

Women to headline R-Day celebrations



The Republic Day parade in India will feature 100 women artistes playing Indian musical instruments instead of military bands for the first time. The parade will also have increased representation of women in the Indian Air Force flypast, marching contingents, and the cultural show. French President Emmanuel Macron will attend the parade as the chief guest, and French fighter jets and marching contingents will participate. The parade will also include an all-women tri-service contingent and contingents of the Central Armed Police Forces featuring only women.

For the first time, the Republic Day parade will be heralded by 100 women artistes playing Indian musical instruments instead of the traditional military bands, and the country's biggest ceremonial event will this year have the best representation of women including in the Indian Air Force flypast, marching contingents and the cultural show, defence secretary Giridhar Aramane said on Friday. He said two Rafale fighters and an Airbus A330 MRTT (multi-role tanker transport) of the French air force, a 95-member marching contingent of that country as well as a 33-member band contingent will also participate in the 75th Republic Day parade,

which is being attended by French President Emmanuel Macron as the chief guest. Around 77,000 spectators will witness the parade at Kartavya Path. They will include 13,000 special guests invited from across the country to witness the parade to ensure "jan bhagidari" (public participation), the defence secretary said at a media briefing in South Block. "The parade will commence with the music of shankh, naadswaram and nagada to be played by the women artistes. Earlier, the parade was heralded by military bands. Best representation of women will be seen in this year's parade including in the flypast and the marching contingents," Aramane said.

At a separate briefing on the air force's participation in the parade, IAF officials said that the Republic Day flypast will involve 56 military aircraft including 29 fighter jets some of which will be flown by women pilots. Fifteen women pilots, including six fighter pilots, will take part in the flypast, HT has learnt. They will be flying Rafales, Sukhoi-30s and MiG-29s.

The light combat aircraft Tejas will take part in the flypast in a formation for the first time, the officials said, adding that the C-295 transport aircraft will also make its debut. The IAF's 144-member marching

contingent will be led by a woman officer, Squadron Leader Rashmi Thakur. Squadron Leader Sumita Yadav, Squadron Leader Pratiti Ahluwalia and Flight Lieutenant Kirti Rohil will be a part of the marching squad that will include 144 men. "Being a part of the marching contingent gives me more joy than leading it," said Thakur, a fighter controller.

Sukhoi-30 pilots Flying Officer Asma Shaikh and Flight Lieutenant Ananya Sharma will be a part of the IAF tableau whose theme will be "IAF: Potent, Powerful and Self-Reliant".

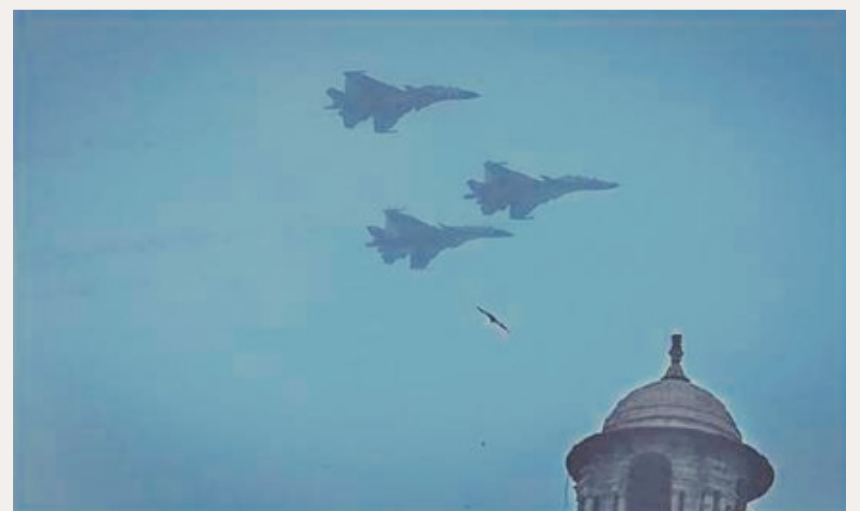
Agniveervayu (women), who passed out from the Airmen Training School Belagavi, Karnataka, barely two months ago will also take part in the parade. The tri-service marching contingent of Agniveers at the Republic Day parade will consist of 144 women, with an average age of barely 20. "I have been in service for not even two months and IAF has given me the opportunity of a lifetime. Words can't describe how I feel," said Agniveervayu Jaya Saini.

An all-women tri-service contingent and contingents of the Central Armed Police Forces featuring only women will also be a highlight of the parade,

Aramane said. Viksit Bharat (developed India) and Bharat-Loktantra ki Matraka (mother of democracy) will be the main themes of the parade, he said.

