

# Grand finale of 'Queens on the Wheels 3.0' celebrates the courage of women super bikers

25 women riders complete a 1,400 km journey across MP's major tourist destinations



**Bhopal:** The seven-day bike expedition "Queens on the Wheels 3.0", organized by the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board, concluded with great enthusiasm at Maharani Laxmi Bai Girls' Post-graduate College in Bhopal. The women riders who completed the journey were felicitated with certificates, medals and mementos in recognition of their courage and successful participation. The expedition was flagged off on March 7 by

Mohan Yadav, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, from his official residence in Bhopal. During the week-long campaign, 25 women superbikers from across India covered nearly 1,400 kilometres, exploring the diverse cultural and natural landscapes of the state. Along the route, the riders visited several iconic destinations including Sanchi Stupa, Udayagiri Caves, Chanderi, Shiwपुरी, Kuno National Park, Gwalior, Orchha and Khajuraho

Temples. Participants experienced local heritage, adventure activities and scenic landscapes while also exploring cultural traditions across regions such as Nimar, Malwa, Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand.

## 62-year-old Dr. Nita from Mumbai led the tour

At the closing ceremony, Santosh Srivastava, Joint Director of the Tourism Board, honoured the participants. The expedition was led by 62-year-old Mumbai-based rider Nita Khandekar, who described the journey as unforgettable and praised the warmth shown by people across the state. Another rider from West Bengal said she felt extremely safe on Madhya Pradesh's roads and admired the state's natural beauty.

Officials said the initiative highlights women's empowerment while showcasing Madhya Pradesh as a safe, adventurous and world-class tourism destination.

The group included riders from across India: Sara Khan, Rajnandini, Divya Raman, Mayuri Soni, Disha Rakeshiya, Unnati Chaurasia, Sejal Kushwaha, and Mahak Batham from Bhopal; Shabnam Bano from Gwalior; Hetal Upadhyay, Madhuri Nayak, Madhu Helchal, Tanu Priya, and Riddhi from Mumbai; Sona Priyadarshini from Bengaluru; Sayanti Ghosh from Kolkata; Kalyani Potekar from Pune; Dr. Priyanka Rukmani, Ruchika Meghe, Ekta Khete, Maithili Singh, and Pallavi Deshmukh from Nagpur; Dr. Sumit from Noida; and Kavita Jadhav from Sambhaji Nagar (Maharashtra).



# Youth Congress slams India-US Trade Deal

**By Special Correspondent Bhopal:** Madhya Pradesh Youth Congress president Yash Ghanghoria on Saturday strongly criticised the reported India-United States trade agreement, alleging that it threatens the interests of farmers, youth and small industries. Addressing a press conference, he claimed the deal had been announced by the United States and imposed under pressure, raising concerns over India's sovereignty and economic security.

He alleged that the agreement could open Indian agricultural markets to foreign corporations and create a crisis for MSMEs and

small industries. He further claimed that Indian products may face higher taxes while American goods could receive favourable treatment, potentially harming domestic producers.

The Youth Congress also raised concerns about the possible transfer of data of 1.4 billion Indians to foreign companies and the impact on India's foreign policy and energy security.

Ghanghoria said the Indian Youth Congress would hold a protest march to Parliament of India on March 16, demanding transparency and a parliamentary debate on the agreement.

# Firing during gang war leaves history sheeter's son injured

Attack at Ashoka Garden residence followed by panic as gunshots reported at hospital also

**Bhopal:** Tension gripped parts of the city early Saturday morning after a gang war led to multiple rounds of firing, leaving one person injured. A group of 8-10 armed men, allegedly led by Shadab Gate, attacked the residence of notorious criminal Lallu Rais in the Ashoka Garden area and opened fire.

During the attack, Lallu Rais's son Imran sustained a gunshot injury to his leg. According to the family, the accused chased Imran to their house around 5:45 a.m. and fired at him from behind as he rushed inside the house and locked the gate to save himself. A

bullet grazed his leg, leaving him injured.

