



Rajasthan Current Affairs  
*of*  
August September 2019

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## PERSON in NEWS

### **Kalraj Mishra**

The Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Kalraj Mishra was transferred and appointed as the Governor of Rajasthan by President Ram Nath Kovind. Kalraj Mishra has replaced Kalyan Singh as the Rajasthan governor. Rajasthan High Court Chief Justice Shripathi Ravindra Bhat (currently Supreme Court Judge) administered the oath of office to Mishra.

Former Union minister Bandaru Dattatreya has been appointed the new governor of Himachal Pradesh.

### **Jagdeep Dhankhar**

Jagdeep Dhankhar from Jhunjhunu, a Senior Advocate at the Supreme Court of India, member of Lok Sabha from 1989 to 1991 and a former Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Kishangarh, Rajasthan has been made 28<sup>th</sup> Governor of West Bengal.

### **Tarun Chaudhri**

Wing commander Tarun Chaudhri became the first pilot of Indian Armed Forces (IAF) to do a wingsuit jump.

### **Justice S. Ravindra Bhat**

Chief Justice Ravindra Bhat was elevated to the Supreme Court.

### **Justice Indrajit Mahanty**

Justice Indrajit Mahanty of Bombay High Court has become chief justice of Rajasthan High Court. He is the 37th Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court.

### **Brajesh Yadav**

Brajesh Yadav from Rajasthan Police won Silver medal in Thailand Open Boxing Championship.

**Payal Jangid**

Payal Jangid from Alwar district became the first Indian to receive the 'Changemaker Award' at the Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards 2019 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in New York for her contribution in abolishing the practice of child marriage in her native Hinsla and other neighbouring villages. She is also the sarpanch (president) of the Bal Panchayat (children's parliament) in Hinsla, which is a Bal Mitra Gram (child-friendly village) — a concept founded by Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi.

**Diya Kumari**

Rajsamand BJP MP Diya Kumari of Rajasthan has been made a member of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) on behalf of Union Ministry of Forest and Environment.

The **National Tiger Conservation Authority** (NTCA) was established in December 2005 following a recommendation of the Tiger Task Force, constituted by the Prime Minister of India for reorganised management of Project Tiger and the many Tiger Reserves in India. Tiger Protection Program, popularly known as Project Tiger was started in 1973, by the Government of India in co-operation with WWF.

**Hina Joshi**

Hina Joshi from Pali, represented India in the International Championship held at Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan and won two gold medals.

**Shyam Sunder Swami**

Shyam Sunder Swami from Bikaner has secured Quota in Paralympics 2020, Tokyo after coming at 9<sup>th</sup> rank in World Para Archery Championship held in Netherlands.

**Om Prakash Bhatia**

Omprakash Bhatia has received Acharya Laxmi Kant Joshi Award for his collection "Burj, Chand Aur Dhuan".

## Current Affairs

### 7 Rajasthan railway stations among India's 10 cleanest

Railway Minister Piyush Goyal recently released the **Swachh Rail, Swachh Bharat 2019 survey** or Cleanliness assessment of Non-suburban and Suburban Stations 2019 Survey Report. The cleanliness survey is carried out by QCI – Quality Council of India. The council tool 720 Non – Suburban stations and Suburban Stations for the survey. Highlights of the report are:

- 7 Railway Stations from Rajasthan made it to Top 10.
  - Rank 1 – Jaipur with a cleanliness score of 931.75 out of 1000.
  - Rank 2 – Jodhpur
  - Rank 3 - Durgapura, Jaipur
  - Rank 4 – Jammu Tawi
  - Rank 5 – Gandhinagar, Jaipur
  - Rank 6 - Suratgarh
  - Rank 7 - Vijayawada
  - Rank 8 - Udaipur
  - Rank 9 – Ajmer
  - Rank 10 – Haridwar
- In the suburban group of stations, Maharashtra's Andheri station has topped the list.
- North Western Railway Zone followed by South East Central Railway Zone and East Central Railway Zone are the top three railway zones.

### Recent steps taken by Railways to improve cleanliness:

- Indian Railways has also banned single use plastic across its premises 2nd October 2019 onwards.
- Installation of bio toilets in all passenger coaches.

