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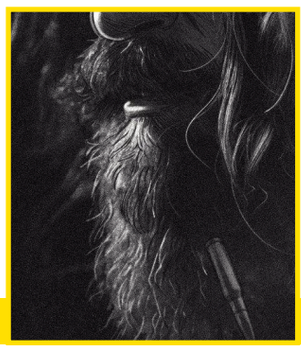

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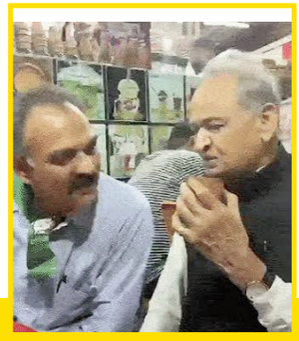


UDAIPUR | MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2026 | PAGE 1 - 4 | PRICE : 5.00* (Vol. 12, No. 24)

From Battlefield to Boardroom:
Dr. Sanjay Sinha's Mission to Transform Education

At SPSU, military discipline, corporate experience and academic vision converge to prepare students for a rapidly changing world

The surroundings may have changed in the new role, but the fundamentals of leadership have not.

From the demanding environments of the Indian Army to the boardrooms of the corporate world and now the classrooms and laboratories of higher education, Dr. Sanjay Sinha, President & Vice Chancellor, Sir Padampat Singhania University (SPSU), has carried with him a consistent belief in discipline, preparation, teamwork and purposeful leadership.

With 26 years of service in the Indian Army, including challenging counter-terrorism assignments in Punjab, Kashmir and Nagaland, followed by 12 years in the corporate sector, Dr. Sinha brings an uncommon breadth of experience to university leadership. His transition to academia has not been a departure from his earlier journey; rather, it is an extension of it- with the mission now focused on preparing young people for an increasingly complex, technology-driven and uncertain world.

At SPSU, this vision is reflected in an effort to look beyond conventional definitions of higher education. The university is working towards creating an ecosystem where academics, industry, research, innovation, technology, sports and values converge to shape students who are not merely employable, but capable of leading, adapting and creating.

Education With a Purpose

For Dr. Sinha, a university cannot limit its responsibility to producing degree holders. Its larger purpose is to develop individuals equipped to navigate uncertainty, solve problems and make meaningful contributions to society.

SPSU is therefore strengthening academic programmes aligned with emerging and strategically important sectors, including artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, robotics, law, mining, cement and paint technology, food technology and biotechnology. The emphasis is on ensuring that academic learning remains relevant to the evolving needs of industry, technology and the wider economy.

He broadly sees three pathways for students after graduation: higher education, employment and entrepreneurship. Industry-oriented programmes and skill development prepare students for professional careers, while incubation, ideation and Centres of Excellence are designed to encourage students who aspire to create ventures and build solutions of their own.

Yet, for Dr. Sinha, the purpose of education goes considerably beyond employment.

His philosophy is rooted in the belief that education should be a lifelong process, combining professional competence with ethics, sensitivity, discipline, resilience and social responsibility.

Technology is at the heart of SPSU's future-facing academic strategy. The university is expanding its focus on AI and machine learning, robotics, cybersecurity, IoT, semiconductor technology, bioinformatics and computational biology.

The objective is not simply to teach emerging technologies, but to anticipate where the next generation of opportunities is likely to emerge. Semiconductors, space technology, infrastructure and medical tourism, among others, are being viewed through this future-oriented lens.

At the same time, the university is seeking to move research beyond laboratories and academic publications towards practical applications and real-world impact.

Through SPSU Foundry Foundation, students and researchers are being encouraged to take ideas from conception towards prototypes, industry engagement, funding and potential commercialisation.

Among the initiatives are a reusable ship-launched drone being developed by a student and a robotic arm for construction applications, supported by JK Cement, including exploration of cement-based 3D printing.

The underlying objective is clear: to create an environment in which students do not merely learn about innovation- they experience the process of imagining, building, testing and solving.

Dr. Sinha believes that some of the most significant innovations of the future will emerge at the intersection of disciplines.

A robotics project, for instance, may require expertise spanning mechanical engineering, electronics, computer science, artificial intelligence and civil engineering. Similarly, solving complex problems in healthcare, infrastructure or sustainability increasingly requires knowledge that does not fit neatly within traditional academic silos.This philosophy is encouraging greater interdisciplinary research and collaboration at SPSU, alongside partnerships with institutions and academic collaborators in Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, the United States and Japan.

Engagements with IITs, research organisations and industry are also being developed to expose students and faculty to broader research networks, professional ecosystems and global perspectives.

The intent is to make the university not simply a place where knowledge is consumed, but one where knowledge is connected, questioned and transformed into solutions.

Preparing Students for Life: The university's approach extends well beyond classrooms and laboratories.

