal for standing 3rd.
- It is worth mentioning that Gaurav Yadav of Alwar's father Balwant Singh Yadav is a farmer and mother Kamlesh Yadav is a housewife. Gaurav studied from Kerala Public School. His brother Vineet Kumar is serving as a Naik in the Army.
- Gaurav said that he appeared for the NDA exam five times. He failed four times, but passed NDA the fifth time. He received the President's Gold Medal last year in the 143rd course of the academy.

Bhajan Lal Sharma will be the new Chief Minister of Rajasthan

Why In News?

Bhajan Lal Sharma, MLA from Sanganer seat of Jaipur, was elected as the new Chief Minister of Rajasthan in the Rajasthan BJP Legislature Party meeting on December 12, 2023 in the presence of observers appointed by the Bharatiya Janata Party central leadership.

Key Points

- Vasundhara Raje had proposed the name of Bhajan Lal Sharma in the legislature party meeting in the presence of Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, Vinod Tawde and Saroj Pandey, who were sent as observers to Rajasthan.
- In the legislative party meeting, MLA Diya Kumari from Vidyadhar Nagar seat of Jaipur and Prem Chandra Bairwa, MLA from Dudu seat of Jaipur, were elected as Deputy Chief Ministers. Vasudev Devnani, who became MLA from Ajmer North for the fifth consecutive time, will be made the speaker of the assembly.
- After being elected the new Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Bhajan Lal Sharma has met Governor Kalraj Mishra and staked claim to form the government. The new government will take oath on 15 December.
- 56 year old Bhajan Lal Sharma is an MLA from Sanganer Assembly seat and after becoming an MLA for the 1st time, he will now be the Chief Minister of Rajasthan. He is also the state general secretary of BJP.
- It is worth mentioning that since independence, there have been 13 Chief Ministers in Rajasthan. Bhajan Lal Sharma will be the 14th Chief Minister.
- The record of serving as Chief Minister for the longest period in Rajasthan is held in the name of Ashok Gehlot. He has been the Chief Minister for 15 consecutive years. Mohanlal Sukhadia has been at 2nd place in the longest tenure.
- Governments have been formed in Rajasthan 25 times since 1949, out of which Congress has formed 20 times, BJP 4 times and Janata Party once. BJP is now going to take power for the fifth time. Till now, President's rule has been imposed in the state thrice.



Note:

Formation of SIT and Anti Gangster Task Force

Why In News?

According to information received from the media on December 17, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma has formed a Special Investigation Team and Anti-Gangster Task Force.



Key Points

- Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma said that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been formed to prevent and speed up investigation of paper leaks in various examinations in the state.
- The SIT has been formed under the leadership of Additional Director General of Police (Technical Services) VK Singh.
- Along with this, Anti Gangster Task Force has been formed for effective control on organised crimes in the state and strict action against criminals.
- A special task force, Anti Gangster Task Force, has been formed at the state level under the leadership of Additional Director General of Police (Crime) Dinesh MN.
- This team will collect human & technical intelligence to identify the gangs committing organised crimes & will prepare their database to ensure effective legal action and will work to ensure strict punishment to the gangsters by effectively monitoring the cases pending in various courts.
- This investigation team includes 50 people including 1 ADG, 1 each IG/DIG/SP, 4 Additional SPs, 8 DSPs, 10 Inspectors/SI, 10 ASI/Head Constable and 15 Constables & Constable Computer Operators.

Kalicharan Saraf took oath as Protem Speaker

Why in News?

On December 18, 2023, Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra administered the oath of office to former minister

and senior BJP MLA Kalicharan Saraf as Protem Speaker of the Rajasthan Assembly in a ceremony held at Raj Bhavan.

Key Points

- On this occasion, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, Assembly Speaker C.P. Joshi, Vasudev Devnani, Deputy Chief Minister Prem Chand Bairwa and other distinguished people were present.
- Governor Kalraj Mishra has also formed a three-member panel of senior MLAs for their cooperation. This panel includes MLA Dayaram Parmar, Pratap Singh Singhvi and Dr. Kirori Lal Meena.
- It is worth mentioning that the Protem Speaker will administer the oath to the newly elected MLAs. The party has already nominated senior MLA Vasudev Devnani as the Assembly Speaker.
- It is worth mentioning that the oath of membership of the Legislative Assembly is administered to the newly elected MLAs only by the Protem Speaker. After the oath of the members, the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Assembly are elected. The work and tenure of the Protem Speaker automatically comes to an end with the assumption of office by the permanent Speaker of the Assembly.



- **Protem Speaker:** Pro-Tem is a Latin phrase meaning 'for the time being'. The Protem speaker is a temporary speaker who is appointed for a limited period.
- **Requirement of Protem Speaker:** The Speaker of the Lok Sabha/Assembly vacates his office immediately before the first meeting of the newly elected House.
 - The President/Governor appoints the Protem Speaker to preside over the meetings of the newly elected House. Usually the most senior member of the House is made the Protem Speaker.
- **Duties of Protem Speaker:**

Note:

- The Protem Speaker presides over the first sitting of the Lok Sabha, administers the oath of office to newly elected MPs.
- To conduct voting for Speaker and Deputy Speaker.
- The post of Protem Speaker ceases to exist upon the election of a new Speaker.
- He also conducts the floor test.

CM flags off Vedanta Pink City Half Marathon

Why in News?

On December 17, 2023, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma flagged off the Vedanta Pink City Half Marathon, realizing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pledge of 'Swachh Bharat'.

Key Points

- On this occasion, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma said that the youth should remain healthy and enthusiastic & take a pledge to make Rajasthan the leading state in the country.
- This marathon is being organized with the important objective of 'Run for Zero Hunger'. More than 12 thousand runners have been united in this event. With this, food will be provided to more than one lakh needy people.
- In the marathon, runners gave the message of fitness and unity by completing the 21 km half marathon, 10 km cool run and 5 km dream run categories.



Lakhpatri Didi Conference

Why In News?

On December 23, 2023, 'Lakhpatri Didi Sammelan' was organized at Shaheed Poonam Singh Stadium, Jaisalmer under the auspices of Rajasthan Rural

Development Department in the presence of President Draupadi Murmu and Governor Kalraj Mishra.

Key Points

- In this conference, Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma said that this scheme has been started to empower women economically. Through this scheme, employment-oriented skill development training will be given to 2 crore mothers and sisters of the country associated with self-help groups.
- Under this scheme, a target has been set to benefit 11.24 lakh women of Rajasthan. So far 3 lakh women have been included in this category. In the programme, the Chief Minister also distributed checks worth Rs 150 crore to the women of self-help groups.



- The Chief Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has resolved to create 2 crore Lakhpatri Didis across the country. To realize this, the Women Empowerment SHG Mission will be launched with an investment of Rs 1,000 crore. In this, the target is to connect 2 lakh new women members with SHGs and an action plan is being made to provide them simple loan facilities and market linkage facilities.
- He said that a roadmap will be prepared to provide loans up to Rs 1 lakh at minimum rates to about 28 lakh women working in SHGs through the Women Empowerment Credit Card Scheme.
- The Chief Minister said that keeping in mind women's safety, a women's police station will be established in every district of the state. Women's desk will be established in every police station and anti Romeo squad will also be formed in all major cities.
- Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Kailash Chaudhary said that through the Lakhpatri Didi Yojana being run for women empowerment, the women of the state will become stronger socially, economically and politically in the coming times. With this initiative, along with skill development of women, new means of livelihood will be available to them.



Note:

