



Navratri 6th Day
Feature Story – Worship
of Maa Katyayani

FAIR REPORT
SPECIAL FEATURE

The sixth day of Navratri reverberates with devotion to Maa Katyayani, the fierce yet benevolent form of Goddess Durga. Across Jaipur and Rajasthan, temples glow with marigold garlands and the rhythmic sound of dhol, as devotees gather for early-morning aarti and evening garba celebrations.

Significance of the Day

According to Hindu scriptures, Maa Katyayani embodies courage and the power to remove obstacles. She is believed to bless devotees with harmony in relationships and strength to overcome life's challenges. Unmarried girls often observe special fasts on this day, seeking her blessings for a happy and harmonious marriage.

Traditions & Rituals

Color of the Day: Red, symbolizing passion and determination.

Devotees offer honey, red flowers, and incense

while chanting the Katyayani Mantra.

Temples such as Shila Mata in Amber Fort and Kalki Mata Temple witnessed a surge of devotees performing kumkum archana and lighting ghee lamps.

Cultural Festivities

Jaipur's iconic Garba and Dandiya Nights reached a crescendo on the sixth night, with folk artists blending Rajasthani beats and modern rhythms. Local markets brimmed with traditional attire—ghagras, chunris, and dazzling jewelry—as families prepared for the evening's festivities.

Message of the Day

The sixth day reminds people to embrace inner strength and face challenges with confidence. As one devotee at the City Palace grounds put it, "Maa Katyayani teaches us that courage and compassion can co-exist." With three more nights of Navratri celebrations to go, Jaipur continues to shine in devotion, dance, and the vibrant spirit of Shakti.

Jaishankar at UNGA: Pakistan a “Global Hub of Terrorism,” Calls for UNSC Reform

FAIR REPORT

New York: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar delivered a strong message on terrorism during his address to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on Saturday. Without directly naming Pakistan, he said that India's neighbor remains a

“global center of terrorism” and stressed that dismantling terrorist infrastructure is essential.

Recalling the recent brutal terror attack in Pahalgam, Jaishankar said India responded firmly against the perpetrators. “Fighting terrorism has always been India's priority. Terror net-

works operate on a large scale, terrorists are openly glorified, and terror financing must be stopped,” he

noted. Throughout his speech, the minister used the word “Bharat” instead of “India,” underscoring the country's traditional name.

Push for UN Security Council Expansion

Jaishankar also renewed India's call for reform of the United Nations

Security Council (UNSC). He pointed out that UN membership has grown fourfold and the organization's responsibilities have expanded significantly. “It is time to increase the number of permanent members,” he said, arguing that the Council must reflect today's global realities.

36 Dead, Dozens Hurt in Stampede at Vijay's TVK Rally in Tamil Nadu



Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) chief Vijay's campaign rally in Tamil Nadu's Karur

FAIR REPORT

Namakkal/Karur: A massive stampede at a political rally led by actor-turned-politician Vijay left at least 36 people dead and more than 58 injured on Saturday evening. Tamil Nadu Health Minister M.A. Subramanian confirmed that the victims include 16 women and eight children. Several of the injured remain in critical condition, and officials warn the toll could rise.

Missing Child Sparked Chaos

The tragedy unfolded during a public meeting of Vijay's Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) in Karur

district. Witnesses said panic erupted when word spread that a nine-year-old girl in the audience had gone missing. Vijay interrupted his speech to urge police and the crowd to help locate the child, but the announcement triggered confusion and a sudden surge among the tightly packed attendees. People struggled to breathe as the crush intensified, causing many to collapse.

Crowd Far Exceeded Limit

Authorities had approved the gathering for about 10,000 people and anticipated as many as 50,000. Instead, estimates indicate more

than 1.2 lakh (120,000) supporters arrived, overwhelming security and crowd-control measures. Emergency services rushed to the scene, ferrying the injured to nearby hospitals. The state government has ordered a high-level inquiry and announced financial assistance for the families of the deceased and the wounded.

Officials said the priority remains treating the injured and identifying the victims while investigators determine how the rally spiraled into one of Tamil Nadu's worst crowd disasters in recent years.