The special guests attending the parade include patent holders, those representing successful start-ups, best performers in various fields and those who made best use of around 30 government schemes including Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, PM Ujjwala Yojana, PM Street Vendor's Aatmanirbhar Nidhi, Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, PM Fasal Bima Yojana, PM Vishwakarma Yojana, PM Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana and PM Matsya Sampada Yojana, the defence secretary said.

"The special guests will be prominently seated at Kartavya Path, right across the PM's enclosure," he said. Representatives of "vibrant villages" will be among the special guests. The government's vibrant village programme is aimed at the comprehensive development of select villages along the country's northern border with China, and covers border areas of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh.





Behind the Badge: A Day in the Life of DCP Hetal Patel

In the realm of law enforcement, few stories are as inspiring as that of Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Hetal Patel. With a career spanning over a decade, DCP Patel's journey from a Deputy Superintendent of Police in 2011 to her current role in the Special Branch in Surat is a testament to her dedication and prowess.

Early Influences and the Call to Serve

DCP Patel's law enforcement journey was influenced by her involvement in the National Cadet Corps (NCC) during her college years. The allure of uniformed service, coupled with her experiences in firing, medical services, signal, and disaster management at NCC national camps, solidified her ambition. Recognizing that her mental and physical abilities were well-suited for the role, she embarked on a career that would see her rise through the ranks. Her foundational years in Ahmedabad and her origins in Mansa district, Gujarat, further shaped her perspectives and commitment to public service.

Responsibilities of a DCP

As a DCP, Patel's role is multifaceted. She is responsible for overseeing events in the city, ensuring the security of VVIPs and dignitaries, and managing duties during elections. Her responsibilities also extend to issuing public performance licenses and overseeing immigration, including airport and marine security. This role requires constant vigilance, as the police force operates 24/7 to maintain public safety and order.

Overcoming Challenges

The path of a police officer is fraught with challenges. For DCP Patel, irregular hours and frequent transfers every 2-3 years pose significant personal challenges, especially with a family that needs to adapt to new cities and neighborhoods. However, with strong family support, these challenges are surmountable.

Leadership in Policing

Leadership in the police force, as DCP Patel notes, demands teamwork irrespective of rank. Police officers are expected to lead in diverse situations, from managing crises like riots or pandemics to routine community interactions. Every situation is unique, but the constant is the need for effective teamwork and leadership.

Building Trust with the Community

DCP Patel believes in a police force that is a friend to the citizens, not an entity to be feared. She encourages people to approach the police for help, much like they would turn to teachers or advocates. Accessibility is key, with helplines like 100 for general assistance and 181 for women's help readily available.

Adapting to Technological Changes

With the rise of cybercrime, DCP Patel emphasizes the importance of public awareness. The evolving nature of crimes, fueled by technology, necessitates changes in investigative methods, including the use of scientific temperament, forensic science, and artificial intelligence. Expert guidance is

often sought to stay ahead in this digital age.

Keeping Up with a Changing World

Continuous training and education are crucial in law enforcement. Regular seminars, workshops, and both indoor and outdoor training sessions ensure that officers are physically and mentally fit and up-to-date with legal amendments.

Future Challenges and Citizen Awareness

Looking ahead, DCP Patel acknowledges the challenges posed by a growing population, the rapid spread of social media, and the sophistication of modern crimes. Initiatives like community policing programs and the 'Student Police Cadet' program aim to educate young people about their rights and responsibilities, promoting a safer, more informed society.

Empowering Women in Law Enforcement

DCP Patel encourages women to join the police force, dispelling myths of physical or environmental limitations. Women officers, she believes, are particularly effective in handling crimes against women, and there is a growing demand for female officers in the force.

A Message to the Community

Concluding her insights, DCP Hetal Patel emphasizes the importance of law and order in achieving national prosperity. She urges citizens to stay informed about crimes, including cyber threats. With the availability of e-FIRs, filing complaints has become more accessible, encouraging a more proactive approach to personal and community safety.

DCP Hetal Patel's journey and insights offer a glimpse into the life of a dedicated law enforcement officer and leader, serving as a beacon of inspiration for many, especially aspiring female officers.

