

Vaibhav Yadav takes charge as Ujjain Badminton Ass President

➤ Ushering in a new era

Ujjain: The Ujjain District Badminton Association has undergone a significant restructuring, with Vaibhav Yadav, son of Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, elected as its new President. The oath-taking and official handover ceremony will be held on May 10 at Madhav Club, alongside a sports felicitation event.

Vaibhav succeeds Praveen Vashishtha, who led the association for an impressive 25 years and now serves as the Vice President of the state association. Under Vashishtha's leadership, badminton in Ujjain evolved from humble beginnings — marked by limited players and resources — into a thriving sporting ecosystem.

As President, Vaibhav Yadav will soon announce his 21-member executive committee, which will include key positions such as Secretary and Vice President. This new leadership is expected to drive efforts to host state and national-level tournaments in Ujjain, elevating the city's sporting stature.

The swearing-in will be administered by Girish Kemkar, President of the Madhya Pradesh Badminton



Association. Distinguished guests including Vice President Praveen Vashishtha and Secretary Anil Choughule will also be present. The evening will be anchored by Shailendra Vyas "Swami Muskara" and will witness participation from badminton officials and enthusiasts from across the district and state.

Colonel Sophia Qureshi, a proud daughter of Bundelkhand

- Brings glory to her hometown
- Celebrations at her family home

Gwalior: A wave of pride is sweeping through Bundelkhand, as the region celebrates one of its own — Colonel Sophia Qureshi. Known globally for revealing the truth behind Operation Sindoor, which exposed Pakistan's terrorist activities, Colonel Qureshi has deep roots in Bundelkhand. Not only was she born here, but it was in Jhansi that she honed the strategic skills that would one day help her outsmart enemies on the battlefield.

Colonel Qureshi once served in Jhansi as a Major, leading several critical military operations. Her leadership and courage have become a source of immense pride for her hometown. Her extended family still lives in Bhattagaon, and after India's recent strikes on terrorist camps, her relatives there erupted in celebration. "She has made us all hold our heads high with pride," said her family, brimming with emotion.

Born on December 12, 1975, in Nowgaon, Chhatarpur district, Sophia was always known for her brilliance. Her uncle, Wali Mohammad, and cousin Mohammad Rizwan — a mechanical engineer —



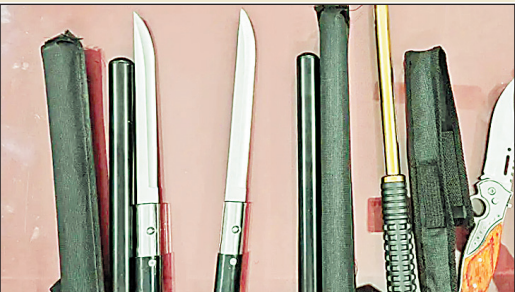
shared that she completed her early education in Nowgaon. Rizwan recalls her as a consistently bright student, committed to excellence from a young age.

Sophia chose duty over comfort — after being selected for the Indian Army through the Short Service Commission (SSC), she gave up both her PhD and a promising teaching career to serve the nation.

Over 150 armed criminals nabbed in Indore in just four months

➤ Weapons range from knives to pistols; alarming trend of youth flaunting arms on social media reels

Indore: Despite a tightened police crackdown, Indore continues to battle a disturbing surge in armed crime. In the past four months alone, over 150 criminals carrying weapons have been arrested — averaging nearly 40 armed arrests per month. Even more concerning, some of these offenders have been caught not only in Indore but also in adjoining districts, indicating a growing regional spread. From sharp knives to country-made pistols, the weapons seized reflect a serious public safety threat. Police have ramped up operations through regular checkpoints, combing patrols, and digital surveillance. Yet the trend shows no signs of slowing down — especially among youth who are increasingly seen acquiring weapons as a status symbol or to create reels on social media platforms. Law enforcement has al-



ready apprehended around a dozen such young individuals and taken strict legal action against them. In one recent case, a man named Hirmal, son of Silwar Chauhan, was caught with ten locally-made pis-

tols, which he intended to deliver to other criminals in the city. Police officials assert that their efforts have successfully prevented several major crimes before they could occur. However, the rising fascination with weapons among the city's youth remains a serious concern. Authorities are investigating how these illegal firearms are still making their way into young hands despite the strict vigilance.