Dr. Sinha has emphasised the importance of addressing the broader challenges confronting young people, including substance abuse, stress and excessive dependence on digital platforms.

The approach focuses on awareness, counselling, emotional resilience and purposeful engagement, complemented by appropriate preventive measures. Sports, hackathons, ideathons, debates and creative activities provide students with opportunities to develop confidence, teamwork, communication and leadership.Technology and social media, meanwhile, are viewed not merely as distractions, but as powerful tools that can be channelled constructively towards learning, research, collaboration and personal growth.

Student feedback is another important component of this process. More than 6,000 students responses in a comprehensive digital feedback exercise, with the findings reviewed by university leadership to identify areas requiring attention and improvement.

For Dr. Sinha, listening to students is not an administrative exercise; it is an essential part of building an institution that evolves with the needs of its learners.

A Leadership Philosophy for a New Generation

Perhaps the defining feature of Col. Dr. Sanjay Sinha's approach is his belief that education must prepare students not merely for the world as it exists today, but for circumstances that cannot always be predicted.

The military taught him the importance of preparation before a mission. The corporate world reinforced the importance of performance, innovation and execution. Higher education, in his present role, provides the opportunity to combine these lessons with the responsibility of shaping young minds and building future leaders.

The result is a vision for SPSU that seeks to bring together seemingly complementary forces: discipline and creativity, technology and values, research and enterprise, ambition and social responsibility.

For Dr. Sinha, the ultimate measure of a university cannot be confined to the number of degrees awarded or placements achieved. Its deeper measure lies in whether its students leave with the confidence to face uncertainty, the skills to create opportunities, the discipline to pursue excellence and the values to use their knowledge responsibly.

The mission, therefore, is larger than building careers.

It is about building capable people- individuals prepared not only to participate in the future, but to help shape it.

GMCH@RH: Advancing Healthcare, Inspiring Hope

Udaipur: When medicine succeeds, the outcome is measured in more than successful procedures. It is measured in a child returning to school, a family finally welcoming a long-awaited baby, a cancer patient getting a second chance, or an accident victim making it home after a life-threatening emergency. At Geetanjali Medical College & Hospital (GMCH), Udaipur, a series of recent medical achievements reflects an evolving healthcare ecosystem where advanced clinical expertise, minimally invasive techniques, multidisciplinary care and community outreach come together with one purpose—to give patients better outcomes and renewed hope.

In a significant achievement in paediatric surgery, GMCH doctors successfully treated a 7-year-old boy suffering from recurrent rectal prolapse using transanal rectal suture rectopexy. The procedure was performed through the natural anal route, eliminating the need for an abdominal incision or external surgical scar. The surgery was led by General Surgeon and Professor Dr. Mohit Kumar Badgurjar and Pediatric Surgeon Dr. Ajit Kumar Vidyarthi.

The hospital also successfully treated a rare and aggressive cancer known as primary anorectal malignant melanoma, or "black pigment cancer". A 51-year-old patient with nearly a year of intermittent bleeding, burning and discomfort was found to have a suspicious 5×8 cm mass. The lesion was completely removed through the anal opening using an advanced minimally invasive technique, allowing the patient to be discharged within hours. Investigations found no evidence of cancer spread. The treatment was led by Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Ashish Jhaketia and Dr. Kartikeya Mathur.

But the story of healthcare at GMCH extends beyond the operating theatre. At the Geetanjali IVF Centre, a family from Merta City turned years of waiting into a celebration of parenthood.

Having welcomed their son after treatment, the family has returned every year for six years to celebrate his birthday at the centre where their journey began. Dr. Pooja Gandhi describes such experiences as a reminder that IVF represents not merely a medical procedure, but a deeply personal journey of hope, patience and love.

Prevention remains another important part of this approach. Through a cervical cancer awareness programme, Dr. Neelam Kabra Toshniwal engaged students in discussions on HPV vaccination, screening and preventive healthcare, encouraging young people to make informed health choices.

GMCH has also taken healthcare awareness into community spaces. During a three-day Raksha Bandhan exhibition at Orbit Resort, specialists interacted with visitors on subjects including IVF, infertility and advanced laparoscopic surgery, combining community engagement with health education.

Its commitment to community wellness extends to sports as well. As healthcare partner for the Vedanta Zinc City Half Marathon 2026, GMCH and Geetanjali College of Physiotherapy will provide medical and healthcare support to participants, reinforcing the message that fitness and preventive healthcare are integral to a healthier society.

The hospital's multidisciplinary capabilities are also tested in moments when every second matters. In one major trauma case, surgeons successfully removed an 18-inch iron rod lodged in the chest of a 30-year-old accident victim during a nearly six-hour emergency operation. Cardiac surgeons, anaesthetists, intensive care specialists and operation-theatre teams worked together to control internal bleeding and repair injuries involving major blood vessels, the chest wall and lung.