- Installation of plastic bottle crushing machines at 128 stations to handle plastic waste.
- Outsourcing of cleanliness & deployment of mechanized cleaning equipment at major stations.
- Improving flooring of platforms to enable mechanized cleaning
- Providing separate dustbins for different types of wastes.
- Employing CCTVs to monitor cleaning practices.
- Development of a "Customer Complaint" Web Portal and Mobile Application to collect continuous Citizen Feedback.
- Introducing Pay-and-Use toilets at various stations;(8) Enforcement of Indian Railways (Penalties for activities affecting cleanliness at railway premises) Rules, 2012.
- Information, education & communication to create awareness among people through cleanliness drives. These include drives against plastic waste, Swachhta hi-seva, swachhta pakhwara and special cleanliness drives held in first week of September 2019.

#### Deficit Rainfall districts in 2019 in Rajasthan (October 1 NEWS)

Despite 42% excess rainfall in which floods were witnessed at many districts, four districts have received deficit rainfall. Including

- Sriganganagar,
- Hanumangarh,
- Karauli
- Alwar

#### Rajasthan Monsoon 2019: Report (September NEWS)

- The state has received 34.7% more rainfall this year.
- Average Rainfall - 675.96 mm (2018 - 493.47 mm).
- Pratapgarh district received 1136.88mm rainfall, the highest in the state this year.
- Sriganganagar with 112.99mm was at the lowest position.
- Katli river that passes through Sikar and Jhunjhunu got water after almost 25 years.
- District-wise Rainfall Distribution:
  - **Abnormal Rainfall:** Ajmer, Bundi, Rajsamand.

- **Excess Rainfall:** Baran, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Chury, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu Jodhpur, Kota, Nagaur, Pall, Pratapgarh, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Tonk and Udaipur
- **Normal Rainfall:** Banswara, Barmer, Bikaner, Dausa, Dholpur, Jaisalmer, Jalore and Sirohi
- **Deficient Rainfall:** Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh, Alwar, Bharatpur and Karauli.

### International Army Scouts Master Competition

The Indian Army team has topped in all the three stages of the International Army Scouts Master Competition held in Jaisalmer Military Station. Russia and China bagged the second and third position, respectively. Teams from Armenia, Belarus, China, Uzbekistan, Russia, Sudan, Kazakhstan are participating in the fifth edition of Army International ScoutMasters competition being held for the first time in India from 5 to 16 August.

### Operation Alert

[BSF](#) started Operation Alert in the entire western border including Rajasthan following inputs from intelligence department about the possibility of armed terrorists entering India on Independence Day coupled with the current situation in Kashmir valley and LOC. It will continue till August 21.

### Films based on Raj get National Award

Two films based on the state have won National Award.

- In Best Environmental Film category 'Machli' - the world's famous tiger was declared as a winner.
- Another movie 'Turtle' based on the water crisis in Rajasthan won award.

### Agri Centres of Excellence in NEWS

Recently, the Agricultural Centers of Excellence opened by last government have been news for questions pertaining their misplacement. For RAS Examination, it is important to note the locations-

- Centre for Citrus Fruits | [Kota](#)
- Centre for Pomegranate | Bassi, [Jaipur](#)

- Centre for Dates | [Jaisalmer](#)
- Centre for Guavas | [Tonk](#)
- Centre for Oranges | [Jhalawar](#)
- Centre for Mangoes | [Dholpur](#)
- Centre for Vegetables | [Bundi](#)
- Centre for Custard Apple | [Chittorgarh](#)
- Centre for Flowers | [Sawai Madhopur](#)

These centers were established after an agreement between the government of Israel and that of Rajasthan, the former decided to help the latter establish nine Centres of Excellence in the desert state. These centres were meant for agricultural produce — fruits and vegetables — and money was invested for research, development and cold storage. The centres were meant to be opened in places where the particular crop is grown on priority, to help the farmers excel.

### Rajasthan High Court bans Single Use Plastic in its Premises

Rajasthan High Court bans Single Use Plastic in its Premises: On 28th September, Rajasthan High Court has decided not to use banned single-use plastic and thermocol products on the premises of all courts and in its canteens across the state.

A circular published on the High Court website, takes note of the ill-effects of plastics on human life & environment and acknowledges the ineffectivity (on ground) of ban imposed on use of plastic carry bags across the State in the year 2010 by the [Government of Rajasthan](#). Further, it endorsed the ban on single-use plastic by the Centre across the Nation from 2nd October, 2019 and recognized that without public awareness and commitment, this step may also result in futility.

