



Rajasthan Current Affairs
of
October- November-December
2021



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PERSON in NEWS

Persons on Important Posts: RAJASTHAN

Post (Rajasthan)	First	Current (October 2021)
Chief Justice of Rajasthan	Kamal Kant Verma	Justice Akil Khureshi (38th)
Chief Information Commissioner (CIC)	M. D. Kaurani	D B Gupta
RPSC Chairman	Sir Dr. S K GHOSH	
Advocate General of Rajasthan	G.C. Kasliwal	Mahendra Singh Singhvi
Rajasthan State Human Rights Commission	Kanta Kumari Bhatnagar	Gopal Krishan Vyas
Lokayukta of Rajasthan	ID Dua (1973)	Pratap Krishna Lohra
Chief Secretary Rajasthan	K. Radhakrishnan	Niranjan Kumar Arya
Pro-Term Speaker	Maharav Sangram Singh	Gulab Chand Kataria
Speaker Vidhan Sabha	Narottam Lal Joshi	Dr. C. P. Joshi
Leader of Opposition	Jaswant Singh	Gulab Chand Kataria
Governor of Rajasthan	Maharaj Man Singh II (1949) Gurumukh Nihal Singh (Reorganised State 1956)	Kalraj Mishra
Rajasthan Financial Commission Chairman		Pradhyuman Singh
Chief Electoral Officer of Rajasthan (CEO)		Praveen Gupta
State Election Commissioner of Rajasthan (SEC)		Prem Singh Mehra
Chairperson State Commission for Women		-
Chairperson Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights		Sangeeta Beniwal
DGP Rajasthan Police		M L Lather
Deputy Chairman - Chief Minister's Economic Transformation Advisory Council		Arvind Mayaram

Persons on Important Posts: NATIONAL

Post (India)	First	Current (October 2021)
Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)	V. Narahari Rao	Girish Chandra Murmu
Chief Justice of India	H. J. Kania	N. V. Ramana
Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)	Sukumar Sen	Sushil Chandra
Chief Information Commissioner (CIC)	Wajahat Habibullah	Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha
Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)	Nittoor Srinivasa Rau	Suresh N. Patel
UPSC Chairman	Sir Ross Barker	Pradeep Kumar Joshi
RBI Governor	Osborne Smith	Shaktikanta Das
Lokpal of India	Pinaki Chandra Ghose	Pinaki Chandra Ghose
Financial Commission Chairman	K. C. Neogy	Nand Kishor Singh (15th) (2020-2025)
Speaker Lok Sabha	G. V. Mavalankar	Om Birla
Cabinet Secretary	N. R. Pillai, ICS	Rajiv Gauba

Post (India)	Current (July 2021)
Law Commission Chairman	Balbir Singh Chauhan (21st)
National Commission for SC	Vijay Sampla
National Commission for ST	Harsh Chouhan
Chairman - National Commission for Minorities	<i>Sardar Iqbal Singh Lalpura</i>
Chairperson, National Commission for Backward Classes	Bhagwan Lal Sahni
National Human Rights Commission - Chairperson	Arun Kumar Misra
Chairperson, National Commission for Women	Rekha Sharma
National Security Adviser	Ajit Kumar Doval
Attorney General of India	K.K Venugopal

Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission	Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas
Chairman, ISRO	Kailasavadivoo Sivan
Principal Scientific Adviser	K. VijayRaghavan
Chairman, University Grants Commission	D.P.Singh
Chairman, Central Water Commission of India	S K Haldar
Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India(SEBI)	Ajay Tyagi
Chairman, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India	Subhash Chandra Khuntia
Chairman, 7th Pay Commission	Ashok Kumar Mathur
Chairman, SIDBI	Sivasubramanian Ramann
Chairman, NABARD	Govinda Rajulu Chintala
Chairperson, State Bank of India	Dinesh Kumar Khara
Chairman, IDBI	M R Kumar
Chief Economic Advisor	
Chief of Army Staff	Manoj Mukund Naravane
Chief of Air Staff	V.R. Chaudhary
Chief of Naval Staff	R Hari Kumar
Chief of Integrated Defence Staff	Balabhadra Radha Krishna
Chief of Defence Staff	

Justice Akil Khureshi

Justice Akil Kureshi, Chief Justice of the Tripura High Court, as been appointed as the new Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court. Further, Justice Indrajit Mahanty has now been posted as chief justice of the Tripura High Court.

Later on 11th [October 2021](#), the centre cleared the appointment of five new judges to the Rajasthan High Court, taking its working strength to 28 out of a sanctioned strength of 50. The Supreme Court Collegium had recommended the names of Bharwani, Vyas, Dhand and Bansal on 01 [September 2021](#).

Those appointed to the Rajasthan High Court include:

- **Advocates**
 - Farjand Ali,
 - Anoop Kumar Dhand
 - Sudesh Bansal.
- **Judicial officers**
 - Vinod Kumar Bharwani
 - Madan Gopal Vyas

The newly appointed judges were administered oath of office by **chief Justice Akil Kureshi**.

Rajeev Swarup

The Union ministry of environment, forest and climate change has constituted state level environment impact assessment authority (SEIAA) under chairmanship of former chief secretary and retired IAS officer Rajeev Swarup.

Other members of committee are retired IFS officer Dr Suresh Chandra and secretary in state forest and environment department acting as member secretary. The chairman and members of authority will hold office for a term of three years from date of publication of notification in official gazette.

Shivangi Swarnkar

With the Covid situation getting better and more non-Covid patients visiting hospitals, the state health department has constituted a nine-member committee with medical education commissioner Shivangi Swarnkar as its chairperson to ensure better healthcare facilities.

The committee will make the processes of registration, consultation and admission in hospitals attached to medical colleges, district hospitals, sub-district hospitals, satellite hospitals and community health centres easier and accessible.

Empanelment to Secretary Level

In October 2021, the appointments committee of the cabinet approved empanelment of 12 IAS officers, including two IAS officers of Rajasthan cadre, **Rohit Kumar Singh** and **Veenu Gupta**, for holding secretary level posts at the Centre. At present, Rohit Kumar Singh (RJ 1989) holds the post of additional secretary, ministry of culture, government of India and Gupta (RJ 1987) is the chairperson of Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board.

Padma Shri 2021 awardees from Rajasthan

In November 2021, President Ram Nath Kovind awarded Padma Shri 2021 in different categories. From Rajasthan, Sarangi player **Lakha Khan Manganiar**, environmentalist **Shyam Sundar Paliwal** and educationist **Arjun Singh Shekhawat** have been awarded for excellence in their respective fields.

Padma Shri 2020 awardees from Rajasthan

In November 2021, 5 persons from Rajasthan were awarded Padma Shri 2020 in different categories by President Ram Nath Kovind at the President's House on Monday. The awardees are — **Himmata Ram Bhambhu** (Social Work), **Usha Chaumar** (Social Work), **Ustad Anwar Khan Mangniyar** (Art), **Munna Master** (Art), **Sundaram Verma** (Social Work). The announcement was made in January 2020.

Shiv Singh Rathore

In December 2021, Governor Kalraj Mishra [has appointed](#) senior-most member of Rajasthan Public Service Commission Shiv Singh Rathore to perform the duties of the vacant post of chairman in addition to his work. He was given the additional charge of the commission's chairman after the retirement of RPSC chairman [Bhupendra Yadav](#).

Parmaram

Parmaram from Rajasthan won 3 gold medals and was awarded best junior cyclist at the 26th National Road Cycling Championships held at Kurukshetra, Haryana.

Surendra Awana

Surendra Awana from village Bhairana in Jaipur, Rajasthan, was awarded the first prize under the Best Farmer category at the Gopal Ratna Awards 2021.

Ruma Devi

In November 2021, Ruma Devi was felicitated with 'The Maharana Award' for her remarkable work in connecting rural women of Rajasthan with self-employment and developing Rajasthan's traditional fashion into an international brand and industry at an event held at Dubai's India Club.

Additionally, 'World Book of Records London' also honored Ruma Devi by giving her a commendation letter for her outstanding contribution to society and various extraordinary achievements in the field of women's empowerment.

Mr. Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava

Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava of Rajasthan High Court has been appointed as the executive chairman of Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority.

Ramavtar Singh Jakhar

Chairman of Rajasthan Volleyball Federation, Shri Ramavtar Singh Jakhar has been elected as the President of Rajasthan State Olympic Association (RSOA).

Anil Kalyan

Shri Anil Kalyan of Rajasthan Kickboxing Association was elected as the President of National Kickboxing Association.

Vivaan Kapoor

Vivaan Kapoor won Silver Medal at the Shotgun Trap team in the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Championship.

Govind Singh Dotsara

Govind Singh Dotsara has become the president of State Scout Guide. Chief Secretary Niranjan Arya has been elected as the State Chief Commissioner of Scout Guide.

Places in NEWS

Sambhar Lake

Sambhar Salt Ltd has recently invited expression of interest (EoI) from companies to set up a 4,000MW ultra mega solar plant at Sambhar Lake, a Ramsar site. Out of the 58,000 acres the company has, it currently uses only a fraction of 2,500 acres for salt production and a large area can be utilised for solar power generation. As per industry estimates, over 16,000 acres would be required to set up the 4,000MW plant.

The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2016, does not permit 'any construction of a permanent nature'. Restrictions in wetlands also include setting up of any industry and expansion of existing industries.

Sambhar Salts Ltd (Union Govt. Company) is a subsidiary of **Hindustan Salts Ltd** (Union Govt. Company). As per the website, it is the only Central Government Public Sector undertaking engaged in the manufacture of salt.

Galta

Jaipur may get a second leopard safari park in the Galta region. The department has undertaken an exercise to develop the forest block adjoining Jhalana leopard reserve and Galta, spread over approximately 36 sqkm, which has over 60 sub-adult and adult leopards.

The Jhalana forest spreads 20sqkm in the southeast of Jaipur. It houses a healthy population of 44 leopards that can be spotted by tourists from 10-20 feet. The extension of Jhalana will be an added attraction for tourists and new routes will be explored.

Poonam Singh Stadium, Jaisalmer

Border Security Force (BSF) celebrated its 57th Foundation Day at Poonam Singh Stadium in Jaisalmer. BSF was established on 01 December 1965 and guards Indo-Pakistan & Indo-Bangladesh international border.

Security Force	Guarding Border
Assam Rifles	Indo-Myanmar
Border Security Force (BSF)	Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh
Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)	Indo-China
Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)	Indo-Nepal, Indo-Bhutan

New Biomass Plants

During November 2021, in the Annual General Meeting of Rajasthan State Energy Development Corporation, Additional Chief Secretary (Energy) Dr. Subodh Agrawal informed that new biomass power project would be set up in the state at **Malasar in Churu district** and **Nokha in Bikaner district**. Earlier during October 2021, approval has been given to set up one biomass power project each at **Fagi in Jaipur** and **Chhatarpur in Bikaner**.

New Medical Colleges

PM Modi laid the foundation stone for four new medical colleges in the Banswara, Sirohi, Hanumangarh & Dausa districts of Rajasthan. Post 2014, 23 medical colleges have been approved by the central government for Rajasthan, out of which 7 medical colleges have already become operational.

Jodhpur City Knowledge and Innovation Cluster

The Jodhpur City Knowledge & Innovation Cluster (JCKIC) has been established under the Aegis of the Office of Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India. In September 2021, Vice-President of India, M Venkaiah Naidu, inaugurated the JCKIC.

The main focus of the cluster is to provide a necessary platform to create synergy between all the stakeholders to make use of available knowledge as well as to develop advanced technologies, creative skills, state of the art infrastructure and innovative environment in an organized manner so as to ensure sustainable and systematic development of city of Jodhpur.

The Vice President also laid the foundation stone of the Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIOT) Hub at IIT-Jodhpur.

Medical Devices Park

In October 2021, RIICO signed a MoU with Indian Institute of Technology-Jodhpur ([IIT-Jodhpur](#)) and Jodhpur City Knowledge and Innovation Foundation (JCKIF) for development of a medical devices park.

The Medtech Medical Devices Park will be an exclusive zone for setting up of manufacturing units in medical devices domain. The park is under development over 223 acre land and will have 73 plots in first phase where plug & play facilities will also come up.

Jodhpur, Railway Station

Jodhpur station has been awarded Platinum Green Railway Station rating on the basis of 90 points.

This rating has been given by the Indian Green Building Council - Confederation of Indian Industries (IGBC-CII) for the best environmental friendly practices and systems.

Kishan Bagh

The **state's first desert park**, Kishan Bagh, which is spread across 64 hectares on the outskirts of the **Jaipur**, will open for tourists before Diwali. The park is one of its kind in the country, where sand dunes and desert species are grown and preserved. The ecotourism project has natural features preserved by the forest department and the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA).

The park has dhok habitat, granite habitat, nursery, rock and fossil exhibits to name few. Seeds and sand were brought from Jaisalmer to develop flora in the park. A total of 18 native species of trees have been planted. Trees from Barmer, Sirohi, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Chittorgarh and Banswara are also being planted at the park. The area was developed without disturbing the topography. The park will represent a unique desert ecosystem.

Pushkar

After two years, the international cattle fair will be held in Pushkar from 05 November 2021. It is one of the world's largest camel fairs. Apart from the buying and selling of livestock, it has become an important tourist attraction.