Indore criminals caught in Ratlam with illegal arms: In a related incident, three minors from Indore's Pardeshipura area were recently arrested in Ratlam. During a special operation by Ratlam's Station Road police on Thursday, all three were found carrying illegal firearms. A significant cache of weapons was seized from the trio, underlining the growing menace that transcends city limits.

Admission for vocational courses in ITI begins, register by 31 May

Dindori: Principal of Government Industrial Training Institute Dindori has informed that the admission process for various vocational courses of NCVT/SCVT run in all ITI Dindori, Shahpura, Bajag, Mehandwani, Amarpur, Samanpur and Karanjia of Dindori district operated under Madhya Pradesh Skill Development Directorate has been started from 1st May 2025. Candidates seeking admission must compulsorily register by 31st May 2025. The minimum educational qualification for admission has been fixed as 8th or 10th pass, which may vary according to the trade. Candidates can apply for registration themselves through internet from www.dsd.mp.gov.in. Apart from this, it is also possible to apply through kiosk, MP Online or help desk established in government

ITI. After registration, from 10 May to 31 May, candidates will be able to choose the order of preference of desired institutions and trade by going to their login. Common Rank List of candidates will be displayed on 5 June 2025. If there is any error related to the marks obtained in the rank, then the candidates will be able to send it for correction through email till 5 pm on 8 June 2025.

The first selection list will be released on 16 June 2025. The following vocational courses are being conducted for admission in ITI, Electrician (NCVT) 2 years, Fitter (NCVT) 2 years, Turner (NCVT) 2 years, Welder (NCVT) 1 year, Diesel Mechanic (NCVT) 1 year, Computer Operator and Programming Assistant (NCVT) 1 year, Food Production General (SCVT) 1 year.

Lokayukta crackdown in Chhindwara

➤ Livelihood Mission manager caught taking Rs 10,000 bribe from Women's Self-Help Group

Chhindwara: In yet another blow to the fight against corruption in Madhya Pradesh, a Block Manager of the State Livelihood Mission has been arrested red-handed while accepting a bribe. The accused, Rajiv Chaudhary, was caught by the Jabalpur Lokayukta team accepting Rs 10,000 in cash from members of a women's self-help group in Chhindwara district.

The operation followed a formal complaint filed by Sonia Bora, president of the Radhe-Radhe Self-Help Group. She alleged that Chaudhary regularly demanded commissions from group members after disbursement of their honorariums. "After we received our payments, he would go door to door collecting money under the pretext that we hadn't done any actual work," Bora said. She also claimed that non-compliance was met with threats of termination from ongoing projects.

Following verification of the complaint, the Lokayukta team set up a trap. On Friday, at Umrana Rest House, Chaudhary was caught accepting the bribe. Inspector Rekha Prajapati confirmed that the



arrest was made at Bora's residence during the sting operation.

A case has been registered against the accused under the Prevention of Corruption Act, and further investigation is underway. The incident highlights ongoing challenges in grassroots governance and the exploitation of women-led community initiatives.

Fatal collision near Gormi

Bhind: A devastating collision between an Omni van and a motorcycle near Gormi on Friday has claimed the lives of a mother-in-law and son-in-law, leaving two others on the bike and seven occupants of the van seriously injured. The victims on the motorcycle were identified as Prem Singh, his wife Pushpa Devi, their son Manav, and Prem Singh's mother-in-law, Shanti Devi. They were returning from a wedding ceremony in Raupura village when the tragic accident occurred. The Omni van was carrying seven laborers returning from work in Indergarh. Prem Singh, a resident of Khitora Pura under Barohi police station, tragically died at the scene. His mother-in-law, Shanti Devi, succumbed to her injuries before reaching the Mehangaon hospital. Pushpa Devi and her son Manav sustained critical injuries and have been referred to Gwalior for advanced medical care.

Ensure timely completion of Simhashta 2028 Projects

Indore: A high-level review meeting on development projects for Simhashta 2028 was held at the Divisional Commissioner's office. Presiding over the session, Commissioner Deepak Singh instructed all departments to complete construction works with transparency, quality, and within set deadlines. Tenders that have been finalized must move into execution promptly, and proposed projects must be closely monitored.