As per the circular, the the Full Court has unanimously resolved not to use the banned single use plastic/thermocol products as a mark of respect to the father of nation Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th Birth Anniversary and in the interest of the institution and public at large.

This implies that the ban will extend to all courts in the state, High Court Guest House at Jaipur and Jodhpur, canteens and restaurants operating inside the premises of Courts as well as official functions, conferences and any other occasion.



**Banned Items**

The circular has also listed banned single use plastic & other products.

1. Less than 200 ml. drinking water PET / PETE bottles having liquid holding capacity.
2. Plastic Mineral Water Pouch
3. Plastic Bags (With Handle / Without Handle)
4. One time use / single use disposable items made up of Thermocol (Polystyrene) or Plastic e.g. dish, spoon, cups, plates, glasses, fork, bowl, container.
5. Disposable dish / bowl used for packaging foods in hotels and Straw
6. Any Compostable Plastic Bags except for Plant nursery horticulture, agriculture & handling of solid waste.
7. Use of Plastic & Thermocol for decoration purpose
8. Any other article banned from time to time by the competent authorities.

Before this, the Full Court of Calcutta High Court had also banned single-use plastic in its premises w.e.f. 01.10.2019 by way of a resolution passed on September 23, 2019. The ban will extend to the Circuit Benches of Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri and at Port Blair.

**Two projects from Rajasthan get water mission awards**

Rajasthan's Narmada Canal Project and Indira Gandhi Nahar Project phase II at Tejpur have been awarded first and second prize at National Water Mission awards in the category of the water conservation, efficient water use and sustainable water management practices by the ministry of Jal Shakti. The ministry also took the note of changing crop pattern like cultivation of pomegranate becomes which is financially more viable. These awards are given to projects running in states which have introduced technological changes to bring prosperity in their respective regions.

**E-buses to ply on Jaipur-Delhi route from November**

From November, passengers can ride in electric buses (e-buses) to be operated by the Rajasthan State Roadways Transport Corporation (RSRTC). Also, these buses would start from Bikaner House, Delhi to Central Bus stand, Jaipur. It may be recalled that in June the central government had sought proposals

from state transport departments for the deployment of 5,000 electric buses, to be supported under the Fame II scheme. The selected cities will be offered a subsidy of 40% on cost, or up to Rs 55 lakh per a standard bus of 10-12 metres.

### Jaipur gets fresh Nirbhaya squad

The Jaipur police inducted a fresh batch of 20 bike-borne women constables as part the “Nirbhaya” squad. One bike will have two constables. They are highly trained to chase accused, use weapons and administrate first aid. Chief minister Ashok Gehlot flagged off the fresh batch of bikes which help cops keep a strong vigil outside girl’s schools, colleges, bus stands etc. In addition to provide safety to women and girls near park and cinema halls, these cops dark blue uniforms will also do patrolling at tourist spots.

### Pali district launches e-magazine to provide crop info to farmers

Pali administration launched a magazine on PDF format to provide information to farmers on monthly crops, diseases relating to crops and vegetables and animal husbandry. The PDF would be shared in various social networking groups by senior officers of medical and health, revenue, agriculture, animal husbandry and other government departments in the district.

### Rajasthan ranks 1st in free medicine scheme implementation

Rajasthan’s flagship free medicine scheme secured First position in the country in the ranking issued by the National Health Mission (NHM). The scheme was launched on October 2, 2011 in the State.

#### Key Points:

- Performance of the states was assessed on the basis of 10 parameters like the effective implementation of Drugs and Vaccine Distribution Management System (DVDMS), stock of essential drugs, value of drugs about to expire along with other such parameters.
- NHM free drug service initiative has been implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) under which states & Union territories are being supported under NHM to provide free drugs to patients coming to public health facilities.

### Rajasthan launches new higher education model

A new higher education model has been launched in Rajasthan for distribution of faculties and movable assets among the government colleges at the district level to rationalise the availability of resources. Minister of State for Higher Education Bhanwar Singh Bhati launched the model titled **Resource Assistance for Colleges with Excellence (RACE)**.

RACE will give autonomy to small colleges and help them find solutions to their problems at the local level. It would effectively decentralise the decision-making power of colleges and encourage them to share physical and human resources within the district.

