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Reporting Fact of the Matter

Weekly

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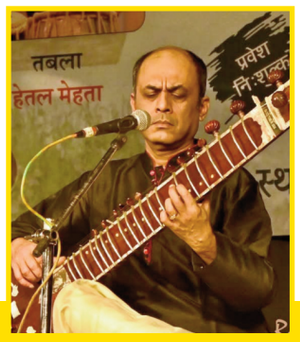


UDAIPUR | SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026 | PAGE 1 - 8 | PRICE : 5.00* (Vol. 12, No. 22)

Rajasthan Celebrates 80th Independence Day with Pride

Jaipur: Rajasthan celebrated India's 80th Independence Day with patriotic fervour and enthusiasm, with grand ceremonies held across the state. The celebrations combined tributes to freedom fighters with messages of development, unity and nation-building.

The main state-level ceremony was held in Bikaner, where Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma unfurled the Tricolour and addressed the gathering, highlighting Rajasthan's development journey and its role in the vision of a Viksit Bharat.

Across district headquarters, ministers, divisional commissioners and district collectors led celebrations featuring flag hoisting, parades, March Past, cultural programmes and award ceremonies. Students presented patriotic and colourful performances, while tableaux showcased Rajasthan's heritage, achievements and development initiatives. The Governor's message was also read out at the ceremonies.

In Jodhpur, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Jogaram Patel

paid tribute to known and unknown freedom fighters and urged citizens to contribute towards the nation's progress. In Sawai Madhopur, Agriculture Minister Dr Kirori Lal Meena led the celebrations, while in Tonk, Minister Kanhaiya Lal Chaudhary honoured Veeranganas and 88 achievers.

Messages of inclusive development remained central to celebrations. In Pratapgarh, Revenue Minister Hemant Meena stressed that independence would have real meaning when every citizen enjoys dignity, rights and opportunities. In Kota, Education Minister Madan Dilawar highlighted the importance of preserving freedom and nurturing patriotic values among youth.

Outstanding achievers were also recognised. Bundi honoured international boxer Arundhati Chaudhary, while achievers and Veeranganas were felicitated in Alwar and other districts.

Development remained another major theme. In Barmer, Minister K.K. Vishnoi highlighted the Balotra refinery-cum-petrochemical complex and its employment potential. In Hanumangarh, Minister Sumit Godara highlighted major infrastructure projects, while in Bharatpur, Water Resources Minister Suresh Singh Rawat emphasised protecting natural resources for future generations.

From Jaisalmer and Banswara to Sikar, Churu, Chittorgarh, Jalore and Dungarpur, Rajasthan echoed with a shared resolve to honour the sacrifices of the past while building a stronger, prosperous and developed state as part of a developed India.

Sangam University Celebrates Independence Day with Pride

Bhilwara: Sangam University celebrated India's 80th Independence Day with patriotic fervour and enthusiasm, bringing students, faculty and staff together in a spirit of national pride and unity.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Karunesh Saxena, Chief Guest, and Registrar Dr. Alok Kumar inspected the Guard of Honour presented by NCC cadets before the ceremonial flag hoisting. The disciplined parade and synchronized salute added grandeur to the celebrations.

Students presented a vibrant cultural programme featuring patriotic songs and performances highlighting national unity and the spirit of Unity in Diversity.

A special felicitation ceremony recognized faculty members, staff and students for achievements in academics, research, sports, NCC, promotions, innovation and other activities. Certificates and awards were presented by Prof. Saxena and Dr. Kumar.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. Saxena emphasized that freedom brings responsibility towards the nation and society, urging students to contribute through discipline, innovation, academic excellence and social responsibility.

The programme was conducted by Dr. Anurag Sharma and Dr. Shweta Bohra and was attended by a large university gathering.

Narayan Seva Sansthan Celebrates 80th Independence Day Across Campuses

Udaipur: Narayan Seva Sansthan celebrated the 80th Independence Day with patriotic fervor and enthusiasm across all its service campuses, with flag-hoisting ceremonies and cultural programs held at various locations.

Founder and Chairman Kailash Manav and President Prashant Agrawal unfurled the national flag at the World of Humanity and Manav Mandir campuses. At the Sevadhan campus, Director Vandana Agrawal and Palak Agrawal hoisted the Tricolor.

At Narayan Children Academy in Lions Ka Guda, students presented patriotic songs and dance performances, adding color and enthusiasm to the celebrations.