The 15-day Pushkar fair will start after Diwali and with that, cattle owners will start coming to Pushkar. There will be religious rituals, cultural programmes and other activities at the fair, which will end with a holy dip in the Pushkar Sarovar on the **full moon of Kartik month**.

SMS Hospital

The state government is planning to construct inpatient department (IPD) tower at SMS Hospital in two phases. The building will be one of-its-kind as it will have an **air ambulance landing facility** for helicopters, basements including parking and hospital services and 20 operation theatres. The project was announced in the budget speech.

BITS Pilani & Banasthali Vidyapeeth

According to the NIRF (National Institutional Ranking Framework) ranking, 2021 released by the Union ministry of education, BITS-Pilani, Banasthali Vidyapeeth and MNIT Jaipur — were ranked 29, 66 and 72, respectively.

While BITS-Pilani and Banasthali Vidyapith are private organisations, MNIT-Jaipur is a central government institution. Similarly, IIT-Jodhpur, National Law University-Jodhpur and AIIMS-Jodhpur, which have bagged ranks in the top 100 in various categories, are all governed by the central government.

Only Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, which is run by the state government, managed to get a place in top 200 of NIRF in overall category and its pharmacy institute managed the 67th rank.

Gadh Ganesh Temple, Jaipur

The Standing Committee of the National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) of the Union Environment Ministry has given nod to the construction of a passenger ropeway connecting Rajasthan's Jaipur city to the famous 18th century temple of Mandir Shree Ganesh located on the hills near Nahargarh Fort and Jaigarh Fort.

Other existing ropeways in Rajasthan include – Hanuman Temple, Samode | Savitiri Mata Ropeway, Pushkar | Manshapurna Karni Mata, Udaipur | Sundha Mata Jalore

Movie World, Film City

A private film city with more than 20 filming sets has been developed near Bagru, Jaipur with the name Movie World.

Garadia Mahadev, Kota

Kota's Garadia Mahadev tourist destination has been adjudged the 'Best Iconic Landscape Destination' at the India Today Tourism Awards-2021 ceremony, while the *Desert Festival of Jaisalmer* has bagged the runner up award for the 'Best Festival Destination'.

Pratapgarh

On October 23, 2021, State Health Minister Dr. Raghu Sharma informed that Pratapgarh has become the first district in the state to administer first dose of covid vaccine to 100% people.

Udaipur Division

On October 25, 2021, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Munish Kumar Garg informed that Udaipur division has topped in the first year plant distribution work of important Ghar-Ghar Aushdhi Yojna of the State Government and Forest Department. It achieved this achievement by meeting the 100 percent target.

Pratap Nagar, Jaipur

In November 2021, Rajasthan's Health Minister Dr. Raghu Sharma inaugurated the Integrated AYUSH Hospital at Pratapnagar, Jaipur. 6 state integrated AYUSH hospitals are being constructed by the state government, in which the construction work of **Ajmer, Bhilwara, Bikaner and Churu** has been completed. The construction work of Jaipur has been completed and dedicated to the public. The construction of Sikar Hospital will be started soon.

Karoli Industrial Zone, Alwar

The government is planning to set up the first EV industrial zone of Rajasthan in Karoli industrial area located in Bhiwadi of Alwar. This sector will be a dedicated investment destination for manufacturing units of Electric Vehicles. For this, about 60 acres of land has been marked in Karoli.

Udaipur, Jaipur

Udaipur (ranked 7) and Jaipur (ranked 17) have featured in the list of 25 Best Cities in the World by Travel Leisure Magazine.

Talchappar

In October 2021, Rajasthan's Minister of State for Forests and Environment Sukhram Bishnoi inaugurated 'WildLife Management and Desert Ecosystem Training Institute' at Tal Chhappar. The institute aims to impart knowledge and training to the frontline personnel of the forest department in forestry, wildlife conservation as well as related to it.

Kishangarh

The state's first multi-modal logistics hub (park) will be built in Kishangarh. The State Government has identified Kishangarh, suggested by the Central Government.

Environment

UN body recognises farming practices by tribals in 3 districts

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has recognised the farming practices of the tribals in Banswara, Dungarpur and Pratapgarh done without damaging the health of the soil. The UN-funded FAO has found the measures innovative and sustainable for areas that don't have enough resources.

The traditional farming approaches are organic, such as mixed farming, agro approach, the spray of buttermilk, jaggery solution and liquid manure.

A report published on the subject titled, 'Participatory learning action is important for community action to improve soil biodiversity' highlighted how the practice is revitalising soil health. The report was published by VAAGDHARA in Italy on April 19-22. The VAAGDHARA started a campaign - Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) to document the traditional nutrition-sensitive farming practices which are being lost with time.

Diversion of Water from Sabarmati Basin to Rajasthan

In the winter session of Parliament, Pali MP PP Choudhary had raised a question on delay in diversion of water from [Sabarmati](#) Basin to Jawai Dam leading to a severe water crisis in the three [districts of Rajasthan](#). The MP sought the speaker's attention on the issue which also involves Gujarat.

The **Sabarmati River Basin** is spread in four districts in the state — [Dungarpur](#), [Pali](#), [Sirohi](#) and [Udaipur](#) — while the remaining part is in Gujarat. An enormous amount of water from the basin goes to the Arabian Sea in the absence of the implementation of the proposed diversion of additional water. This could provide drinking water in 700 villages and nine cities spread in Pali, Jalore and Sirohi.

Steppe Eagle

In November 2021, a steppe eagle named Kenzhika, which was tagged in Altai-Sayan region, has come to Jorbeer on a winter sojourn after covering a distance of 4,686km. This is the third time any tagged steppe eagle was recorded in Jorbeer, the hub of migratory birds of prey in Rajasthan.

Ornithologists who are tracking the migration path claimed that the bird flew from Russia to Bikaner taking the route of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India (via Jaisalmer and Jodhpur).

Jorbeer is a [conservation reserve](#) in [Bikaner district of Rajasthan](#).

H5N1 in Rajasthan

In November 2021, the Rajasthan animal husbandry department sounded an alert after the National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases, Bhopal, confirmed the presence of H5N1 influenza virus in the samples of dead crows collected from Sambhar lake.

The department has instructed owners of poultry farms to regularly inspect and closely monitor the movement of wild birds, especially crows, which carry the highly pathogenic H5N1 virus. **H5N1 can be transmitted to humans from chicken.**

This is the second year in a row that the poultry farms are facing a setback due to the virus. In 2020, after the **avian influenza subtype H5N8** was found in crows, the poultry business was badly affected.

300 demoiselle cranes died of bird flu: WTI report

According to the report by the Wildlife Trust of India, around 300 Demoiselle Cranes (*Grus virgo*, locally called the “Kuranja”) have been reported dead since 06 November 2021 in the latest incident of avian flu in [Jodhpur](#) and [Udaipur](#).

The first report came from **Kaparda wetlands** on November 6 with 56 cranes found dead and several others showing signs of sickness, similar to the [outbreak that occurred in Sambhar](#) two years ago when thousands of migratory birds died.

State Government allows busting of Green Crackers

In a revised advisory issued by the home department in October 2021, the state government has allowed residents to burst green crackers for two hours (from 8 to 10 pm) during Diwali in Rajasthan barring places which fall under the National Capital Region (NCR).

According to the advisory, green crackers will also be allowed from 6 to 8 am during Chhath Puja, from 8 to 10 pm on Gurpurb, and from 11.55 to 12.30 pm on Christmas and New Year's.

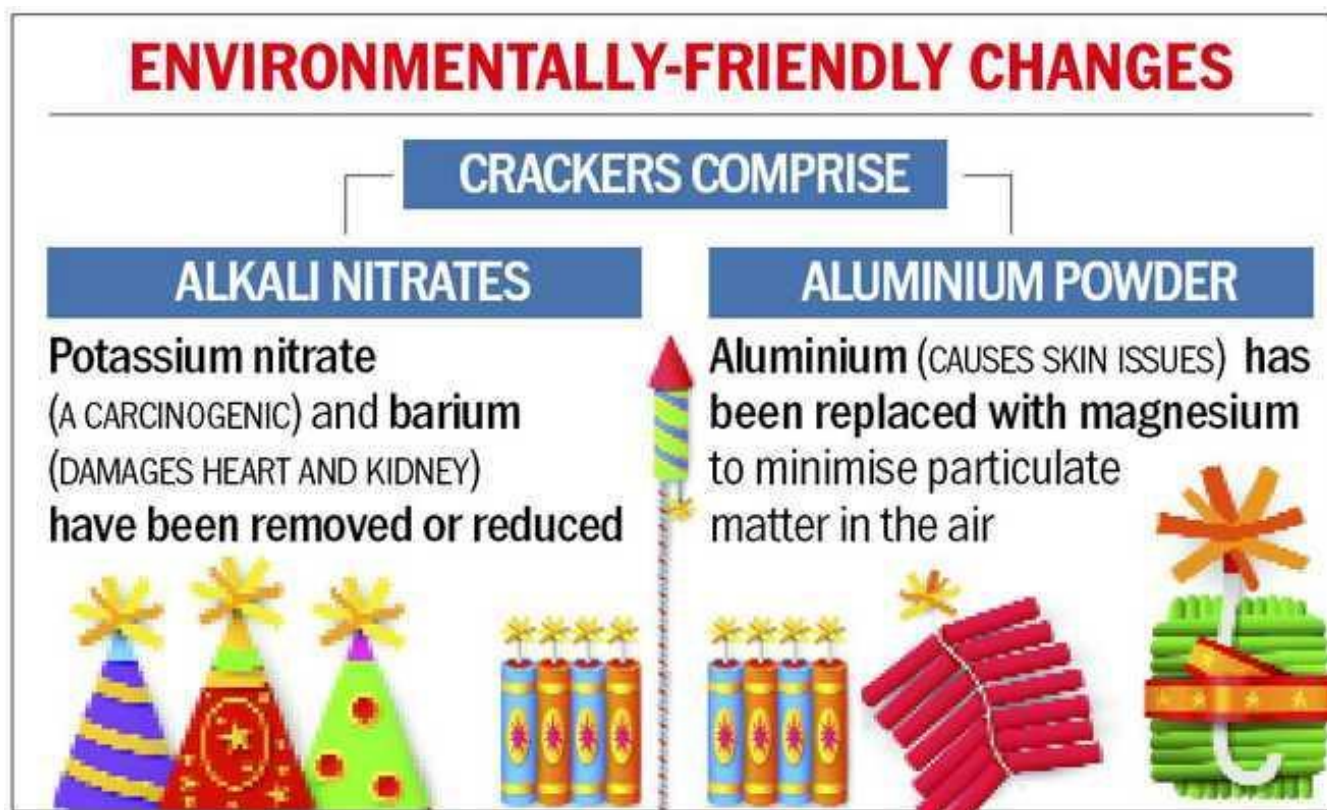
The Council of Scientific And Industrial Research-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), a central government agency, does the certification of green crackers. The certificate has been issued to 12 firecracker producers in the state. The producers are also required to obtain a license from the PESO (Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation) to manufacture firecrackers. Nine producers in the state have got their licenses so far.

What are green crackers?

The green crackers are eco-friendly firecrackers that have been developed keeping in mind the pollution hazard and health risks, which the regular firecrackers pose. These are advertised as eco-friendly alternatives to regular fire-crackers and will help in celebrating diwali in eco-friendly manner.

Green crackers are “less harmful” to the environment, with about 15 to 30 per cent less emission than regular crackers. Additionally, the emitted sound has also been reduced from 160 decibels to 125 decibels.

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in collaboration with the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) has been at the forefront of green cracker research. CSIR-NEERI has developed new formulations that are chemically different from traditional ones & have lower aluminium, barium, potassium nitrate and carbon content. The green firecracker boxes possess a green colour NEERI logo and QR code, which can be scanned.



JDA to develop mini-forests using Miyawaki technique

Mini forests will be springing up in different corners of Jaipur as JDA has started plantation using popular Japanese Miyawaki technique. UDH minister Shanti Dhariwal inaugurated the project from Jawahar Circle to create urban forests.

Miyawaki Technique

The method involves planting two to four trees per square metre. This method includes planting trees (only native species) as close as possible in the same area which not only saves space, but the planted saplings also support each other in growth and block sunlight reaching the ground, thereby preventing the growth of weed. The native trees of the region are identified and divided into four layers — shrub, sub-tree, tree, and canopy.

Miyawaki forests grow in two to three years and are self-sustaining. They help lower temperatures in concrete heat islands, reduce air and noise pollution, attract local birds and insects, and create carbon sinks.

In 2019, Telangana government has introduced the **Japanese “Miyawaki”** method of **afforestation** to grow urban forests and expand the green cover as well as to meet the stipulated plantation target under the Telanganaku Haritha Haaram (TKHH).

Take Back Web Portal

In October 2021, Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB) Chairman Veenu Gupta launched the e-waste “Take Back Web Portal”. The portal will help individuals or organizations to dispose of e-waste from home similar to e-commerce site and can get fair price for e-waste online. Further, she also launched the mobile van at divisional headquarters for door-to-door collection of e-waste.