### Jan Sookhna Portal 2019 Launched

The [Rajasthan government](#) has launched a Jan Sookhna Portal that will provide information pertaining to 13 departments on a single platform. The portal has been developed by the information and technology department in which initially 23-24 types of information will be made available from 13 departments. Later, information relating to all the departments will be made available on the portal. The portal has been launched under the Rajasthan Innovation Vision (RAJIV) campaign.

The information will also be available through self-service kiosks (e-Mitra Plus) in rural and urban areas.

The Portal which is the first public portal of its kind in the country and is aimed to disclose information in the public domain suo-moto as per Section 4(2) of the [RTI Act](#). As per the section - "It shall be a constant endeavour of every public authority to take steps in accordance with the Act to provide as much information suo-moto to the public at regular intervals through various means of communication, including the internet, so that the public have minimum resort to the use of this Act to obtain information".

#### Departments on Jan Sookhna Portal:

1. Social Justice and Empowerment Department,
2. Tribal Regional Development Department,
3. Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department,
4. Department of Elementary Education and Secondary Education,
5. Labor and Employment Department,

6. Mines and Geology Department,
7. Revenue Department,
8. Medical Health and Family Welfare Department,
9. Food and Civil Supply Department,
10. Cooperatives Department,
11. Energy Department,
12. Planning, Information Technology and Communications
13. Department of Administrative Reforms

### How to Use the portal

Any person seeking information has to go to the public information portal [jansoochna.rajasthan.gov.in](http://jansoochna.rajasthan.gov.in) and click. On clicking, he/she will see the options of various schemes/services available ( 23 as of now). The person can select the scheme/service of interest and click on it. On which the person can get detailed information.

### All-women canteen launched

Churu district collector Sandesh Nayak has launched an all-women canteen called “Kasturba Canteen” at the district collectorate. In first-of-its kind canteen, from cooking to serving food, all work here is done by women.

### Peace & non-violence cell launched

Chief minister Ashok Gehlot launched the peace and non-violence cell at the Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board (which will also serve as its office) on October 2.

- Retired IAS officer S S Bissa will be the cell’s coordinator.
- There will be 5-6 members in the cell.

- The posts that will be created shall be at the level of joint secretaries, deputy secretaries and assistant secretary / section officer.

The role of the cell will largely be of an advisory group to suggest the government about various activities to be undertaken and to give a roadmap for the formation of a department. The cell will also monitor and conduct the one-year long celebrations of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. It will also work with school and college children and involve them in various activities related to Gandhi's life, teachings and philosophy.

Gandhian Rajagopal PV, had suggested to Rajasthan CM that a non-violence department should be created by the Rajasthan government.

### Beggar-free Jaipur

The state government will ensure making Jaipur a 'beggar-free capital' by introducing a scheme, which will involve complete facilitation and rehabilitation package for the beggars. This will ensure skill development and alternative job opportunities for them. The Rajasthan Rehabilitation of Beggars or Indigents Act was passed in 2012 and the Act came into effect in September 2014.

Earlier, it was not there in the form of a scheme. As per the Act, just a rule was notified. But, now a scheme will be introduced and it will involve a complete facilitation and rehabilitation package for the city beggars. It will be backed by a financial outlay.

### New Mini-Secretariat to come up at Alwar

The state government has sanctioned an interest free loan of Rs 10 crore for the construction of a mini-secretariat at Alwar. The mini secretariat at Alwar was announced in the 2010-11 budget but has been delayed due to shortage of money.

### Raj Cooperatives to offer e-mitra services

At present 1,851 village cooperative societies are providing services of e-mitra centres. Now by October 2nd, all the 6,500 village cooperative societies would be offering e-mitra services. On October 2, on the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, a special general body meeting of village cooperative societies will be held at all 6,500 village service committees in the state.

### NCERT books to be part of State curriculum

To arrest the trend of school curriculum being tweaked whenever there is a change in the government, the state government has decided to introduce the NCERT system in government schools in a phased manner from the next academic session. Hindi and English medium books of the NCERT would be introduced in classes IX and XI from the next academic year.

But in classes X and XII, the present curriculum will continue for the next academic session (2020-21) and the NCERT curriculum will be introduced only from the academic year 2021-2022.