## Fired shots at hospital also

Imran was immediately taken to Hamidia Hospital for treatment. However, the situation escalated when the accused allegedly reached the hospital and fired shots there as well, creating panic among patients and staff. Bullets reportedly struck windows and walls inside the premises.

Police from Ashoka Garden and Koh-e-Fiza Police Stations have launched a search operation to arrest the accused involved in the attack.

# Seva Bharati opens hostels and skill training centres

Initiative aims to empower tribal and Divyang students

**Bhopal:** An inauguration and donor felicitation ceremony was organized by Seva Bharati at the Gandhi Ashram campus in Bhopal on March 14. The event marked the opening of hostels for tribal and differently-abled boys, a computer training centre established with the support of Jeev Seva Sansthan, a plumbing training centre in collaboration with Jaquar, and a solar power facility supported by the Shri Pushp Hari Mirchandani Trust.

Chief guest Durga Das Uikey, Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, said that along with education, skill training is essential for making tribal and underprivileged children self-reliant. Presiding over the event, Rameshwar Sharma, MLA from Huzur, praised Seva Bharati's long-standing service to the weaker sections of society. Seva Bharati Mahanagar Presi-



dent Shivamangal Singh highlighted that community support has

helped expand such initiatives for needy children. Bhagwan Das

Dhalia, Media In-charge of Seva Bharati, stated that the organization's objective is to empower underprivileged and deprived children to become self-reliant.

During the program, 21 donors—including Mahesh Daryamani (Secretary of Jeev Seva Sansthan), social worker Sunil Mewani, Ish Narayan Sharma, Durvesh Malviya, Manish Patel, Satyendra Agarwal, Mahesh Chandra Garg Gandhi, Amjad Khan, Munnalal Sarothia, Saurabh Gangarmani, Vijay Gupta, Shashank Kothari, Shradha Didi, and Parag Sharma—were felicitated. The program was anchored by the organization's Secretary, Manoj Soni, and concluded with President Mukesh Sharma expressing his gratitude.

# Scholars deliberate on 'Viksit Bharat @ 2047' at national seminar

Experts highlight links between culture, sustainability, and knowledge for India's future

**Bhopal:** A two-day national seminar on the theme "Viksit Bharat @ 2047: An Interdisciplinary Perspective on Culture, Knowledge and Sustainability" was held at Government Maharani Laxmibai (MLB) Girls' PG College. The inaugural session was attended by several dignitaries including Anupam Rajan, ACS of Higher Education, and Prabal Sipahi, Commissioner of Higher Education, along with senior administrators, academicians and scholars.

During the inaugural session, the seminar souvenir and a monograph prepared by the Department of History were released. College Principal Ajay Agrawal delivered the welcome address, while seminar convenor Seema Raizada introduced the theme and objectives of the event. **Focus on sustainability, culture and knowledge:** Addressing the gathering, Anupam Rajan stressed that economic progress must remain balanced with environ-



mental protection, heritage preservation and cultural values. Former administrative officer R.

R. Rashmi highlighted the global challenges posed by climate change, biodiversity loss and rapid industrialisation, emphasising the need for a transition towards renewable energy.

State Election Commissioner Manoj Shrivastava spoke about the role of dharma and Indian cultural traditions in promoting sustainable coexistence among humans, nature and other living beings. Scholar Udayan Vajpey also addressed the gathering, discussing the relationship between literature, nationhood and human values.

The seminar received an enthusiastic response with around 250 registrations, 181 abstracts and 102 full research papers submitted by scholars, faculty members and students from various institutions. The second session featured research paper presentations and detailed discussions on the seminar's theme.

# Patwari addresses panchayat committee workers

By Special Correspondent Bhopal:

Jeetu Patwari, president of MP Congress Committee, on Saturday attended block-level Panchayat Committee workers' conferences in the Deopur Assembly constituency of Indore District. The meetings were organised in Deopur, Gautampura and Betma blocks, where he interacted with party workers and local leaders.

Addressing the gathering, Patwari emphasised the need to strengthen the Congress organisation down to the booth level and discussed the roadmap for upcoming programmes along with several issues concerning public welfare.