Rajasthan has also signed a MoA signed Environment Protection Training and Research Institute, Hyderabad for the study of e-waste in the state. Under this, five cities of the state Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Kota and Udaipur e-waste collection will be studied so that the quantum of e-waste generation and disposal could be accurately calculated in the state.

“International E-Waste Day-2021” has been organized for the first time by the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board. “E-Waste Collection Drive” is being organized for various industrial areas and residential colonies of Bhilwara, Jodhpur, Alwar and Bhiwadi, residential welfare association, shopping malls and other commercial institutions.

Caracal

An endangered caracal has been reported from the Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary. It is the country's second wildcat species facing the threat of extinction after cheetahs. Caracal is a medium-sized wild cat, which is shy, nocturnal, elusive and difficult to spot in the wild. They prefer dry deciduous forest with water bodies having severely eroded river banks, adjacent to ravine habitats. Also, they inhabit dry, arid regions and moist woodlands.

The caracal is a native of Africa, Middle-East, Central Asia and India, listed in the IUCN Red List as a threatened species. In India, they are protected under Schedule (I) of the Indian Wildlife Act for being critically endangered due to the loss of habitat in many states.

Monsoon 2021 in Rajasthan

Rajasthan which usually gets an average rainfall of 526.62mm, received 588.82mm this year. The state has received almost 11.8% more rainfall this year. Excluding Sirohi and Sriganganagar, which have received deficit rains, majority of the places have received abnormal, excess or normal rainfall.

- Churu district has received abnormal rainfall. “Compared to 319.10 mm average rains, the district has received 532.73mm, almost 66.9% higher. Note: Rainfall, which is 60% higher than normal, is considered as abnormal rainfall.
- Kota has received 1144.44mm rains, the highest among all districts.

Leopard Habitat in Galta Region

The forest department of Rajasthan has started an exercise to develop a leopard habitat in Galta region, which is located adjoining Jhalana leopard reserve. The department is also planning a proposal to start a safari for tourists, once the area is developed.

As per NEWS reports, there are around 15 leopards inhabiting the Galta and Amargarh forest block. However, there were no routes to monitor the wild cats. Two routes have been developed in the 16 sq km area. Forest Department is contemplating opening up tourism there after six months.

The **Jhalana forest** spreads over just 20 sq km on the Southeast of [Jaipur](#). It houses a healthy population of 44 leopards including including 31 adults and 13 cubs. Apart from leopards, the forest has various attractions such as 132 species of avifauna, 220 species of flora, 20 species of reptiles, to name a few.

6 demoiselle cranes die in Jaisalmer

6 demoiselle cranes were killed after hitting electricity wires in Degrai Oran area in [Jaisalmer](#). In similar incidents, peacocks, [Great Indian Bustards](#) (GIBs) and other birds have died after hitting the high-tension wires in the area

Thousands of migratory demoiselle cranes come from colder regions to Jaisalmer after monsoon. The threat of these birds dying by hitting electricity wires put up for solar and wind mills is high in Degrai Oran area.

Demoiselle cranes, also known as kurja, come to Rajasthan from Siberia via Mongolia, crossing the Himalayas. These birds come in September and camp here at various places.

Economy

Best Industrial Parks of Rajasthan

On 5th October 2021, the 2nd edition of the Industrial Park Rating System (IPRS) Report was launched by the Union Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Shri Som Prakash. The IPRS 2.0 Report is expected to enhance India's industrial competitiveness and attract investment.

As per the IPRS 2.0 report released by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT),

- 41 Industrial Parks have been assessed as "Leaders",
- 90 Industrial Parks have been rated as under Challenger category
- 185 have been rated as under "Aspirers".

These ratings are assigned on the basis of key existing parameters and infrastructure facilities etc. IPRS 2.0 ratings will be instrumental to contribute to India's growth story and to chart out the path of progress for both the industry and the country.

The Report is an extension of the **India Industrial Land Bank** which features more than 4,400 industrial parks in a GIS-enabled database to help investors identify their preferred location for investment. The portal is currently integrated with industry-based GIS system of 21 States and UTs and plot-wise information in these are updated on a real-time basis. With this system, the investors can even remotely refer to this report to identify the suitable investable land area, as per the various parameters of infrastructure, connectivity, business support services and environment and safety standards and make informed investment decisions.

The IPRS 2.0 Report is part of the Commerce & Industry Ministry's AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, and comes during the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav festival.

The India Industrial Land Bank (IILB) provides details of more than 5.6 lakh hectares, roughly the size bigger than 30-40 countries, on the click of a button and prospective entrepreneurs can apply sitting from anywhere across the world.

The GIS-enabled IILB acts as a one-stop source of information on Industrial Infrastructure. Significant scaling up in coverage of Industrial Parks on this Land Bank has played a key role in facilitating the IPRS.

The IPRS pilot exercise was launched in 2018, with an objective of enhancing industrial infrastructure competitiveness and supporting policy development for enabling industrialization across the country as the Government pushes ahead a high-growth trajectory with an aim to scale the \$5 trillion mark for the Indian economy by 2025.

Based on the learnings from the pilot stage, the Government started the IPRS 2.0 in 2020. All the States of India and 51 SEZs, including 29 Private, have participated the IPRS 2.0 Report. 24 Private Sector Industrial Parks have also been nominated. Ratings have been undertaken for 449 out of 478 nominations received. The feedback survey involved responses from 5,700 tenants.

Ranking of Industrial Parks of Rajasthan

Out of the 41 Industrial Parks rated as **Leaders** (best performing) across the country - 17 parks (41%) are from Rajasthan, while Maharashtra topped the list with 18 parks.

Rank	Industrial Park Name
3	Agro Food Park, Boranada, Jodhpur
5	Boranada, Phase IV, Jodhpur
10	EPIP Boranada, Jodhpur
12	Export Promotion Industrial Park
16	Industrial area Sitapura Ph-III, Jaipur
17	Industrial Neemrana Phase-II, Alwar
18	Kaladwas (extension), Udaipur
20	Karoli, Alwar
21	Kishangarh Phase IV, Ajmer
25	Manda Phase - I, Jaipur
26	MIA Extension - Alwar
27	MIA - Udaipur
28	New Industrial Complex (Majrakath) Neemrana, Alwar
32	RIICO I/A Balotra Phase -I, II, III & III extension, Barmer

33	RIICO Industrial Area, Choupanki, Alwar
34	RIICO Industrial Area, Tapukara, Alwar
35	RIICO Industrial Area, Ghiloth (Alwar)

Industrial Parks of Rajasthan - in featured in Leaders Category

For land availability, Rajasthan came fourth (19.58 lakh hectares), not far behind Tamil Nadu (21.45 lakh hectares), the top state in the category.

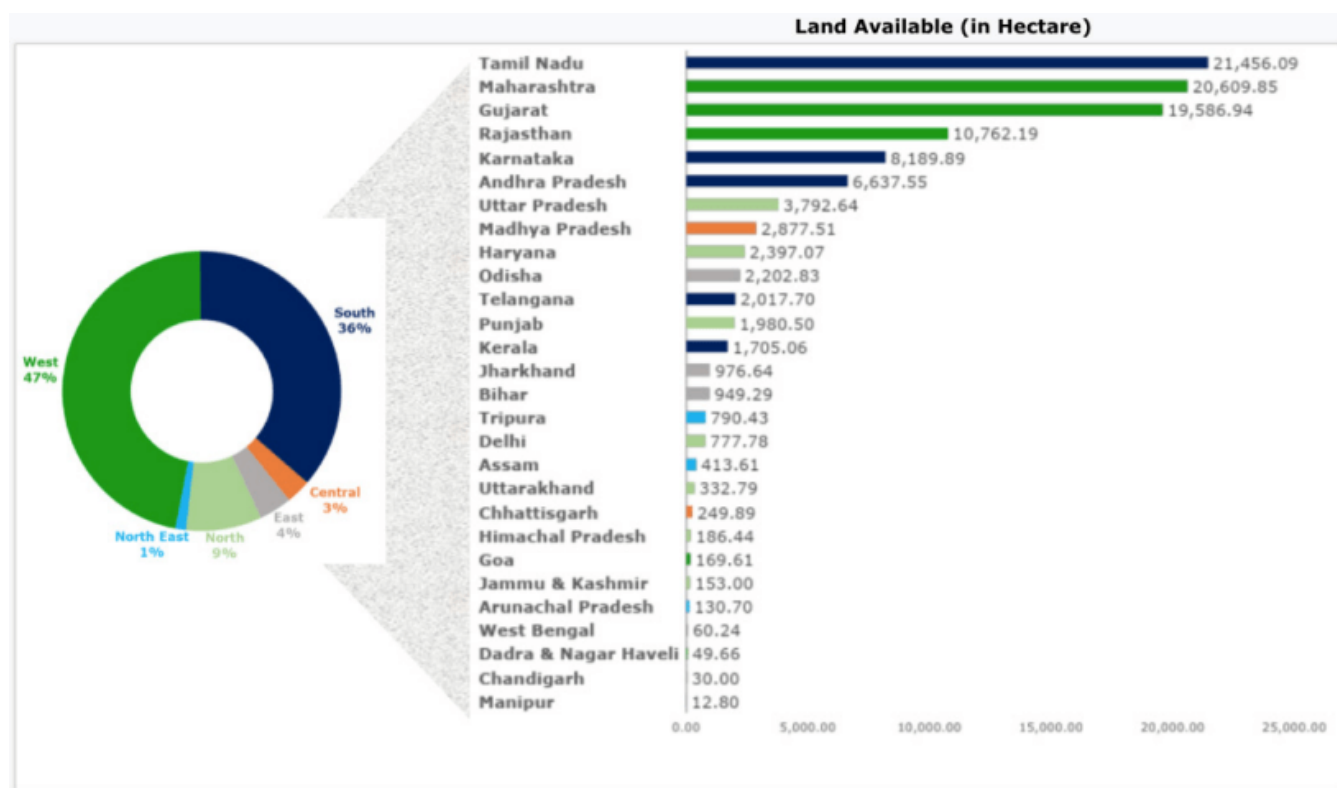


Figure 7: Land availability by region and state
Source: IILB Portal as on 31 May 2021

In the special economic zone (SEZ) ratings, the Mahindra World City Jaipur found a place in the leaders category.

In product-specific parks, Rajasthan secured No. 1 position in four sectors out of 21. The textile parks in the state have the largest used or occupied area than any other park in the country. Similar is the case with gem and jewellery, software, and construction parks in the state.

Invest Rajasthan-2022 Summit

The state government has finalised dates for the two-day investment summit "**Invest Rajasthan-2022 Summit**" which happen in coming January 20-21 at Sitapura. CII will be the National Partner for the same.

Officials from the state government are going to participate in Dubai Expo between November 12-18 and meet investors from the US, Germany, South Korea, France and the UK.

Before the summit, Invest Rajasthan Roadshows are being road shows are being organized in different districts and states. Accordingly, on December 1, 2021, the first local roadshow was held in Delhi.

Niti Aayog National Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021

In [November 2021](#), Niti Aayog released National Multidimensional Poverty Index Baseline Report based on National Family Health Survey ([NFHS-4](#)). Earlier, Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021 was released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI).

History of Poverty Estimation in India

- The history of poverty estimation in India dates back to as early as 1901 when **Dadabhai Naoroji** estimated poverty in the country based on the cost of a subsistence diet.
- In 1938, the **National Planning Committee** suggested a poverty line estimation based on living standards. This was followed by the authors of the Bombay Plan in 1944.
- Various committees, working groups and scholars including the working group of 1962, **Dandekar and Rath** in 1971
- and the **Y.K. Alagh taskforce** in 1979 were engaged in the estimating the headline statistic of poverty to inform public policy.
- Similarly, the Expert Groups under **Lakdawala** (1993) and **Tendulkar** (2009) and the **Rangarajan Committee** (2014) undertook the exercise of estimating monetary poverty.

Introduction:

- The MPI seeks to measure poverty across its multiple dimensions and in effect complements existing poverty statistics based on per capita consumption expenditure.

- According to **Global MPI 2021**, India's rank is 66 out of 109 countries. The National MPI is aimed at **deconstructing the Global MPI** and creating a globally aligned and yet customised India MPI for drawing up comprehensive Reform Action Plans with the larger goal of improving India's position in the Global MPI rankings.
- The MPI has **three equally weighted dimensions** – health, education, and standard of living. These three dimensions are **represented by 12 indicators** such as nutrition, school attendance, years of schooling, drinking water, sanitation, housing, bank accounts among others.

Methodology & Data:

- India's MPI measure uses the globally accepted and robust methodology developed by the **Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)** and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.
- This baseline report of the **national MPI measure** is based on the reference period of 2015-16 of the **National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4)**.

Conclusions & Significance

- As per the index, 51.91% of the population in Bihar is poorest state, followed by Jharkhand (42.16%), Uttar Pradesh (37.79%), Madhya Pradesh (36.65%) and Meghalaya (32.67%).
- Rajasthan (29.46%) is the 8th poorest state in India.