### New SOG office to be setup

The Rajasthan police have decided to set up a dedicated office of the Special Operations Group (SOG) on the Jaipur-Delhi National Highway 8 to keep a check on gangs operating on the border of New Delhi and Haryana.

### Former Chief Ministers to vacate official residences

A division bench of Rajasthan High Court struck down the Rajasthan Ministers' Salaries (Amendment) Act 2017 which provided "extra facilities" to former chief ministers including lifelong government accommodation. The judgment, on the petition filed by senior journalists Milap Chand Dandiaya and Vijay Bhandari, was pronounced by the bench headed by Chief Justice S Ravindra Bhat.

As per the provisions of The Rajasthan Ministers Salaries (amendment) Act, 2017, chief ministers of the state, who serve a full tenure, were eligible for a government accommodation in Jaipur or any of the district headquarters, even after they vacate office. They were also eligible for a car and a driver, a telephone and a staff of 10. In case facility is not availed by ex-CM, government was to reimburse a fixed monthly amount.

The court held that above clauses were "arbitrary" and "contrary to Article 14" (the right to equality) of the Constitution. Accordingly, the provisions of the impugned law are "unconstitutional", the bench ruled.

**Rajasthan first state in India to provide E-sign services**

The Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA) of the Centre has declared RajComp Info Services Limited (RISL) under the Rajasthan government as the certification authority (CA) for providing E-sign services/facilities to other states of the country and its citizens.

Through E-sign facility, public can avail government services/schemes by signing the applications, documents or certificates online, instead of signing the papers manually by taking a print out. E-sign facility was earlier used in the state at the government's department-to-department level.

This will also help in promoting paperless system in state departments, ensuring transparency and saving time and state government's money. Currently 3 to 5 lakh documents are e-signed in the state daily. Now, this number is estimated to increase to about 10 lakh.

## Schemes Related

### **Ayushman Bharat Launched in Rajasthan as AB-MGRSBY**

The [State Government](#) launched the Ayushman Bharat Scheme in [Rajasthan](#) on September 1, 2019 by combining the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (AB-PMJAY) of the Center and the state's Bhamashah Swasthya Bima Yojana (BSBY). After its integration with the state's Bhamashah Health Insurance Scheme, the new scheme has been named the Ayushman Bharat-Mahatma Gandhi Rajasthan Health Insurance Scheme (AB-MGRSBY).

### **Salient Features of Ayushman Bharat-Mahatma Gandhi Rajasthan Health Insurance Scheme (AB-MGRSBY)**

- With the merger of AB-JAY and BSBY, the number of families getting benefits will be increased from 1crore to 1.1 crore.
- The AB-MGJAY will be implemented by the state health Assurance agency (SHAA), Jaipur.
- Cashless treatment facilities at empanelled private and government-run hospitals
- 40 percent of the expenditure on the treatment of these families will be borne by the state government and 60 percent by the central government.
- The amount of coverage is Rs 3 lakh per year in AB-MGRSBY despite of merger with Centre's AB-PMJAY, which provides coverage of Rs 5 lakh per annum.

### **Identification of Beneficiaries AB-MGRSBY**

There are 60 lakh families who are listed in Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011 in the state. Besides, there are 1 crore families covered under NFSA. But, 80% of 60 lakh families listed in SECC 2011 are also covered under NFSA and they were already getting BSBY benefits.

Now, the remaining 20% of the families listed in SECC, which is around 10 lakh, who were not getting benefits of BSBY earlier, will now start getting the cashless insurance scheme (AB-MGRSBY). Hence, total number of families getting benefits will be increased from 1crore to 1.1 crore.



### One Nation, One Ration Card scheme

The Centre has launched an inter-state portability ration card on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019 in two clusters of adjoining States of **Andhra Pradesh & Telangana** and **Gujarat & Maharashtra**. This will enable beneficiaries from either States' cluster to avail the benefits accruing to them under the National Food Security Act from any of the two States.

11 States/UT of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, **Rajasthan**, Telangana and Tripura have implemented the **intra-State portability** of ration card holders to lift the entitled food grains from any Fair Price Shop within their State. Further, it is envisaged that the inter-State portability shall be introduced in the 11 States having already implemented intra-State portability by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

The Department of Food & Public Distribution, is targeting implementation of nation-wide portability in distribution of subsidised food grains to the beneficiaries without the need of obtaining a new ration card under 'One Nation One Ration Card' System.