Officials were directed to conduct on-site inspections and submit detailed progress reports. Strict action was warned against any negligence or indiscipline. Departments including IDA, Municipal Corporation, PWD, Tourism, Water Resources, and Health presented updates on their ongoing projects.

Key infrastructure initiatives in-



- **clude:**
- Upgrading the Residency Guest House
- Stormwater drainage from Niranjanpur to Manglia
- New roads from Talawali

Chanda to Arandia, and a 12-km stretch from Luvkush Square to Paliya Toll Naka

- Four-lane parallel overbridge to MR-10 for improved Indore-Ujjain connectivity

Under heritage development, Rs 266 crore will be invested in restoring sites like Lal Bagh Palace gardens, Krishnabai Holkar's cenotaph, and Maheshwar Museum, among others. Rural infrastructure, including passenger shelters and water tanks, will also be developed in villages like Barodiya Khan and Rajoda.

Collectors from Khargone and Khandwa joined via Google Meet, as officials across departments contributed their inputs toward making Simhashta 2028 a well-planned and smoothly executed mega event.

SP interacts with children under Yuva Jodo Abhiyan



Tikamgarh: Superintendent of Police Tikamgarh Mr. Manohar Singh Mandloi is running a "Yuva Jodo Abhiyan" at the district level to connect and encourage the youth/children in all the police

station/outpost areas to stay away from drugs, perform well in sports, and succeed in competitive examinations.

In this connection, Superintendent of Police Mr. Manohar Singh Mandloi interacted with the children playing at the Police Line Ground and discussed with them about sports, education, competitive examinations, in which the importance of sports was told to the children, they were advised to stay away from drugs, tips were given to succeed in competitive examinations and they were also explained not to get involved in any criminal activities. Along with this, fruits were distributed to the children and they were encouraged for excellent performance.

Devotees to witness Baba Mahakal via mobile Bhasma Aarti

➤ Reforms underway at Mahakaleshwar Temple



Ujjain: Ujjain's iconic Mahakaleshwar Temple is introducing key changes to enhance the spiritual experience of devotees. To streamline crowd management and allow more pilgrims to witness the revered Bhasma Aarti, the temple will soon

implement a Mobile Bhasma Aarti. This innovative approach will reduce the number of seated attendees while enabling a greater number of devotees to get a glimpse of Baba Mahakal during the ritual. At a recent management meeting, the Mahakaleshwar Temple Committee also approved the establishment of a Geeta Bhavan in Ujjain, with support from the Municipal Corporation, aiming to promote spiritual learning. In another significant decision, all gold and silver ornaments donated by devotees will now be evaluated on-site within the temple using dedicated machines and trained operators. This move ensures transparency and proper management of valuable offerings. The committee also approved the 2024-25 budget, including provisions for compensating employees for canceled weekly leaves and paying dearness allowance arrears from January to October 2024. Further enhancements include setting up a parking and charging station for the newly donated e-carts, building a retaining wall under the Maharajwada-Mahakal corridor project, and installing ornamental gates at all entry points to boost temple security and aesthetics.

Residents of Patera in Damoh get benefit of tap water supply

Damoh: The water supply project in Patera town of Damoh district has been successfully implemented, significantly improving the quality of life for its residents. This initiative was completed with the cooperation of the Asian Development Bank and executed by the Madhya Pradesh Urban Development Company, which operates under the Urban Development and Housing Department. The total cost of the project amounted to Rs 9 crore 42 lakh, and the construction agency will also oversee the operation and maintenance of the project for the next 10 years. As part of the project, 2,535 houses in Patera have been connected to a tap water supply, ensuring access to clean drinking water for every household. Water is sourced from the Vyarna River and purified through a state-of-the-art water purification plant established by Jal Nigam. To serve the city's population of over 10,000, approximately 45 kilometers of water distribution pipelines have been laid. Additionally, a ground service reservoir with a capacity of 540 kiloliters has been constructed for effective water storage. Residents



across all 15 wards of Patera Nagar are benefiting from this project. The availability of tap connections in every home has alleviated the burden of traveling long distances for water. This initiative not only enhances the convenience for citizens but also contributes positively to their overall standard of living.