Overview

Rajasthan Headcount Ratio, Intensity and MPI

Headcount Ratio (H)		Intensity (A)		MPI (HxA)
29.46%	X	47.44%	=	0.14

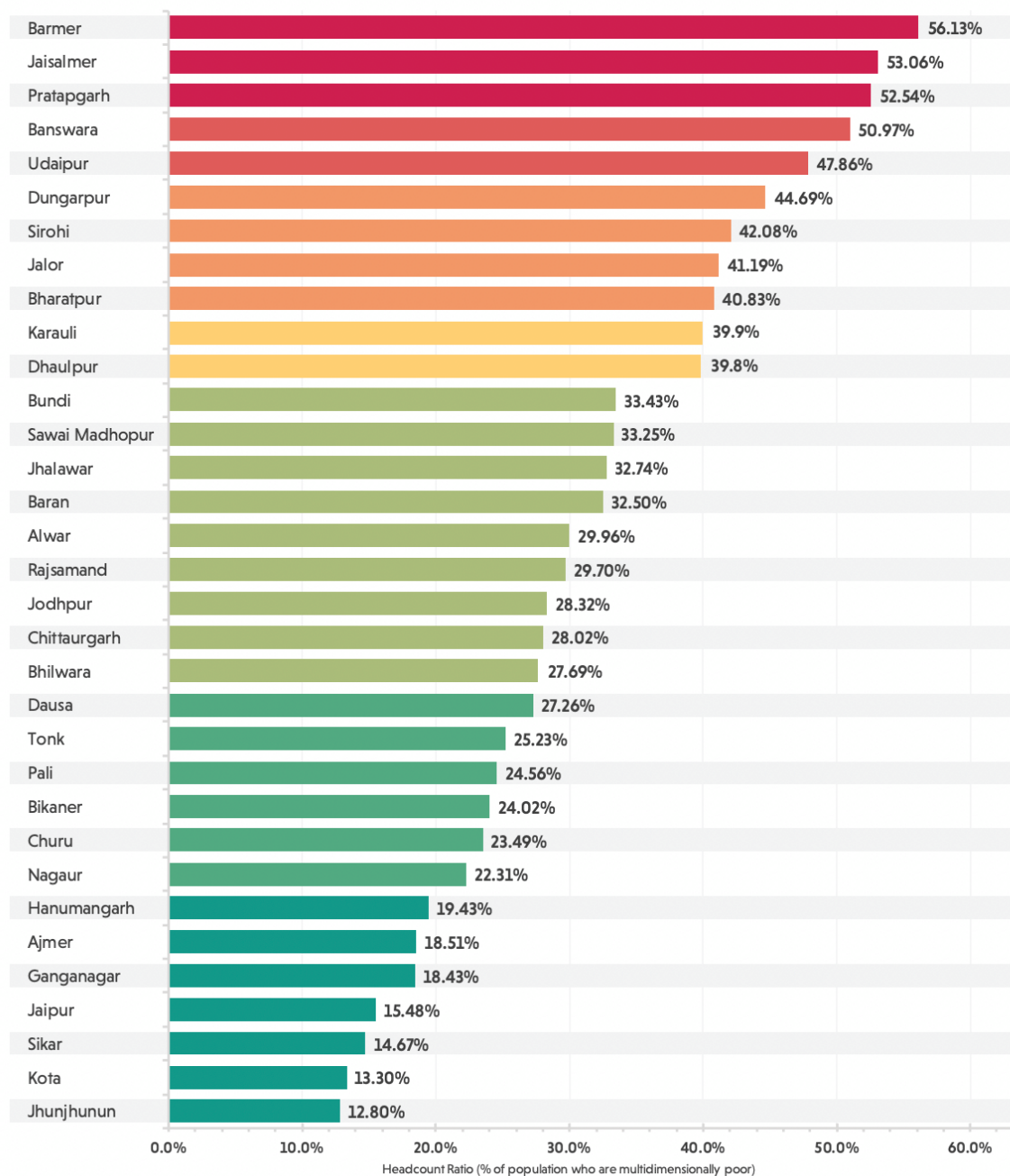
Rural			Urban		
Headcount Ratio	Intensity	MPI	Headcount Ratio	Intensity	MPI
35.22%	47.7%	0.168	11.52%	44.99%	0.052

- On the other hand, Kerala registered lowest population poverty levels (0.71%), followed by Puducherry (1.72%), Lakshadweep (1.82%), Goa (3.76%) and Sikkim (3.82%).

- Other States and UTs where less than 10% of the population are poor include Tamil Nadu (4.89%), Andaman & Nicobar Islands (4.30%), Delhi (4.79%), Punjab (5.59%), Himachal Pradesh (7.62%) and Mizoram (9.8%).

Rajasthan: Headcount Ratio

Percentage of population who are multidimensionally poor in each district



Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Advisory Board

In October 2021, CM Ashok Gehlot approved the formation of DBT Advisory Board for monitoring and evaluation of effective implementation of schemes related to direct benefit transfer in the state.

- The Chief Secretary has been made the Chairman of the Board.
- Apart from him, 11 members have also been included in the board. Additional chief secretaries, principal secretaries, government secretaries of departments related to DBT schemes will be members.

General

Covid Vaccine at doorstep

Rajasthan was among the leading states in vaccination, but as of November 2021 end, it has slipped to the ninth position. Now, for scaling up vaccination, the health department is facilitating the availability of vaccines for the beneficiaries at the doorstep. Just **call 181** and the health department teams will reach the doorsteps for vaccination camps.

RSRTC Smart Cards

Prashasan Gaon ke Sang was launched on 2nd October in which 1.08 lakh Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) smart cards were issued by RSRTC to the general public by registering 1.24 lakh in two months for 42 categories of free and concessional travel facility for the convenience of people. These cards were issued to various categories like freedom fighters, armed forces medallists, international medal winners, gallantry awardees, Padma awardees, etc.

Online facility for registration of smart card made by RSRTC for concessional and free travel facility was made available from August 1. Previously people had to physically go to the department office to get it made but now it is being done online and is beneficial especially for senior citizens and persons with disability.

The person availing concessional and free travel facility can upload the original documents for online registration and deposit the prescribed fee online. After uploading, the online documents will be examined and approved by authorised officer. After approval, the RFID card will be made available at the roadways office/house/RFID centre identified by the applicant. From there, the person concerned will be able to get the card.

Panchayat Elections in December 2021

In December 2021, elections to members of panchayat samiti & zila parishad will be conducted in four districts of [Baran](#), [Karauli](#), [Ganganagar](#), and [Kota](#). The elections will be held for 106 zila parishad

members, 568 panchayat samiti members, four zila pramukhs/up-zila pramukhs and 30 pradhans/up-pradhans.

The polls will be held in three phases on December 12, 15, and 18. The counting of votes will take place on December 21 at all the district headquarters.

Declaration of Essential Services

In December 2021, the state government has issued a notification through which, 104 Janani Express Ambulances and 104 toll free medical advisory services, all offices and employees and all services related to their activities have been declared essential service for the next 6 months, in addition to 108 emergency services.

Eliminating AIDS in Rajasthan

Addressing a state-level function on World AIDS Day (01 December), [Rajasthan](#) Health minister Parsadi Lal Meena said the government was aiming to eliminate AIDS by 2030. The health department is distributing free medicines and screening for HIV under Prashasan Sheharon and Gaon ke Sang campaigns.

The health department has launched a massive campaign against HIV. The department is running public awareness campaigns at an extensive level in the state. The facility of testing and medicines are available in all medical institutions and any patient without any hesitation can get the treatment. The department is benefiting people living with HIV / AIDS with various social security schemes.

Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha in Blue

The building of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly was illuminated in blue to mark the World Children's Day celebrations on 13th & 14th November 2021. The United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) is running the 'Go Blue' campaign worldwide to show solidarity towards child rights.

Children's Session

On the occasion of Children's Day on November 14, 2021, a historic children's session was organized in the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly, where the children conducted the session as Speaker, Chief

Minister and Minister and answered the questions of the children who became members. Zero Hour and Question Hour were organized in this unique session of the Vidhan Sabha.

Rise in Electricity Tariff in Rajasthan

In November 2021, the Power Discoms in [Rajasthan](#) have raised electricity tariffs by 33 paise for the next 90 days on account of rise in purchase cost due to coal and other input costs.

Mobile App to monitor Pregnant Women & Malnourished Kids

The state government has introduced a mobile application - 'ICDS CSS' for Anganwadi workers for complete digitisation of records aiming to provide immediate help to pregnant women and malnourished children under 5 years of age. The app is in Hindi and English.

Every family will get an 11-digit unique code which will be used as a reference number to track the information about the beneficiary. The reporting for children will be done from one month to 60 months. "The app will act as a health repository for children and pregnant women. The data will raise the red flag at the data centre directing the officials concerned to provide aid in a stipulated period.

GIS Enabled system for Management of Roads Asset

The Public Works Department (PWD) has developed a Road Asset Management System (RAMS) — a GIS-enabled system — for better management of the state's road network and enhancement of institutional capacity. The purpose of RAMS was to store inventory of roads and bridges, information about their condition and to estimate the need for maintenance and budget requirements. A mobile app has also been created to facilitate various inputs.

NFSA Beneficiaries Scrutiny

In an exercise to identify those beneficiaries who are now financially sound (or do not require benefits under the scheme anymore) and have stopped availing themselves of the benefits under the scheme. The state's food and civil supplies department has identified 7.38 lakh National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries who have not picked up wheat from fair price shops in the last seven to eight months.

Out of these, the names of 2.89 lakh beneficiaries have already been deleted from the NFSA list.

4% Reservation in Promotions in State Government Services

In November 2021, Rajasthan Chief minister Ashok Gehlot gave approval to provide 4% reservation to persons with disabilities (PwDs) in promotions in the state government services.

Along with this, provision has been made to provide relaxation to specially-abled persons in the upper age limit and minimum marks to be secured in the direct recruitment.

As per the circular issued by the department of personnel (DOP), guidelines have been issued to all the departments regarding the compliance of provisions related to reservation in direct recruitment and promotions, relaxation in upper age limit and concession in minimum marks to be secured by the PwDs.

Under this, the nodal officer will ensure compliance of the reservation provisions for PwDs in all service cadres of the department concerned. For this, along with maintenance of the roster register, the nodal officer will also have to submit an annual report to the head of the department.

Bundi Utsav

After a two-year gap due to Covid-19, the two-day Bundi Utsav took place beginning 22nd November 2021, with the worship of Lord Ganesh at the famed Taragarh gates on Garh ki Paras in Bundi city. The festival is organised jointly by the state tourism department and the district administration with a view to attract foreign tourists and boost local tourism.

Education of Specially abled Children

The high court has given the state government four months' time to respond to the shortage of qualified teachers for specially-abled children in government and private schools. Justice MM Srivastava and Justice Vinod Kumar Bharwani issued the order on a petition by Specially abled Persons Welfare and Rehabilitation Committee's advocate Anil Kumar Sharma.

As per the petition, specially trained teachers were needed for the education of specially-abled people, including disabled, blind, deaf and dumb, and mentally challenged. As per rules, there should be one

specially trained teacher for every five children. However, there are about 70,000 children in the entire state for whom only about 250 teachers are available.

PHED plans to curb drinking water shortage in Desert Districts

State PHED department has made a plan worth Rs 1,275 crore for four escape reservoirs has been decided upon to end the water woes in Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner and Ganganagar districts. With these reservoirs, more than 20.87 lakh families in 6,707 villages will be benefited. These escape reservoirs will be made

- Near 507 RD near Sattasar
- At 750 RD near Gajner lift project in Bikaner district,
- At 1356 RD in Jaisalmer
- At 1121 RD in Jodhpur.

With this plan, PHED believes there will be no water shortage for the next 30 years and an additional 1,000 cusec water will be available at these reservoirs which are to be built in the four districts. Each reservoir may get an additional 300 cusec additional water.

Rajasthan Housing Board receives SKOCH Award

In November 2021, the Rajasthan Housing Board (RHB) has been conferred with the prestigious SKOCH 'Gold' Award for 'Revival and Strengthening.' The award selection was based on the study of housing department's outcome in various states.

Har Ghar Dastak Campaign

During November 2021, beneficiaries who have been deprived of the first and second doses of Covid vaccine were being identified through a door-to-door survey under 'Har Ghar Dastak' campaign being carried out in the state. During December 2021, this campaign gained momentum and more than 46 lakh doses have been administered under the drive. The campaign will continue till December 31.

DA hike for Rajasthan govt employees

In November 2021, the state government has increased the rate of dearness allowance or dearness relief of state employees, work-charged employees and pensioners working under the fifth and sixth pay

commission on the lines of the central government employees. Now such state employees and pensioners will be paid 368 per cent and 196 per cent respectively of dearness allowance from July 1, 2021.

The central government had issued orders on November 1, 2021 to increase the revised dearness allowance to 196 per cent and 368 per cent respectively for the employees working under the fifth and sixth pay commission.

Shrinath Peeth campus

Governor Kalraj Mishra will lay the foundation stone of Shrinath Peeth campus on October 25 at Dabio Ka Guda village near Nathdwara, [Rajsamand](#). The campus will be the second campus of Mohanlal Sukhadia University.

Mission Possible

A 15-day campaign, Mission possible, started by a radio jockey to inspire pet lovers to adopt stray dogs concluded in Udaipur. 'Adopt, don't shop' was the theme of the campaign, which is internationally popular and is meant to raise awareness about the benefits of adopting rescued pets. It is promoted by a growing number of animal rights' proponents.