Update - On October 1, 2019 - The Centre launched 'One Nation, One Ration Card' scheme between **Rajasthan and Haryana**.

### Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

For the third consecutive time, Rajasthan will be felicitated for its best practices, innovations, awareness generation, community engagement and improvement in *sex ratio at birth*, under the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' (BBBP). Recognising state's performance on BBBP, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched pan-India expansion of BBBP in March 2018 from Jhunjhunu.

The latest reports of Health Management Information System (HMIS) of ministry of health & family welfare (MoHFW) for the time period between 2015-16 and 2018-19, reveal that SRB has shown improving trends from 923 to 931, which include urban as well as rural areas of the country. However, in the state, the SRB has increased significantly from 929 in 2015-16 to 948 in 2018-19.

## Policy, Acts & Bills

### **Rajasthan government launches silicosis policy for mining workers**

Chief minister Ashok Gehlot launched the **Rajasthan Silicosis Policy-2019** under which those suffering from silicosis, a lung disease, will be treated at par with differently abled persons and will get a monthly pension of up to Rs 1,250. Additionally, in the event of a silicosis patient dying, his widow will get all the social security benefits from the state government, including a monthly pension of up to Rs 1500.

The policy will also focus on prevention and control of the disease. The government said that people living within a two-km radius of a stone crusher will also be covered under the scheme.

As per official data, over 1,600 people have died of silicosis in Rajasthan since 2011 when the government started identifying patients afflicted with the dreaded disease. The total number of silicosis patients in the state is estimated at 11,000. Mining and mineral processing industry is a major employer in 19 out of 33 districts in Rajasthan. However, mining workers run the risk of getting afflicted by silicosis by breathing in dust containing silica.

### **Rajasthan bans certain categories of pan masala**

On Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary, the Rajasthan government announced a ban on pan masala containing magnesium carbonate, nicotine, tobacco, mineral oil and flavoured betel nut. According to the order, production, storage and distribution of these products are prohibited in the state. All such products will now be banned in the State under the Food Safety Act. The state government had previously banned the distribution of 'gutka' in 2012.

With this, Rajasthan has become the third State after Maharashtra and Bihar to announce such a move.

According to Global Adult Tobacco Survey 2017, 13.2% of the population in Rajasthan consume tobacco in the form of cigarettes, with men accounting for 22% and women 3.7%. The figure for chewing tobacco is 14.1%, with men again at 22% and women 5.8%. Currently, there are 77,000 people in the state who suffer from diseases due to smoking or chewing tobacco.

The ban is the correct step to reduce patients who suffer from ailments due to consumption of such harmful products and the decision has been taken to prevent addiction amongst youngsters.

### Ban on Hookah Bars in Rajasthan

The state assembly passed an amendment to the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 banning Hookah Bars across the state. The bill states that “No person shall, either on his own or on behalf of any other person, open or run any hookah bar in any place, including the eating place.”

It defined “hookah bar” as an establishment where people gather to smoke tobacco from a communal hookah or narghile which is provided individually.”

The bill subscribes punishment for running hookah bars as “Whoever contravenes the provisions be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years but which shall not be less than one year and with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees but which shall not be less than Rs 50,000,”.

### Rajasthan assembly passes Anti-lynching bill

The Rajasthan Protection from Lynching Bill, 2019 was passed by the Vidhan Sabha. The bill provides for life imprisonment and a maximum fine of Rs 5 lakh to those convicted in cases of mob lynching leading to the victim's death. After 2014, 86 per cent of mob lynching cases reported in the country happened in Rajasthan.

### Rajasthan passes honour killing bill

The Rajasthan Prohibition of Interference with the Freedom of Matrimonial Alliances in the Name of Honour and Tradition Bill, 2019 punishment of death penalty or life imprisonment for murdering couples in the name of family honour. Opposition members termed the bill a blow to the culture and social fabric.

### Biofuel Rules 2019

With an aim to usher in a bio-fuel revolution, the state government has come out with the Biofuel Rules 2019 incorporating the best practices in the world. Rajasthan is first in the country to bring out this policy after the notification of the Government of India on April 30.

Currently, 1250 crore liters of fossil fuel is being used in the state, if only 5 percent of it is replaced by biofuel, 62 crore liters of biofuel will have to be produced in the state. This is a big opportunity for the people of the state.