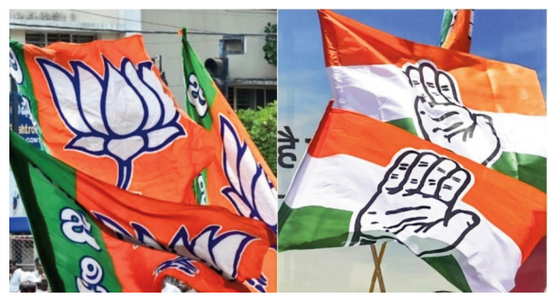
Beyond Treatment, Towards Trust

These stories collectively reflect a healthcare institution where innovation is not pursued for technology alone, but for what it can mean to a patient and a family. A smaller incision, a faster recovery, an early diagnosis, a life saved or a dream fulfilled can change the course of an entire family's story.

That is the larger promise of GMCH@RH—bringing together medical expertise and technology with compassion, prevention and community responsibility. As healthcare continues to evolve, the ultimate measure remains timeless: not simply how advanced the medicine is, but how meaningfully it changes lives.

Udaipur Civic Polls: Ticket Battle Gives Way to Rebel Management

Udaipur: The battle for Udaipur's civic body has entered a crucial phase. After weeks of lobbying and competition for party tickets, the focus of both the BJP and Congress has shifted to managing disgruntled aspirants, rebels and factionalism ahead of polling.



With candidates announced for all 80 wards, the immediate challenge for the two major parties is to ensure that those denied tickets do not turn their disappointment into independent campaigns or work against the official nominees.

The BJP faced a particularly crowded field, with hundreds of party workers reportedly seeking nominations. The intense competition triggered objections in some wards even before the final list was announced. With the tickets now distributed, the party's priority has moved from selection to damage control.

The Congress is facing a similar situation. After announcing candidates for all 80 wards, dissatisfaction among some ticket aspirants has resulted in rebel candidates entering the fray, adding another layer of uncertainty to several contests.

Why Rebels Matter

Municipal elections are intensely local contests where party symbols are important, but personal equations, neighbourhood networks, community influence and a candidate's individual goodwill can prove equally significant.

A denied ticket seeker with an established local following can potentially split the vote, weaken the official candidate or even emerge as a direct challenger. Even without winning, a rebel can alter the outcome in a closely fought ward.

This makes the period between candidate selection and polling particularly important for party leadership. Senior leaders and local organisational teams will have to persuade dissatisfied workers to withdraw, maintain campaign discipline and ensure that internal disagreements do not translate into vote division.

80 Wards, Dozens of Political Battles

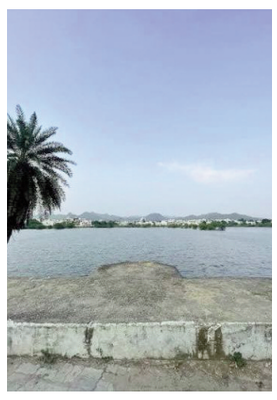
The election will effectively be fought across 80 individual ward-level contests, each shaped by its own local equations. A strong citywide performance may not guarantee victory if internal divisions cost a party key wards.

For candidates, the task is equally demanding. They must consolidate their own support while reaching out to former rivals and ensuring that party workers remain engaged in the campaign.

The civic polls have therefore become a test of more than candidate selection. They will measure the organisational discipline, grassroots strength and damage-control ability of both BJP and Congress.

The first battle was over the party ticket. The more decisive battle now is to keep the party united after the tickets have been distributed.

Sewage Turns Roop Sagar into a Polluted Water Body



Udaipur: Roop Sagar Lake in Udaipur is facing severe pollution, with untreated wastewater from surrounding residential colonies reportedly flowing into the water body. Professor Devendra Singh Chauhan of Mohanlal Sukhadia University (MLSU) said the lake has deteriorated to the extent that it resembles a sewage pond, with poor water quality and visible environmental damage.

Chauhan said he observed dead fish while collecting water samples and raised concerns over the absence of healthy aquatic life and the accumulation of polluted water.

According to the professor, Roop Sagar's natural catchment and drainage systems have been disrupted by construction and dumping activities. The catchment behind Khelgaon has also been affected by marble slurry dumping, further deteriorating water quality.

He said an earlier study conducted in 2016 had already identified problems with the lake's catchment and drainage. With little fresh water entering the lake and no effective outlet for polluted water, sewage flowing from surrounding areas continues to accumulate.

The findings assume significance amid the Rajasthan High Court's suo motu proceedings on Udaipur's water bodies, highlighting the urgent need for scientific monitoring, restoration of catchments and effective sewage management to prevent Roop Sagar from deteriorating further.