Fatty Acid Profile Test made Compulsory

Conventionally, the health department's laboratories checked butyro refractometer (BR) and Reichert Meissl (RM) values of the sample collected from the market for quality check of the ghee. However, with use of certain chemicals, the firms producing the adulterated ghee using vanaspati oil, have been successful in maintaining the values of BR and RM of good quality desi ghee.

As per the food safety and standards (food products standards and food additive) regulations 2011, the BR value should be in the range of 40 to 43 and the RM value should be minimum 26.

For countering the malpractice, the health department has made **fatty acid profile test** compulsory of the ghee samples. Fatty acid profile is an effective way of identifying foreign fat in ghee. The fatty acids in milk is different from the fatty acid in Vanaspati ghee.

Cyber Awareness Day

The state government has launched a campaign for general public, especially students, to curb cybercrime. Rajasthan chief secretary Niranjan Arya announced that the **first Wednesday of every month** will be celebrated as **Cyber Awareness Day** (from 11 am to 12 noon) in Rajasthan and an annual calendar will be prepared.

He declared that the day will be celebrated in collaboration with the district administration, education, police, health, information and technology departments along with common service centres, ASHA workers, Panchayati Raj institutions and municipalities.

Alwar, Bharatpur districts may lose NCR status

As per the draft Regional Plan 2041, areas beyond the **100km radius** are not likely to be the main part of NCR and this may result in the exclusion of both the districts of Rajasthan. At present, the NCR is spread around 150-175km, covering the entire districts and rural areas. However, the new delineation is proposed to be carried out based on the principle of 100km radius from Rajghat in Delhi, plus 1km in each direction along major transport corridors. Major transport corridors include national highways, expressways, state highways and regional rapid transit systems.

Under the Constitution (69th Amendment) Act 1991, the NCR zone was created by combining capital Delhi and some adjoining areas. Alwar was in NCR since inception, while Bharatpur became a part in 2013.

Zonal development plan

After the Rajasthan High Court banned the regularisation of illegal colonies in cities without having zonal development plan, the Urban Development and Housing (UDH) department is now planning to notify zonal development plan of 28 cities.

As per the mandatory rules, cities having more than 1 lakh population can only be regularised after the implementation of zonal development plan.

The state government recently launched the ambitious six-month special campaign, 'Shahar-2021' to issue lease deeds. However, its plan was stalled after Rajasthan High Court banned the regularisation of illegal colonies in cities without having zonal and sector plan.

Operation Clean Bowled

In October 2021, Jaipur Police launched Operation Clean Bowled to crackdown on person with illegal firearms, liquor, drugs and property documents.

Rajasthan Rural Olympic Games

During the budget of 2021-22, the chief minister had announced to organise competitions of Kabaddi, Tennis Ball Cricket, Volleyball and Hockey at gram panchayat, block, district and state level under Rajasthan Rural Olympic Games. For this, financial sanction of Rs 30.10 crore was proposed.

Recently, the chief minister had approved the inclusion of **shooting ball** and **Kho-Kho sports** in the Rajasthan Rural Olympic Games. Hence, an additional financial sanction of Rs 10 crore has now been given for organising these games.

16 years of RTI Act in Rajasthan

The State Information Commission (SIC) commemorated 16 years of Right to Information (RTI) Act being introduced in Rajasthan on October 12.

State Transport Department Renamed

The state transport department's name has been updated to **transport & road safety department**. The name change is expected to create awareness among people as well as officials who would strive towards curbing accidents particularly on national highways which is a cause of major concern for us.

The transport department is the nodal agency for road safety and even has a special cell - "**road safety cell**" for the same according to the guidelines issued by Supreme Court Committee. The road safety cell continuously keeps taking fresh initiatives and now there is a Road Safety Board at the national level, which might soon be replicated in states also in which case it is better to have just one body rather than multiple ones working towards the same purpose.

Prashashan Gaon-Sahar Ke Sangh Abhiyaan & Persons with Disabilities

Under the Prashashan Gaon-Sahar Ke Sangh Abhiyaan, the state government had declared to identify specially abled persons left out of the social justice and empowerment department's pension scheme.

However, now it has been notified that that people with only 8 categories of disabilities, out of 21 listed categories, will benefit during the campaign.

Under the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016**, there are **21 categories of disabilities**. The state has identified eight categories, including blindness, low vision, people cured of leprosy, hearing impaired, locomotor disability, mental retardation, mental illness, and dwarfism.

Mahatma Gandhi Statue

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot unveiled the statue of 'Father of the Nation' Mahatma Gandhi in the Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board premises. Further he also inaugurated a picture exhibition based on the life of 'Bapu' at Jawahar Kala Kendra in Jaipur.

Clean Street Food Hub

To ensure safe and hygienic street food, the health department will now give a tag to cluster of street food vendors of 'clean street food hub' but only after ensuring that they are following all hygienic practices. Places with cluster of eateries will be declared as 'clean street food hub', after the health department conducts training of such vendors to follow best hygiene practices so that their food is safe and clean for consumption.

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India ([FSSAI](#)) is helping the state as it has already issued guidelines for declaration of 'clean street food hub' on upgrading of infrastructure of existing food streets. The initiative will also help in popularising and promoting local and regional cuisines.

Campaign against food adulteration in Rajasthan

With festive season about to kick in, the demand for milk products such as sweets and mawa is increasing. With increase in demand the state health department is apprehensive that markets may witness an influx of adulterated milk and other milk products such as sweets and mawa. Aiming to prevent sale of such adulterated products, the health department will launch a campaign from **October 14 to November 4**.

Under the campaign, samples of food items will be taken from the market for testing in laboratories. The food safety officers will take the help of police and dairy departments.

Watch Riders

Sanitation condition of Jaipur Municipal Corporation-Heritage will now be monitored by 'watch-riders' in the city. These riders will go around the JMC-Heritage area, spreading awareness on sanitation and the riders will also challan anyone found spreading garbage.

On October 2, employees of JMC-Heritage were given motorcycles, using which they will drive around the city and make people aware about maintaining better sanitation conditions. Since they will do so while taking rounds on motorcycles, they have been called 'watch-riders.'

Suratgarh Thermal Power Station Unit 8

On 9th October 2021, Unit 8 of Suratgarh Super Critical Thermal Power Project with capacity of the 660 MW began generating energy commercially. The power unit will generate 1.584 crore units of electricity per day. With this, the power generation capacity of the plant increased from 7937.35MW to 8597.35 MW.

Biomass based Power Projects

Two new plants for biomass-based power generation will be set up in the state near **Fagi** in [Jaipur district](#) and **Chhatarpur** in [Bikaner district](#). About 22.9 MW of electricity will be generated from these projects

NGT Bans Commercial Activities at Nahargarh

In October 2021, the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Bhopal, has banned all commercial activities, including restaurant, hotel and bar, in Nahargarh Fort located in the Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary (NWS).

The tribunal has called business activities illegal and ordered them to stop operations as they are non-forestry activity. The order was given on a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by environmentalist Rajendra Tiwari.

In 1961, the Nahargarh forest was declared as a reserve area, on the basis of which the forest department was given the right of control it. In August, NGT had appointed a high-level committee to probe into the matter. The committee included Jaipur district collector, chief wildlife warden of the forest department, and members of the Rajasthan Pollution Control Board (RPCB).

Helicopter borne Survey for Ground Water

Union ministers Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Jitendra Singh jointly launched a heli-borne survey for water management in arid areas of the State.

The survey to locate groundwater in the arid regions of the state, including Jaisalmer and Jodhpur, under the Centre's under the Aquifer Mapping Programme.

In some areas, this survey will also provide information about level, quantity, quality and information of ground water present as deep as 500 metres

The survey is the outcome of an agreement between the Central Groundwater Board, Jal Shakti Ministry and the National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad.

SC issues Contempt Notice

The Supreme Court issued contempt notice to Rajasthan High Court Bar Association in Jaipur over its decision to boycott Justice Satish Kumar Sharma till his roster was changed after the judge did not take up a case involving a lawyer with immediate effect.

Cinemasthan

Cinemasthan, the first OTT platform for content in Rajasthani languages was launched recently. It is a video-streaming platform initiated by the Rajasthan International Film Festival (RIFF)'s Film Club.

Pump Hydro Storage Project

The Government of Rajasthan has been advancing to establish a first-of-its-kind 3.6 GW integrated project including 3,600 MW solar, 900 MW wind and 2,520 MW **pump hydro storage plant**. The solar and wind projects will be set up in Pali and Jaisalmer; and Pump Hydro Storage will be set up in Shahpur, Baran District of the state.

The excess solar-generated electricity will be used to pump water in a reservoir at a designated height. The potential energy of the water will be reclaimed using turbine-driven generators. It will be the first of its kind integrated project in the country with a combination of solar, wind and hydropower for uninterrupted power supply.

Welcome Desks at Police Stations

In order to facilitate complaints for issues such as verification of tenants and domestic help, complains for missing people, mobile phones and bikes, Jaipur police is coming up with welcome desks in all its 63 stations. These desks will be operational from January 1 and dedicated policemen will be deployed to facilitate the public visiting the thanas.

E-map and e-work apps

The state's rural development and panchayati raj department has launched e-map and e-work mobile applications for real-time monitoring and effective implementation of all schemes under the department. Real-time monitoring of all state-level schemes under the department will be done on a single portal through these apps.

The e-map app has been developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC) in collaboration with German company GIZ and BMZ. The e-map will help in visualisation of GIS-based GP plans on the mobile app by field-level functionaries and other stakeholders, giving a boost to ownership, participation and transparency. The platform will manage convergence of activities by line departments and developmental schemes into the GP-GIS enabled plans.

E-map and e-work apps will be integrated with the 'Jan Soochna' portal. The development of this app and portal will be done in two phases. The first phase was rolled out in December 2021 and the second phase will be implemented by April 2022.

Freedom Struggle of Rajasthan & Vijay Singh Pathik

On December 8, 2021, Rajasthan's Art and Culture Minister Dr BD Kalla released the book 'Freedom Struggle of Rajasthan and Vijay Singh Pathik' in Bikaner district.

New National Highway

In October 2021, the Union Government has approved a National Highway from Sri Ganganagar to Raisinghnagar. The new national highway will be 102 km long NH-911 from Sadhuwali near Sri Ganganagar to Bhompura in Raisinghnagar has been approved under the Bharatmala project.

Development of Mount Abu, Nathdwara, Pushkar & Pilani

In October 2021, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot approved the proposal sent by the Department of Local-self Government for development of Mount Abu, Nathdwara, Pushkar and Pilani in Tranche-2 of Phase-4 of RUIDP under Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project (RSTDSP) funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Various infrastructure development and beautification works will be done in these four cities linked in RUIDP Phase-4-Trench-2. Under the proposal, works of drinking water supply, road strengthening and renovation of two ponds of the Nathdwara city city will be done at a cost of Rs 80 crore. Besides, tourism development, urban beautification and other development works will be done in Mount Abu, Pushkar and Pilani cities at a cost of Rs. 25 crores.

3704 Villages declared Deprived

In 2021, monsoon has devastated agriculture and farmers in many states. In Rajasthan too, excessive rainfall has caused huge damage to the crops. According to state government assessment more than 33 percent crops have been destroyed in 3704 villages of 7 districts.

Accordingly the Chief Minister has declared 3704 villages of Dholpur, Tonk, Sawai Madhopur, Jhalawar, Bundi, Kota and Baran, as lacking. Now in these, agricultural inputs will be distributed from the State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF).

Public Affairs Index 2021

In November 2021, Bangalore-based think tank Public Affairs Center (PAC) released the Public Affairs Index 2021. In this index, PAC has released the ranking of states on the basis of three important pillars of governance - growth, equity and sustainability. Each of the three pillars of governance is divided into five governance practice themes. The equity scores for the states in the index were based on five themes - voice and accountability; effectiveness of government; The rule of law; Regulatory quality and control of corruption.

In the 2021 Index, Rajasthan came at 3rd position behind Gujarat (1st) and Kerala (2nd).

Swachh Survekshan 2021

The results of Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), viz. Swachh Survekshan 2021 were declared on 20th November 2021.

- For the **fifth consecutive year**, **Indore** was awarded the title of India's **Cleanest City** under Swachh Survekshan, while **Surat** and **Vijayawada** bagged the **second and third spots respectively in the 'more than 1 lakh population' category**
- In the population category of 'less than 1 lakh', **Vita, Lonavala and Sasvad**, all from Maharashtra, bagged the first, second and third positions respectively.
- In the category of '**Fastest Mover**', **Hoshangabad (Madhya Pradesh)** emerged as the 'Fastest Mover City' (in the 'more than 1 lakh population' category) with a jump of 274 ranks from 361st position in the 2020 rankings to the 87th position this year, thus securing a place among the top 100 cities.
- **In the State awards, Chhattisgarh**, for the third consecutive year emerged as the 'Cleanest State' in the category of "more than 100 Urban Local Bodies", while Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh came at 2nd and 3rd position respectively.
- **Rajasthan** slipped to 12th position.
- **Jharkhand**, for the second time, won the Cleanest State award in the "less than 100 ULBs category".
- **Karnataka and Mizoram** became the '**Fastest Mover States**' in the big (more than 100 ULBs) and small (less than 100 ULBs) state category respectively.
- **Dungarpur** came at first position in west zone 25000-50000 population category and is the only city from Rajasthan in featured list.