Controversy Erupts Over Alleged Plan to Pardon Convicted BJP MLA in Rajasthan

Jaipur: A fresh political storm has erupted in Rajasthan after senior opposition leader Tikaram Jyoti accused the state government of attempting to pardon BJP MLA Kanwarlal Meena, who has already been convicted by the courts. Jyoti, a prominent Congress leader and former cabinet minister, made the allegation during a press briefing in Jaipur on Friday, claiming that the move would undermine public faith in the rule of law. According to Jyoti, internal communications indicate that senior officials in the ruling coalition are exploring legal options to recommend clemency for Meena, who was convicted in a criminal case last year. “Granting a pardon to a convicted legislator sends a dangerous signal that political influence can override the judiciary,” Jyoti said, demanding an immediate clarification from Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma. The alleged plan has triggered sharp criticism from across the political spectrum. Congress leaders have vowed to raise the issue in the upcoming Assembly session, while civil society activists warned that any such pardon could set a troubling precedent.

Government Employees Stage Massive Protest in Jaipur, Demand Fulfillment of 2025–26 Budget Promises

FAIR REPORT

Jaipur: Thousands of Rajasthan government employees poured into the streets of Jaipur on Friday, staging a large-scale protest to press for the immediate implementation of key 2025–26 budget commitments. The demonstration, organized by a coalition of employee unions, disrupted traffic in several parts of the city and drew attention to long-pending demands related to pay revisions, promotions, and welfare benefits. Union representatives said that despite repeated reminders, several budgetary announcements made earlier this year—covering salary grade upgrades, recruitment drives, and improved pension schemes—have yet to be acted upon. “We welcomed the government's ambitious budget, but nine months later, most of the promises remain only on paper,” said Mahesh Choudhary, a senior leader of the Rajasthan Employees Federation. Protesters assembled near

the state secretariat, carrying placards and chanting slogans urging swift action. Police maintained tight security, and the march remained largely peaceful. In response to the growing unrest, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) to the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) met with union leaders late in the afternoon. After the meeting, officials stated that the government is committed to addressing employees' concerns. “We have assured representatives that their key demands will be examined and a roadmap for implementation will be prepared soon,” an ACS spokesperson said. Employee unions have welcomed the dialogue but warned they will escalate their agitation if concrete steps are not taken within the next few weeks. Observers note that with local body elections approaching, the state administration faces mounting pressure to demonstrate progress on workers' issues.

Traditional Welcome for Tourists at Chittorgarh Fort on World Tourism Day

FAIR REPORT

Chittorgarh, On the occasion of World Tourism Day on Saturday, tourists were given a traditional welcome at the historic Chittorgarh Fort. The program was jointly organized by the Tourism Department and the Guide Association, attracting a large number of domestic and international visitors.

The celebration began at the View Point and Vijay Stambh, where guests were greeted with the traditional Rajasthani style of applying a ceremonial tilak and garlanding. This cultural gesture showcasing Rajasthan's rich heritage left tourists deeply impressed.

Adding to the festive atmosphere, local folk artists mesmerized the audience with captivating performances. Traditional Rajasthani folk dances, including Bhavai and Chakri, received enthusiastic applause. The soulful tunes of shehnai and the colorful bharupiya art further enlivened the fort. These performances were also staged at the fort's key monuments—View Point, Kumbha Mahal, Vijay Stambh, and Fateh Prakash Palace Museum—delighting tourists with cultural vibrancy at every stop.

Experience the visitor experience, free entry was offered at the Fateh Prakash Palace Government Museum. A large number of tourists took this opportunity to explore the museum's rare and historic collections.

In line with Seva Pakhwada 2025, a cleanliness drive was conducted across various parts of the fort. The campaign was jointly undertaken by the district administration, municipal council, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Tourism Department, Archaeology & Museums Department, and the Guide Association. During the drive, tourists and local traders

took a pledge to avoid plastic use and maintain cleanliness.

A particularly inspiring moment came when three-year-old Parnika Sahu contributed by cleaning the premises of Kumbha Mahal on her birthday, setting an example of responsibility at such a young age. The event was attended by Jitendra Meena (Executive Engineer, Municipal Council), Devvrat (Senior Conservation Assistant, ASI), Gulshan Kumar (Curator), Vivek Joshi (Assistant Director, Tourism), Lalit (Statistical Officer), Narendra Singh (President, Guide Association), and senior guide Harish Sahu, along with several members of the association.

Special support for the program was extended by members of the Tourist Assistance Force, including Omprakash, Yashwant Singh, and Satyanarayan. Officials and dignitaries jointly emphasized that tourism is not only about exploring history and heritage but also about promoting cleanliness, environmental protection, and local culture.

Chittorgarh Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, draws millions of visitors every year. This World Tourism Day celebration not only offered tourists a memorable experience but also encouraged locals to commit to cleanliness and the preservation of cultural heritage.