Addressing the gathering, Kailash Manav highlighted the significance of Independence Day and called upon everyone to sincerely fulfill their duties and responsibilities toward the nation. He said the Tricolor symbolizes the sacrifice, devotion and patriotism of the brave freedom fighters who laid down their lives for the country.

The celebrations across the institution's campuses created an atmosphere of patriotism and national pride. Participants reaffirmed their commitment to the unity, integrity and progress of the nation.

Udaipur Marks 80th Independence Day with Grandeur

Udaipur: The City of Lakes celebrated India's 80th Independence Day with patriotic fervor and grandeur at Gandhi Ground, where public representatives, administrative officials, veterans, students, media professionals and citizens gathered to honor the nation's freedom and its heroes.

In a historic departure from tradition, the district-level ceremony began with the soulful rendition of the national song Vande Mataram, followed by flag hoisting and the national anthem Jana Gana Mana. Chief Guest Babulal Kharadi, Cabinet Minister for Tribal Regional Development and Home Guard, unfurled the tricolor and inspected the ceremonial parade.

The march past showcased discipline and coordination under the guidance of retired military officer PremshankarShrimali of NCC Headquarters, Udaipur, and Parade Commander Punaram Gurjar. Contingents of Rajasthan Police, Home Guards, NCC, Scouts and Guides marched in formation to the tunes of the Police Band led by Master Kanhaiyalal and the Digambar Jain Vidyalaya Band.

A solemn highlight was the felicitation of families of Udaipur's martyrs and freedom fighters. Shawls and shrifal were presented to the families of Martyr Lieutenant Abhinav Nagori, Shaurya Chakra awardee Martyr Major Mustafa and freedom fighter Kanhaiyalal Ji.

As many as 69 individuals and organizations were honored with certificates of merit for exceptional contributions across administration, law enforcement, healthcare, education, journalism, sports, social service, environment and other fields.

Among the prominent awardees was Kalpesh Chandra Rajbar, GM Marketing, Geetanjali Medical College & Hospital (GMCH), Udaipur, felicitated for his professional contribution, leadership and dedicated service to the region. GMCH was represented with distinction at the prestigious district-level celebration through the recognition of Rajbar's contribution.

Advocate Roshan Lal Jain was also recognized for his notable public and professional contribution. Other awardees included Additional SP (ATS) Buddhraj Takhar, Deputy SP Heramb Joshi, Tehsildar Parvat Singh Rathore, Dr. Anuradha Sanadhya, Dr. Amit

Kadela, Dr. Vishal Bhatnagar, Dr. Kuldeep Saini, Dr. P. C. Jain, Himmat Singh Deora, folk artist Kaluram Prajapat, social worker Shantilal Dangi and athletes Kashish Paliwal and Khushi Roat.

The celebration featured mass physical drills by schoolchildren, folk dances and a patriotic musical performance by the Central Jail Inmates Orchestra Group.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Kharadi called upon the youth to draw inspiration from freedom fighters and contribute actively to the vision of a Viksit Bharat. MP Dr. Mannalal Rawat, MLA Tarachand Jain, Divisional Commissioner Pragya Kewalramani, IG Gaurav Srivastava, Collector Gaurav Agarwal, SP Dr. Amrita Duhan and other dignitaries attended the event .

The Rup Sagar Lake Controversy: Context and Legal Disputes

Based on the transcript provided, the controversy surrounding Rup Sagar—a private khatedari tank in Udaipur clubbed under the Rajasthan High Court's suo motu cognisance—revolves around a fundamental conflict between agricultural land use and recent environmental and urban planning alterations.

Key Takeaways from Local Testimony

Land Status: Local residents and descendants of the original landowners (members of the Chittora family, aged 67 to 76) testified that the area was historically utilized for seasonal agriculture. They produced revenue records (Hasil) dating back to the era of the Maharanas, confirming that crops like wheat, maize, and chickpeas were regularly cultivated on the land when dry.Original Scale and Embankment: Witnesses stated that Rup Sagar was not historically a massive water body, but rather a small, seasonal water pocket retained by a low mud embankment (Medh). This embankment was narrow enough that only cycles and bullock carts used it, and water naturally filled the basin solely during the monsoon season for about three months.

Tampering Allegations: The family alleges that structural modifications made around 2006 and 2011 artificially altered the landscape. They claim the natural water outlet (Mokhi) was blocked, raised by roughly four feet using concrete, and widened, which expanded the water-holding capacity and submerged surrounding areas that were previously dry or farmed. Roop Sager is not a talab only jalgrahandhancha as per udaipur development Authority affidavit produce in D B Banch High court

Core Demands Raised by Landholders

Compensation for Submerged Khatedari Land: The family maintains that their nine bighas of ancestral land are being unlawfully impacted. They demand that if the state government designates and maintains the area as a permanent water body, affected landowners must receive due compensation or alternative land, pointing to state administrative guidelines (such as the 1999 Rajasthan government circular).