New Schemes & Policy

Back to Work Scheme

On 30th November 2021, [Rajasthan](#) Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has approved the state government's 'Back to Work' scheme for women who had to quit their jobs due to family reasons. CM had announced the launch of the 'Back to Work' scheme during the discussion on the Finance and Appropriation Bill for the [budget 2021-22](#).

Salient Features of Back to Work Scheme

- Regular or work-from-home job opportunities will be provided to such women with the help of the private sector.
- A target to provide 15,000 jobs in three years has been fixed. Priority will be given to widows, divorcees and victims of violence.
- Those women who will not be able to do regular office job will be provided work-from-home job opportunities.
- A single window system will be developed by the Directorate of Women's Empowerment and CSR organization to help them in job facilitation.
- Skill and training will also be provided to women through Rajasthan knowledge Corporation Limited ([RKCL](#)), to make them employable.

SACRED

Over 51 lakh senior citizens have been identified in Rajasthan as the department of social justice and empowerment, the government of India, launched a portal named, 'Senior Able Citizens for Re-Employment in Dignity' (SACRED) on October 1, which provides an IT platform to bring the senior citizen employment seekers and employment providers together.

Care-giver allowance

According to Section 24 (3) (i) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Act states that care-giver allowance shall be provided to PwDs with high support needs.

The office of the commissioner for persons with disabilities (PwDs) has directed the social justice and empowerment department and the directorate of specially abled persons to ensure giving 'caregiver' allowances to those specially abled persons who are suffering from multiple disabilities (with high support needs) and are not able to enjoy benefits of other welfare schemes for PwDs.

These people cannot enjoy benefits of any welfare scheme - be it scholarship scheme, special education scheme, reservation, self-employment scheme or scooty scheme - as they require services of a caregiver all the time.

Social Security Investment Promotion Scheme - 2021

In December 2021, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has given approval to exempt eligible non-profit organizations in the state from development fee and BSUP (Basic Services for Urban Poor) Shelter Fund amount under Social Security Investment Promotion Scheme-2021.

The State Government has implemented Social Security Investment Promotion Scheme-2021 with the objective of encouraging the development of public utility facilities in urban areas, encouraging the active participation of recognized non-profit organizations working in the field of social welfare and providing them a work-friendly environment.

Chiranjeevi Mitra's

In December 2021, Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has given approval to increase the number of Chiranjeevi Mitras and their services till March 31, 2022, in line with the increase in the number of empaneled hospitals under the Chief Minister Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana.

Chiranjeevi Mitra assists patients and their families in getting referral to other affiliated hospitals in case of non-availability of necessary packages related to treatment in empaneled hospitals, besides providing information and guidance about the scheme.

Under this scheme, help desks are set up in empaneled private hospitals to help patients and their families. In these help desks, the services of Covid assistants are being taken as Chiranjeevi Mitra.

The Chief Minister has also decided to give Rs 500 per month as mobile charge to Chiranjeevi friends keeping in view the need of communication medium in their works.

Udaan Scheme for Sanitary Pads Distribution

On the birth anniversary of the country's first woman Prime Minister Indira Gandhi (November 19), the [Rajasthan](#) government is going to launch the 'UDAAN scheme'.

Free [sanitary pads](#) will be distributed to the women of the state on day through schools, colleges, Anganwadi. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has decided to run this scheme to make women aware for better health and personal hygiene and to prevent diseases. This scheme was announced in the [state budget 2021-22](#).

A budget provision of Rs 200 crore has been made for 'Udaan Scheme'. Along with girl students and adolescent girls, women of the state have also been brought under the ambit. Pads will be provided in different phases. In addition, a special awareness campaign regarding women's health will also be conducted through women's self-help groups, social and government organizations.

The nodal department of the UDAN scheme will be the Directorate of Women Empowerment. Its implementation will be done in collaboration with Medical-Health, School Education-College Education Department, Technical-Higher Education Department, Tribal Regional Development Department, Panchayati Raj Department, Rural Development Departments.

At the state level 2 brand ambassadors will be made and 1 brand ambassador will be selected at the district level. Awards will also be given to the NGOs and Brand Ambassadors associated with the scheme for doing good work. Complaints for napkins can be made on the helpline number 181.

Chiranjeevi 104 Janani Express ambulances

In October 2021, Chief minister Ashok Gehlot flagged off 11 Chiranjeevi 104 Janani Express Ambulance from CMO. According to news reports, total 600 Janani Express ambulances are being operated in the state to provide **referral transport services to pregnant women and infants up to a year**.

Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship for Academic Excellence (RGS)

The state government has launched the Rajiv Gandhi Scholarship for Academic Excellence (RGS) scheme to help 200 meritorious students pursue higher education at 50 select universities located across the globe. Further, out of the 200 meritorious students, 30% seats will be reserved for girls.

Under the programme, financial assistance will be provided for studies at undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral levels at 50 reputed institutes of the world, including Oxford,

Harvard and Stanford University. For the undergraduate-level, scholarship will be provided only for the study of subjects related to humanities.

Under the scheme, preference will be given to the candidates with family income less than 8 lakh per year. 150 students from Humanities, social science, agriculture and forest science, nature and environmental science and law will be selected, 25 students will be from management, business administration, economics and finance; and 25 students from pure science and public health subjects will be given scholarships.

Anmol Jeevan

Barmer administration and police along with UNICEF and Action Aid have launched an awareness campaign, **Anmol Jeevan**, to prevent suicides in the district.

The administration will also identify people affected with depression affected with the help of public representatives, intellectuals, ANMs, ASHA sahayoginis, and anganwari workers and persuade them for treatment. A helpline will also be launched soon.

M-Passport App

In October 2021, Chief secretary Niranjana Arya launched the M-Passport app under joint aegis of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and state home department. Mapping of all the police stations in the state with the app has also been done. Now, the police verification will be completed within a week.

Mukhya Mantri Corona Bal Kalyan Yojana - Extended

The state government will now provide free education and admission in college hostels to children orphaned due to Covid. Chief minister Ashok Gehlot has approved free education to 306 such students in government colleges and free admission in hostels.

Earlier, under the Chief Minister's Corona Assistance Scheme, provision was only to provide free education in government schools and free admission in residential school hostels till class 12 to children orphaned due to corona. Now expanding its scope, the chief minister has decided to provide free education to such children in government colleges and free admission in government college hostels

Mukhya Mantri Corona Bal Kalyan Yojana Other Provisions:

- Under the package, orphaned kids will be paid ₹1 lakh as immediate assistance apart from a sum of ₹5 lakh, to be given when they turn 18.
- They will also receive a monthly sustenance amount of ₹2,500..
- The girl students studying in the college, destitute due to the [Covid-19 epidemic](#), will be given admission on priority basis in the hostels run by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment.

SC & OBC Development Fund

In October 2021, Chief minister Ashok Gehlot approved the formation of **Scheduled Caste (SC) and Other Backward Class (OBC) Development Funds** to ensure inclusive growth of youth belonging to these categories, read an official statement.

The Chief Minister also sanctioned Rs 5.57 crore from the **Valmiki Fund** with the objective of creating better job and educational opportunities for children belonging to the community.

In addition, financial assistance of Rs 5,000 each will also be provided to the children of sanitation workers on the basis of merit.

S&T

Genome Sequencing Labs in Rajasthan

With the emergence **Omicron** in South Africa, genome sequencing has become important to identify the new variant. In December 2021, the health department has decided to set up genome sequencing laboratories in all medical colleges run by the government. At present, the genome sequencing facility is available only at Sawai Man Singh Medical College in [Jaipur](#).

Happy Smile- App

A bilingual mobile application 'Healthy Smile' was launched by AIIMS in a bid to raise awareness on maintaining oral hygiene among children. This app is an initiative of the Department of Paediatric and Preventive Dentistry, with the help of AIIMS intramural research grant.

MyParkings – App

In October 2021, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur, launched the 'MyParkings' app. The app can help people book people parking slots online in areas under the jurisdiction of South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC).

CRISP-M tool

In October 2021, Union Minister of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh, launched the "Climate Resilience Information System and Planning (CRISP-M) tool" through a virtual event. This tool will help in embedding climate information in GIS based planning as well as implementation of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA (MGNREGA).

Driver less Train

In October 2021, German rail operator, Deutsche Bahn and industrial group, Siemens launched the world's first automated & driverless train in Hamburg.

Norovirus

First case of Norovirus was confirmed in Wayanad district of Kerala. Norovirus is a very contagious virus that causes vomiting and diarrhea. It is transmitted through contaminated water and food.

Mobile E-Voting System

The Telangana State Election Commission has planned to conduct a dry run of a “Mobile-Based e-voting system”. The dry run will be held in Khammam district of Telangana on October 20. It will be India’s first smartphone-based e-voting process.

The state election commission of Telangana is implementing the system in association with the emerging technologies wing of IT Electronics and Communications (ITE&C) department of Telangana government and technical development by ‘Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC)’.

MUDRA Toolbox

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) released “Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment (MUDRA) toolbox” in five Indian Languages on October 5, 2021. Toolbox has been launched, in 5 languages namely Hindi, Bengali, Kannada, Telugu and Malayalam, in order to expand the care and outreach to people suffering from dementia

Vaccine for Malaria

In October 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) on October 6, 2021 endorsed the Malaria Vaccine called “RTS,S/AS01”. This decision was taken following a review of a pilot programme deployed since 2019 across the countries like Kenya, Ghana, and Malawi where more than two million doses of the vaccine were given.

WHO has recommended that, children up to the age of two, in sub-Saharan Africa and in other regions having moderate to high malaria transmission should get four doses.

Face Recognition Software

Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, MK Stalin, launched face recognition software on October 4, 2021 for assisting police officials in their investigation. “Face recognition software” will help the

police personnel in comparing the photos of suspects with “data resource” that have been uploaded in Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS).

Face Recognition Technology

In November 2021, Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh launched a “unique” face recognition technology. The face recognition technology would act as a proof of life certificate for pensioners. It will ensure ease of living for retired & elderly citizens. All pensioners are required to submit their life certificate annually in order to receive pension. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions has also implemented a facility to give certificate digitally.

New Biodegradable Polymer

A team of Indian scientists have developed a non-toxic, environmentally friendly, biodegradable polymer using guar gum and chitosan. Guar gum and Chitosan are polysaccharides that are extracted from guar beans and shells of crab & shrimps.

Cryptocaria Muthuvariana

A group of scientists has identified a new plant species from the forest area of Idamalakkudy colony in Idukki, where Muthuvar tribal community resides. New species of the plant has been named as ‘Cryptocaria Muthuvariana’, named after the Muthuvar tribal community.

Pension Payment Order integration with Digilocker

Department of Ex-servicemen welfare working under ‘Ministry of Defence’ has integrated ‘Electronic Pension Payment Order’ (EPPO) with the Digi Locker.

About DigiLocker

DigiLocker is an Indian digitization online service under the Digital India initiative, provided by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). The locker provides a cloud account to every Aadhaar holder and enable them to access authentic documents or certificates like vehicle registration, driving license, academic mark sheet etc in digital format. All these documents are

accessed from the original issuers of these certificates. Locker has 1GB storage space for each account for uploading scanned copies of legacy documents.

e-Sawaari India Electric Bus Coalition

NITI Aayog in association with the Convergence Energy Service Limited (CESL) & World Resources Institute, India launched the “e-Sawaari India Electric Bus Coalition” (e-Sawari India e-Bus Coalition). This coalition is also supported by Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI).

With the launch of “e-Sawaari India Electric Bus Coalition”, central government agencies, state government agencies, city-level government agencies, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), transit service providers, financing institutions, and ancillary service providers would be able to share their learnings and knowledge on e-bus adoption in India.

Tech NEEV@75

As part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, in November 2021, Ministry of Science & Technology inaugurated “Tech NEEV@75”. Tech NEEV@ 75” is a year-long celebration, highlighting the impact of Science Technology Innovation (STI) in empowering community to create equitable inclusive economic growth.

It is 75-hour programme and includes experience sharing of beneficiaries, societal changemakers conclave, community change leaders, and round table discussions by several stakeholders. It also includes compilation of 75 impactful stories on progress of India towards Aatma Nirbhar Bharat.

India's Antarctica Expedition

In November 2021, India successfully launched the 41st Scientific Expedition to Antarctica. Indian Antarctic programs started in 1981. It has completed 40 scientific expeditions. The programs helped in building three permanent research base stations in Antarctica:

1. Dakshin Gangotri in 1983,
2. Maitri in 1988 and
3. Bharati in 2012.

As of now, Base stations Maitri and Bharati are fully operational.

Zika Virus in Uttar Pradesh

First case of Zika Virus was reported from Kanpur in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Zika virus is a member of the Flaviviridae virus family. It is spread by daytime-active called named “Aedes mosquitoes” like A. aegypti and A. albopictus. The name of the virus comes from “Zika Forest of Uganda” where it was first isolated in 1947. Zika virus shares a genus with dengue, Japanese encephalitis, yellow fever, and West Nile viruses.