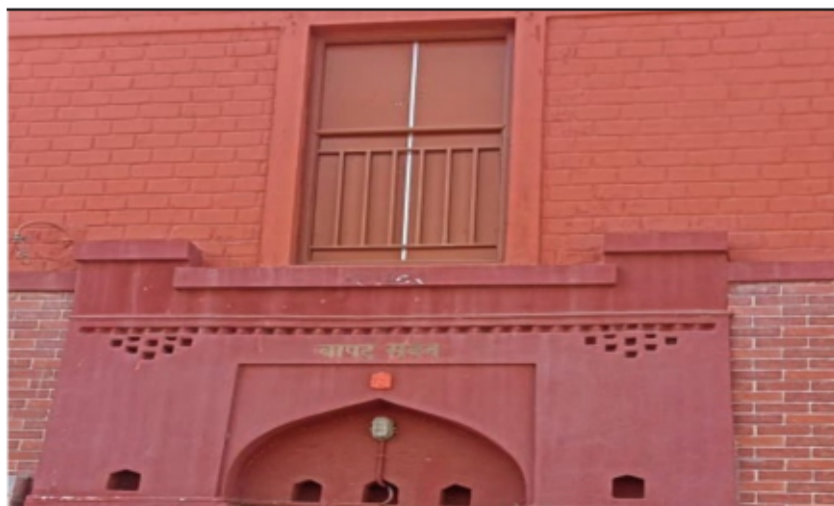


SPB Growth's "Learning with Business" Event: A Blend of Knowledge and Inspiration



SPB Growth successfully conducted the "Learning with Business" event on 19th January 2024 at Coffee King Vesu. This engaging session saw the participation of over 25 aspiring entrepreneurs and business enthusiasts. The event was graced by the presence of motivational speaker Rehman Khan, whose presence significantly elevated the event's prestige. The session commenced with an inauguration ceremony, symbolically marked by the lighting of a diya, an act representing enlightenment and knowledge. Organizers Sona Chauhan, Parul Sosa, and Bhavini Chauhan masterfully hosted the event, ensuring a seamless and enriching experience for all attendees. The session encompassed an inspiring speech by Rehman Khan, followed by a detailed introduction and explanation of the event's purpose and objectives. Participants were immersed in a learning experience focused on the nuances of running a business. The event emphasized practical insights and

strategies essential for budding entrepreneurs, making it a highly beneficial session for everyone involved. In recognition of their participation and engagement, each attendee was awarded a Certificate of Participation. This gesture not only acknowledged their involvement but also served as a token of encouragement for their entrepreneurial journey. Additionally, the event also included refreshments, adding a touch of hospitality and warmth to the overall experience. The "Learning with Business" event by SPB Growth has set a benchmark in facilitating practical business learning. It has undoubtedly contributed to the growth and motivation of young entrepreneurs and business enthusiasts in the region. This event reflects SPB Growth's commitment to fostering a community of knowledgeable and inspired entrepreneurs, poised to make significant contributions to the business world.



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Khajaano's 'Let's Read Between the Lines': A Focus on Mental Health

Khajaano's strategic choice of well-known speakers not only added credibility but also made the discussions accessible to a broader audience. The organization's commitment to intelligent and interactive discourse stands out in a society where genuine conversations are increasingly rare. In essence, Khajaano's event served as a beacon of enlightenment, reminding us of the collective responsibility to engage in conversations that matter. By fostering awareness and breaking down barriers, initiatives like these contribute to building a more informed and compassionate community.



Khajaano, known for its innovative approach to societal issues, recently hosted an event on January 7th that tackled essential topics, primarily focusing on mental health awareness. With the resonant tagline, "Let's read between the lines," the event featured esteemed speakers Mukul Choksi and Dr. Bhavna Raja, addressing subjects like mental health, sexuality, relationships, and the impact of social media. In an age dominated by social media distractions, Khajaano's initiative brought much-needed attention to critical issues. The event's interactive format encouraged meaningful discussions, creating an atmosphere of community engagement and collective responsibility.



Republic Day Celebration at Gajanan Park, Jhansi



Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, January 26, 2024: In celebration of Republic Day at Gajanan Park, Jhansi, the Chief Center of the Indian Yoga Institute Mandal, Kunti Hariram, hoisted the tricolor in the presence of a vibrant gathering. The event witnessed an overwhelming display of patriotism as women yoga practitioners enthusiastically participated, singing patriotic songs and the national anthem. As a symbol of goodwill and unity, a delightful moment ensued with the distribution of laddus, sweet treats that added a sweet touch to the celebration.

Among the distinguished personalities present were the honorable councilor Shri Yadav, Hitesh, and other esteemed citizens. The gathering included prominent yoga practitioners like Sadhana Khare Geeta, Beena, Sapna, Lakshmi, Gayatri, Sunita, Asha, Prabha Rajkumari, Rita, Shashi Kamala, Pushpa, Adesh, Pooja, Renu, along with several young participants, infusing the event with a sense of community and joy.

The Republic Day celebration at Gajanan Park not only marked patriotic fervor but also highlighted the unity and diversity within the community, showcasing a beautiful amalgamation of tradition and modernity.

This event served as a reminder of the collective strength and spirit that binds the citizens of Jhansi together in the pursuit of a harmonious and progressive society.