High-Level Investigation: Calling the modern Full Tank Level (FTL) expansions unnatural and a form of distress for residents, the family has urged a thorough administrative and police investigation into who authorized the modifications of the natural drainage and outlet structures. -

Dr. Munesh Arora

Educational Institutions and Social Organizations Celebrate 80th Independence Day Across Udaipur

Udaipur: Educational institutions and social organizations across Udaipur celebrated the 80th Independence Day with immense patriotic fervor, vibrant cultural performances, and environmental initiatives.

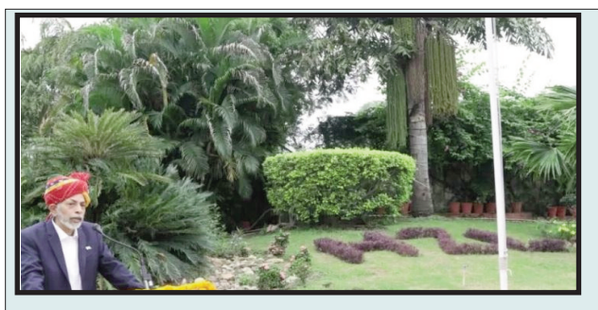
At the historic Manak Chowk of City Palace, Maharana Mewar Public School (MMPS) marked the occasion with a flag hoisting ceremony, national anthem, and a march past by NCC cadets, Scouts, and Guides. Students created a massive human map of India under the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign to promote national unity, followed by a grand Tiranga rally and the collective singing of 'Vande Mataram.'

Similarly, Maharana Mewar Vidya Mandir (MMVM), Ambamata celebrated with disciplined parades, a guard of honor, and a human formation representing the map of India. The school also presented a moving dance-drama based on the patriotic song 'Sandese Aate Hai,'honoring the sacrifices of Indian soldiers.

At Central Public School (CPS), celebrations took place under the theme '80 Years of Freedom • One Heart • One CPS Family.' The event featured a Four-House Parade, Scouts & Guides march past, and cultural performances. Addressing the gathering alongside school leadership, Chairperson Dr. Alka Sharma emphasized that patriotism extends beyond celebrations to daily contributions, mutual respect, and community unity.

Extending celebrations to community organizations, Shree Chitragupt Sabha (Mathur Community) organized a gathering at their Sector-4 Community Center. Chief Guest Om Prakash Mathur hoisted the national flag, while Special Guests Dr. O.D. Mathur, Shakti Prakash Mathur, Shakti Narayan Mathur, and Chandra Prakash Mathur were traditionally felicitated. Following patriotic song renditions by community members, attendees conducted a tree plantation drive on the premises, pledging to protect the environment as part of their civic duty.

Hindustan Zinc Celebrates Independence Day with Great Enthusiasm Across All Units and Head Office



Udaipur: Hindustan Zinc Limited, one of the world's largest integrated zinc and top ten silver producers, celebrated the 80th Independence Day with great enthusiasm and joy across its operational units in Rajasthan and Uttarakhand. The company organized flag hoisting ceremonies, plantation drives, and parades involving employees, business partners, and community members.

Across all units of the company, Independence Day was commemorated with parades, tree plantation drives, plays, and dance performances. As India's largest producer of zinc, lead, and silver, Hindustan Zinc has been a long-standing partner in the nation's growth and progress. Addressing the flag hoisting ceremony at the company's head office in Udaipur, Amrendu Prakash, CEO of Hindustan Zinc, stated that independence comes with new responsibilities and reminds us of our commitment to building a better India for future generations. He emphasized that the participation of youth is vital at Hindustan Zinc and that the company is moving forward to realize the spirit of a self-reliant India (Atmanirbhar Bharat). Producing high-quality metals is essential for the nation's rapid journey toward becoming an economic and manufacturing powerhouse. The company remains dedicated to supporting national development by expanding its capabilities and driving progress through innovative product solutions. Hindustan Zinc Limited firmly positions India on the global map of responsible mining.

At Hindustan Zinc's Zinc Smelter Debari, Vivek Yadav, SBU Director and Chief Guest, hoisted the national flag, while Anshul Khandelwal, IBU CEO, led the flag hoisting ceremony at the Zawar Mines.