Banni

India’s first IVF (in-vitro fertilisation) calf of Banni breed of buffaloes was born at a farmer’s house in Gir Somnath district of Gujarat.

Gati Shakti Express

Indian Railway has introduced a special train 01684/01683 called Gati Shakti Express to ease the extra rush of passengers during festive seasons like Diwali and Chhath Puja. Train will run between Anand Vihar Terminal-Patna-Anand Vihar Terminal.

Meta

In October 2021, Facebook Inc. has changed its name and logo to Meta Platforms Inc. to reflect its commitment to develop the new surround-yourself technology called as “metaverse.”

What is Metaverse ? It's a combination of multiple elements of technology, including virtual reality, augmented reality and video where users "live" within a digital universe. Author **Neal Stephenson** is credited with coining the term "metaverse" in his 1992 science fiction novel "Snow Crash".

Truth Social

Former US President, Donald Trump, has launched his own social media network called “TRUTH Social”. This platform was launched after Donald Trump faced bans from Facebook and Twitter.

Geospatial Energy Map of India

In October 2021, NITI Aayog, launched the Geospatial Energy Map of India. This Geospatial Energy Map of India provides a holistic picture of all energy resources like oil & gas wells, petroleum refineries, conventional power plants, coal fields and coal blocks.

Space Related

Dhawan - 1

In November 2021, Skyroot Aerospace test-fired India's first privately built cryogenic rocket engine called Dhawan-1.

Gaofen-11 03

China launched a new satellite called "Gaofen-11 03" from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre. Gaofen is a series of high-resolution Earth imaging satellite of China, which is used for state-sponsored program China High-resolution Earth Observation System (CHEOS). First Gaofen series satellite, called Gaofen 1 was launched in 2013.

Comet Leonard

Comet A1 Leonard is a long period comet. It was discovered by GJ Leonard in January 2021. It was the first comet to be discovered in 2021. The comet will pass near the earth on December 18, 2021. It reached naked eye visibility in December 2021. It is to make its closest approach to the sun in January 2022.

Yutu - 2

Yutu - 2 is a Chinese lunar rover that was launched to the moon in Chang'e 4 mission. It was launched in 2018 and it landed on the moon in 2019. Recently, the rover spotted a cube - shaped mystery hut on the far side of the moon.

Starlink & Blacksky Global Satellite Constellations

SpaceX launched 48 Starlink satellites and two Earth Observation satellites called Blacksky Global. The Starlink constellation aims to provide internet access to the Earth on a large scale and the Blacksky Global is building a satellite constellation which is capable of providing images of any part of the earth. While the Starlink constellation consists of 1600 satellites, the Blacksky constellation has 60 satellites.

Lucy Spacecraft

NASA, launched the first-of-its kind mission on 16th October 2021 to study the Trojan asteroids of Jupiter. The spacecraft has been named as Lucy. It was named after an ancient fossil, which provided insights into the evolution of human species. Spacecraft was launched from “Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Florida”.

Mission Lucy has been launched with the objective of investigating the group of rocky bodies that are circling the Sun in two swarms- one preceding Jupiter and the other trailing behind it.

What are Trojans (in context of space)

Trojans are small celestial body or asteroids, sharing the orbit of larger one. They remain in a stable orbit, nearly 60° ahead or behind the main body. Most of the known trojans in solar system share the orbit of Jupiter.

DART Spacecraft

NASA has announced to launch “asteroid-killing Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) spacecraft” on November 24, 2021. The spacecraft will be launched, aboard SpaceX’s Falcon 9 rocket. It will be launched from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California.

Astronaut Crew launched

China launched a three-person crew for a mission of six-month on board the **Shenzhou-13 spaceship** to its space station on 16th October 2021. The spaceship was launched through a Long March-2F rocket.

Asteriod Probe by UAE

United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced its plan to send a probe on an asteroid between Mars and Jupiter for collecting data regarding origins of the universe. If this mission is successful, UAE will join the elite club of the **European Union, Japan and the United States**. These countries have already completed its mission either an asteroid or a comet.

Solar Conjunction

American Space Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) recently decided to stop sending active commands to its missions on the MARS for next few weeks till the time Mars solar conjunction remains in effect.

As per NASA, during the Mars solar conjunction period, **Earth and the MARS will be on opposite sides of the Sun**. This position of both the planets will affect any communication attempt made by NASA for connecting with its Mars missions because Sun radiates hot & ionized gas from its corona.

Psyche Mission

NASA, is set to send its “Psyche Mission” to visit a giant asteroid called Psyche, which could be the frozen remains of molten core of a bygone world. Psyche asteroid orbits around the Sun in main asteroid belt, in between Mars and Jupiter.

Covid-19 Related

Omicron: SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1529

The World Health Organisation (WHO) designated SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.1529 as a ‘variant of concern’. This variant was first detected in Botswana region of South Africa.

Use of Covaxin on Children

The Subject Expert Committee on Covid-19 has approved the “emergency use” of Bharat Biotech’s Covaxin vaccine for children aged between 2-18 years old. This was done after, Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech submitted the trail data of Phase-2 & Phase-3 trails on children below age of 18 to the Drugs and Comptroller General of India (DCGI).

Covaxin is codenamed as **BBV152**. It is an **inactivated** virus-based COVID-19 vaccine. This vaccine was developed by Bharat Biotech in association with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Molnupiravir

Pharmaceutical company “Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics” announced the early results of Phase-3 trials of its anti-viral drug called molnupiravir. As per the results, Molnupiravir has reduced the chances of hospitalisation by half among COVID-19 patients with mild or moderate symptoms.

Molnupiravir drug has been named as ‘EIDD 2801’ by the company, where ‘E’ indicates it was developed at Emory University. The antiviral drugs work by inhibiting a process by which the virus replicates. In case of molnupiravir drug, when tested on cultured cells, it works by altering critical enzymes which are necessary for virus to start replicating the host cells of body.

Bal Raksha Kit

All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), under the AYUSH ministry, has developed “Bal Raksha Kit” which is an immunity boosting kit. This kit has been developed with the aim of amplifying the immunity of children in order to help them fight against the SARS-CoV-2 virus, that causes covid-19 disease.

Bal Raksha kit contains a syrup made up of basil, giloy, liquorice, cinnamon and dry grapes, which are have amazing medicinal qualities. The kit also comprises of Annu oil, Sitopaladi and Chyawanprash. These products help in boosting the immunity level with regular consumption.

This kit has been developed under the strict guidelines of ministry of Ayush and manufactured by Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited (IMPCL) in Uttarakhand.

Apart from Bal Raksha Kit, AIIA has previously developed ‘Swasthya Raksha Kit’, ‘Arogya Raksha Kit’ as well as ‘Ayu Raksha Kit’.

Covid-19 Vaccine delivery through Drones

In October 2021, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya launched an initiative to facilitate COVID-19 vaccine delivery using “made in India drones” in the tough & hard-to-reach terrains of Northeast. For the purpose, ICMR has designed a delivery model called “Drone Response and Outreach in North East (i-Drone)”.

This initiative has been launched in line with government's commitment to "Antyodaya in health" that makes healthcare accessible to every citizens in India. This was the first time that a "Make in India" drone has been used in South Asia for transporting COVID-19 vaccine for an aerial distance of 15 km. This distance was covered in 12-15 mins from Bishnupur district hospital to Loktak lake, Karang island in Manipur.

Covid-19 Booster Doses:

In October 2021, European Medicines Agency (EMA) approved the booster doses of Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine for people aged 18 and above.

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is an mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine developed by BioNTech in collaboration with the American company Pfizer.

ZyCov - D

ZyCov – D is the second indigenous vaccine next to COVAXIN. The vaccine is to be administered only persons in the age group of 12 to 19 years. It is a three dose vaccine. It is taken at 28th day and 56th day of the first dose.

The unique feature of ZyCov – D is that it is needle – less vaccine. At first, the ZyCov – D vaccine is to be launched in seven states. They are Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Punjab, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.

Defence Related

Agni - 5

India has successfully test-fired a **surface-to-surface** ballistic missile called Agni-5. The missile uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine, which can strike the targets up to the range of 5000-km with a very high degree of accuracy.

Pinaka

The Pinaka Extended Range Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher System was successfully tested at the Pokhran range during December 2021. The system has been jointly designed by the laboratories of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE), Pune, and High Energy Materials Research Laboratory (HEMRL), Pune.

SANT Missile

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Air Force (IAF) had flight-tested the indigenously designed and developed helicopter launched the **Stand-off Anti-tank** (SANT) Missile from Pokhran during December 2021. The missile is equipped with a state-of-the-art MMW seeker which provides high precision strike capability from a safe distance. The weapon can neutralise targets in a range up to 10km.

Abhyas

In October 2021, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested the high-speed expendable aerial target (HEAT) called ABHYAS. It was tested from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha.

SMART

In December 2021, India successfully launched Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo System (SMART) from Abdul Kalam Island, off the Odisha coast.

China Tests Hypersonic Missile

As per report of financial times, China tested a nuclear-capable hypersonic missile in August 2021, demonstrating an advanced space capability. Countries like Russia, China and US are developing hypersonic missiles that travel at the speed five times that of sound. However, they run slower than ballistic missiles. These missiles are harder to intercept and can be manoeuvred.

Note - Supersonic is greater than Mach 1 speed while hypersonic is greater Mach 5 speed, this means that supersonic speed is greater than the speed of sound while hypersonic is greater than 5 times the speed of sound.

Dakshin Shakti

In November 2021, Dakshin Shakti Exercise was held between Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, Indian Air Force, Border Security Force and local police in Jaisalmer. The main objective of the exercise was to check how well the forces worked together.

Important Days

October 2021

04th October: World Habitat Day [First Monday of October]

This day is an initiative of United Nations. This day is observed with the aim of promoting the basic right of adequate shelter and housing for everyone across the world which is densely populated and have been affected due to rapid urbanisation.

The World Habitat Day in 2021 was observed under the theme “Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world”.

07th October: World Cotton Day

World Cotton Day was observed on October 7, across the world, in a bid to raise awareness regarding the cotton sector among people. World Trade Organisation (WTO) had launched the “World Cotton Day” in 2019 at the initiative of four cotton-producing sub-Saharan African states namely Benin, Chad, Burkina Faso and Mali. The day offered an opportunity of sharing knowledge and showcasing cotton-related activities.

World Cotton Day 2021 was observed under the theme- “Cotton for Good”. This theme celebrates the enduring positive impact of cotton, such as providing employment, giving us natural fibres and protecting environment.

Additionally, according to experts, cotton has a negative carbon footprint because it degrades 95 per cent faster as compared to polyester in wastewater. Thus, it helps in keeping the environment clean.

10th October: World Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day was observed across the world on October 10, 2021 with the objective of raising awareness on mental health issues. The campaign is being organised by the World Health Organisation under the slogan: “Mental health care for all: let’s make it a reality”.

12th October: World Arthritis Day

The World Arthritis Day is observed on October 12, each year in a bid to raise awareness regarding the joint diseases which causes suffering from pain and stiffness.

13th October: International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

The day is observed with the aim of promoting a global culture of risk awareness and disaster reduction. It celebrates how people and communities across the world are reducing their exposure to disasters and raising awareness regarding the importance of reining in risks that they are facing.

2021 edition of the day focusses on international cooperation of developing countries in order to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses.

14th October: International e-Waste Day

The International E-Waste Day (IEWD) is celebrated every year since 2018, to promote the correct disposal of e-waste throughout the world with the aim to increase re-use, recovery and recycling rates.

2021 is the fourth edition of the International E-Waste Day. WEEE Forum, an international association of e-waste collection schemes, with the support of its members, initiated the day in 2018.

The theme for 2021 IEWD is “**Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!**”. This year’s International E-Waste Day will focus on the crucial part each of us has in making circularity a reality for e-products.

15th October: Global Hand-washing Day

On October 15, Global Handwashing Day was observed across the world in order to raise awareness and develop better understanding on the importance of hand hygiene in keeping people safe and healthy. Theme of the ‘Global handwashing Day’ in year 2021 is “Our Future is at Hand – Let’s Move Forward Together.”

15th October: International Day for Rural Women

International Day for Rural Women 2021 is observed under the theme “Rural women cultivating good food for all”.

16th October: World Food Day

Year 2021 marked the 76th World Food Day. United Nations had found the 'Food and Agriculture Association (FAO)' on October 16, 1945. This day in 2021 was celebrated under the theme- "Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow".

17th October: International day for Eradication of Poverty

The day is observed to recognize and acknowledge the efforts and struggles faced by people, who are pushed to live in poverty. Poverty was proclaimed as violation of human rights on October 17, 1987.

On this day, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was also signed in the year 1948. Finally on December 22, 1992, UN General Assembly adopted its resolution 47/196 and proclaimed October 17 as "International Day for the Eradication of Poverty".

21st October: National Police Commemoration Day

National Police Commemoration Day is observed every year on October 21, in India. This day is dedicated to the sacrifices of ten policemen, who died in Chinese firing in the year 1959.

24 October: United Nations Day

The United Nations Day is observed on October 24, every year since 1948. The day marks the anniversary of the entry of the UN Charter into force in 1945.