He stated that the real strength of the Congress lies in its grassroots workers and expressed confidence that the party would form the government in the state in 2028 with their

support.

He also announced that Congress presidents of Gram Panchayats would be given a more respectful role within the organisation and would be seated on the stage during programmes to acknowledge their contribution.

Also present were Satyanarayan Patel, national secretary of the All India Congress Committee, state Mahila Congress president Reena Borasi and Indore Rural Congress president Vipin Wankhede.

Targeting the state government, Patwari alleged that several poor families had been unable to cook meals for the past three days due to the non-availability of LPG cylinders. He warned that if the situation did not improve soon, Congress workers would stage protests outside BJP offices carrying empty cylinders.

# Devotees celebrate Phag Festival with bhajans at Kamali Temple

**Bhopal:** A vibrant Phag Festival and Bhajan Sandhya was celebrated with great devotion at the Kamali Wale Hanuman Ji Maharaj Temple located in Ghoda Nakkas. The event held during the auspicious month of Phalgun, witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of devotees.

Under the guidance of Radha Mohan Das (Radhe Maharaj), Manish Pandit, and Ajay Pandit, devotees immersed themselves in devotional fervor, celebrating with abir and gulal while singing



bhajans in praise of Hanuman. A grand aarti of Hanuman Ji Maharaj was also per-

formed, creating a spiritually uplifting atmosphere in the temple complex.

Temple manager Chetan Patel said the event saw women devotees joyfully playing flower Holi and applying gulal, while a mesmerizing dance performance depicting Radha and Krishna captivated the audience.

Social worker Bhagwan Das Dhalia said that the historic temple holds grand aarti every Tuesday and on special occasions. Devotees and local residents gathered in large numbers, and prasad was distributed among attendees at the end of the celebration.

# MoU between NITTTR and NEC to open new avenues: Behera

**Bhopal:** The National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Bhopal, and the Nepal Engineering Council (NEC) have signed an MoU to promote mutual cooperation in technical education and research. The agreement aims to strengthen capacity building, faculty training, curriculum development, teaching innovation, quality assurance, and accreditation processes in engineering education.

Under the partnership, NITTTR will also assist Nepal in formulating policies, implementing plans, and setting standards and regulations for the effective functioning of engineering courses. The MoU was signed by NITTTR Director C. C. Tripathi and NEC President Padma Bahadur Shahi.

Chief guest Mrityunjay Behera, Joint Secretary in the Union Ministry of Education, described the occasion as historic, stating that the collaboration would enhance the quality, mobility, and global recognition of education for Nepali students. He also highlighted that Nepal's accreditation with the Washington Accord would gain global acceptance with India's support. NEC President Padma Bahadur Shahi praised NITTTR's role and said that India's outcome-based education model serves as an inspiration for Nepal. NITTTR Director C. C. Tri-

pathi said the agreement would help enhance global competence among Nepal's engineering students while promoting quality research and innovation in engineering education across the region. Prof. Sanjay Agarwal, P.K. Purohit, Manish Bhargava, Ashish Deshpande, and Major Nishant Ojha from NITTTR Bhopal, along with Eng. Dhruva Raj Bhattarai, Registrar of NEC were present on this occasion.



# Action against illegal sand mining, tractor-trolley seized

**Vidisha:** The administration continues to take strict action against illegal sand mining in the Vidisha district. Under the direction of Collector Anshul Gupta, the Mineral Officer and Mineral Inspector—accompanied by their team—conducted an operation against illegal sand mining activities taking place in the Betwa River. During the operation, a tractor-trolley loaded with sand was seized after being found engaged in illegal sand mining in the Nivadiya and Kurawad areas of Ganj Basoda Tehsil.



Additionally, various other tools and equipment—including two sand sieves, four shovels, and 12 metal pans—were seized from the site. The seized materials have been secured, and the two sand sieves have been deposited at the Dehat Police Station. Furthermore, acting on a tip-off regarding illegal sand mining in the village of Duntar, officials proceeded to the site and destroyed a tractor tube being used in the operation, along with three sand-sieving devices.