November 2021

02 November: National Ayurveda Day

National Ayurveda Day was celebrated on November 2, 2021 by the Ministry of AYUSH, across the country. Union Ministry of AYUSH started observing Dhanvantari Jayanti (also called as Dhanteras) as Ayurveda day in 2016. In the year 2021, the day was observed under the theme "Ayurveda for Poshana (Nutrition)".

09 November: National Legal Services Day

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) celebrates Legal Services Day on November 9 annually to commemorate the enactment of Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 in India.

On October 11, 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 was enacted and it came into force on November 9, 1995. Accordingly, Legal Services Day was commenced by the Supreme Court of India in 1995 in order to assist and provide help & support to the weaker sections of the society as well as to commemorate the enactment of the Act.

10 November: World Science Day

World Science Day for Peace and Development is observed on November 10, every year to highlight importance and relevance of science in our daily lives. The World Science Day 2021 was observed with the theme- 'Building Climate-Ready Communities'.

On the lines of World Science Day, India observes National Science Day every year on 28 February. It commemorates the discovery of Raman Effect by Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman. For Raman Effect, he has been awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930.

11 November: National Education Day

National Education Day is celebrated on 11 November, to mark the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

Maulana Abul Azad was an Indian independence activist, writer, Islamic theologian, and a senior leader of Indian National Congress (INC). He became the First Minister of Education of Independent India and served from 1947 to 1958 in Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet.

15 November: Janjatiya Gaurav divas

In November 2021, Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved declaration of November 15 as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas. The Janjatiya Gaurav Divas will acknowledge the cultural heritage and glorious history of tribal communities.

The day was declared as a part of year-long celebration of 75 years of India's independence, in a bid to commemorate brave tribal freedom fighters. The day marks birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, considered as God by tribal communities across India.

16 November: International Day for Tolerance

The International Day of Tolerance is observed every year on 16 November, with the aim of creating public awareness on dangers of intolerance.

United Nations had declared a Year for Tolerance in 1995. The Declaration of Principles on Tolerance was formulated in 1995 itself by UNESCO on November 16. The UN decided to pay tribute to 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi in 1995, by kickstarting the commemoration of International Tolerance Day in the year 1995.

16 November: National Press Day

National Press Day is observed every year on November 16, to commemorate the presence of responsible and independent press in India. Theme for National Press Day 2021 is 'Who is Not Afraid of Media?'

The day also marks the establishment of Press Council of India as well as a day it started operating as a statutory and quasi-judicial establishment. PCI came into being on November 16, 1966. Since then, PCI has been working as an agency to monitor quality of reportage provided by Indian Press.

19 November: World Toilet Day

World Toilet Day is observed on November 19, every year to raise awareness on importance of toilets and sanitation in our daily lives. World Toilet Day initiative was started by Jack Sim from Singapore. He founded the World Toilet organisation NGO in 2001. United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed a resolution in its 67th session in 2013 to designate November 19 as world toilet day.

20 November: World Children Day

World Children's Day is observed on November 20, to promote a feeling of togetherness among children. November 20 is significant because on this day in 1959, UNGA adopted the Declaration of the Rights of Child. On 20 November in 1989, UNGA also adopted a "Convention on the Rights of the Child". The day was observed under the theme- 'A Better Future for Every Child'.

21 November: World Television Day

World Television Day is observed on November 21 across the globe, to highlight the importance of television beyond an electronic tool. The day is not about celebrating the tool, but rather the philosophy represented by Television.

26 November: National Milk Day

National Milk Day is celebrated every year on 26 November to honor Dr. Verghese Kurien, who is the father of India's White Revolution. It marks his birth anniversary.

29 November: International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People

United Nations observes the "International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People" on November 29, every year. The day is observed to mark the adoption of UN's resolution to divide Palestine into two states.

December 2021

01 December: World AIDS Day

Since 1988, Every year the World AIDS Day has been celebrated on 01 December to create awareness against the spread of HIV infection. This year World AIDS Day is celebrated under the theme - **Ending Inequalities**.

02 December: National Pollution Control Day

The National Pollution Control Day on 02 December every year, in the memory of the people who lost their lives in the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. It is also the day to raise awareness about the hazards of air pollution.

The Bhopal gas tragedy occurred on December 2nd and 3rd, 1984. During the accident poisonous chemical methyl isocyanate leaked from a pesticide plant union carbide India Limited in Bhopal. This exposed more than 500 thousand people to the poisonous gas. Around 2259 people died immediately.

03 December: International Day of Persons with Disabilities

International Day of Persons with Disabilities is celebrated on 03 December across the world. This year the day is celebrated with the theme **“Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world”**.

The International Day of Persons with Disability was first proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1992. It aims to promote well-being and rights of the persons with disabilities and increase the awareness of the situation of persons with disabilities in social, political, economic and cultural life.

04: Indian Navy Day

Every year the Indian Navy Day is celebrated on December 4. This year the Indian Navy Day is celebrated on the following theme: **Indian Navy – Combat Ready, Credible and Cohesive**.

06 December: Mahaparinirvana Divas

The death anniversary of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar, which falls on December 6, is observed as Mahaparinirvana Divas.

07 December: International Civil Aviation Day

The International Civil Aviation Day is celebrated on 07 December every year to commemorate the signing of Convention on International Civil Aviation. It was signed on December 7, 1944 in Chicago. In 2021, the International Civil Aviation Day is celebrated with the theme:

“Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development”.

10 December: Human Rights Day

The United Nations General Assembly observes Human Rights Day on December 10, every year to raise awareness regarding people’s social, cultural and physical rights as well as to ensure the welfare people across the world.

The Human Rights Day 2021 was observed under the theme- “Equality, reducing inequalities, advancing human rights.”

16 December: Victory day of 1971 Indo-Pak War

16 December was celebrated as victory day of 1971 Indo-Pak War. This year is further special as it is golden-jubilee (50 year) celebration.

[NFHS-5: Rajasthan Fact Sheet 2021](#)

The National Family Health Survey 2019-21 (NFHS-5), the fifth in the NFHS series, provides information on population, health and nutrition for India and each State / Union territory. Like [NFHS-4](#), NFHS-5 also provides district-level estimates for many important indicators.

NFHS-5 includes some new topics, such as preschool education, disability, access to a toilet facility, death registration, bathing practices during menstruation, and methods and reasons for abortion.

As in the earlier rounds, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of [India](#), designated the **International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai**, as the nodal agency to conduct NFHS-5. The main objective of each successive round of the NFHS has been to provide high-quality data on health and family welfare and emerging issues in this area. NFHS-5 data will be useful in setting benchmarks and examining the progress the health sector has made over time.

The NFHS-5 [Rajasthan](#) State Fact Sheet provides information on key indicators and trends for Rajasthan. Due to the Covid-19 situation and the imposition of lockdown, NFHS-5 fieldwork in phase 2 States/UTs was conducted in two parts. NFHS5 fieldwork for Rajasthan was conducted from 2nd January 2020 to 21st March 2020 prior to the lockdown and from 10th December 2020 to 1st March 2021 post lockdown by Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR). Information was gathered from 31,817 households, 42,990 women, and 6,353 men.

Key Observations from NFHS-5 Rajasthan Fact Sheet:

- **Child Marriages:** As compared to [NFHS-4](#), the percentage of women between 20 to 24 years, who were married before turning 18, came down to 25.4% which is a decrease of 10%. This decrease was also visible in men between 25 to 29 years, who were married before turning 21 and in 2020-21, 28.2% of men fell in this category as compared to 35.7% in NFHS-4.
- **Infant mortality rate (IMR)** in Rajasthan has taken a dip from 41 per 1,000 live births (NFHS-4) to 31.3 per 1,000 live births. However, according to NFHS -5, there is a vast difference between IMR in rural areas and in the urban areas. In rural areas, IMR is 32.2 deaths per 1,000 live births. In urban areas of the state, it is 22.2 deaths per 1,000 live births.

- **Under-5 mortality rate (U5MR)** has also witnessed a dip of 13 points in the state, from 50.7 per 1,000 live births (NFHS-4) to 37.6 per 1,000 live births.
- The **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** — average number of children born to a woman in her lifetime — has reduced from 2.2 to 2.0 in the state. The replacement level TFR, at which a population exactly replaces itself from one generation to the next, is estimated to be 2.1. The figures are indicating that the state is on the way of achieving population stabilisation.
- The adolescent fertility rate for women (15-19 years) has reduced from 46 to 31. It is 34 in rural areas, while it is 17 in urban areas.
- The **sex ratio of the total population** (females per 1,000 males) has increased from 991 to 1,020, shows NFHS-5 (2019-21), when comparing it with NFHS-4 (2015-16). Among adolescent population, the fertility rate has also taken a significant dip.
- Besides, **sex ratio at birth** has also increased from 919 to 929, which shows that for every 1,000 males born, 929 girl child were born from 2019 to 2021.

Rajasthan - Key Indicators

Indicators	NFHS-5 (2019-21)			NFHS-4 (2015-16)
	Urban	Rural	Total	Total
Maternal and Child Health				
Maternity Care (for last birth in the 5 years before the survey)				
40. Mothers who had an antenatal check-up in the first trimester (%)	80.5	75.1	76.3	63.0
41. Mothers who had at least 4 antenatal care visits (%)	60.6	53.9	55.3	38.5
42. Mothers whose last birth was protected against neonatal tetanus ⁹ (%)	94.9	93.0	93.4	89.7
43. Mothers who consumed iron folic acid for 100 days or more when they were pregnant (%)	39.6	32.3	33.9	17.3
44. Mothers who consumed iron folic acid for 180 days or more when they were pregnant (%)	16.7	13.7	14.4	6.0
45. Registered pregnancies for which the mother received a Mother and Child Protection (MCP) card (%)	98.2	98.1	98.1	92.3
46. Mothers who received postnatal care from a doctor/nurse/LHV/ANM/midwife/other health personnel within 2 days of delivery (%)	87.0	84.8	85.3	63.7
47. Average out-of-pocket expenditure per delivery in a public health facility (Rs.)	2,384	2,034	2,102	3,052
48. Children born at home who were taken to a health facility for a check-up within 24 hours of birth (%)	(0.0)	1.4	1.3	1.2
49. Children who received postnatal care from a doctor/nurse/LHV/ANM/midwife/other health personnel within 2 days of delivery (%)	89.1	86.3	86.9	na
Delivery Care (for births in the 5 years before the survey)				
50. Institutional births (%)	97.5	94.2	94.9	84.0
51. Institutional births in public facility (%)	70.5	78.6	77.0	63.5
52. Home births that were conducted by skilled health personnel ¹⁰ (%)	0.8	1.6	1.4	3.2
53. Births attended by skilled health personnel ¹⁰ (%)	98.0	95.0	95.6	86.6
54. Births delivered by caesarean section (%)	19.7	8.1	10.4	8.6
55. Births in a private health facility that were delivered by caesarean section (%)	33.0	24.4	26.9	23.2
56. Births in a public health facility that were delivered by caesarean section (%)	15.3	5.5	7.2	6.1
Child Vaccinations and Vitamin A Supplementation				
57. Children age 12-23 months fully vaccinated based on information from either vaccination card or mother's recall ¹¹ (%)	83.2	79.7	80.4	54.8
58. Children age 12-23 months fully vaccinated based on information from vaccination card only ¹² (%)	88.3	84.5	85.3	69.7
59. Children age 12-23 months who have received BCG (%)	97.4	95.1	95.6	88.8
60. Children age 12-23 months who have received 3 doses of polio vaccine ¹³ (%)	86.0	84.2	84.6	65.4
61. Children age 12-23 months who have received 3 doses of penta or DPT vaccine (%)	91.6	88.8	89.3	71.6
62. Children age 12-23 months who have received the first dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV) (%)	93.5	90.5	91.2	78.1
63. Children age 24-35 months who have received a second dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV) (%)	27.8	26.5	26.8	na
64. Children age 12-23 months who have received 3 doses of rotavirus vaccine ¹⁴ (%)	65.5	60.7	61.6	na
65. Children age 12-23 months who have received 3 doses of penta or hepatitis B vaccine (%)	90.1	87.7	88.2	53.1
66. Children age 9-35 months who received a vitamin A dose in the last 6 months (%)	64.5	64.5	64.5	44.0
67. Children age 12-23 months who received most of their vaccinations in a public health facility (%)	95.3	98.7	98.0	94.4
68. Children age 12-23 months who received most of their vaccinations in a private health facility (%)	4.2	0.9	1.6	4.4
Treatment of Childhood Diseases (children under age 5 years)				
69. Prevalence of diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey (%)	5.4	6.3	6.1	7.4
70. Children with diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey who received oral rehydration salts (ORS) (%)	65.7	64.0	64.3	56.2
71. Children with diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey who received zinc (%)	27.9	27.1	27.2	17.5
72. Children with diarrhoea in the 2 weeks preceding the survey taken to a health facility or health provider (%)	82.2	79.2	79.7	73.9
73. Prevalence of symptoms of acute respiratory infection (ARI) in the 2 weeks preceding the survey (%)	2.6	3.0	2.9	2.1
74. Children with fever or symptoms of ARI in the 2 weeks preceding the survey taken to a health facility or health provider (%)	68.8	71.7	71.1	82.6