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CityMatters

CUTS
International

From Shackles of Poverty to Prosperity

Women are the largest untapped reservoir of talent in the world. Since ages, Indian women are expected to live a restrained domestic life and they have been struggling to overcome social restrictions.



Taking the opportunity on this 'International Women's Day', we are proud to share the success story of one of our Self Help Groups (SHGs), *Radhey Krishna*. This group has been recently awarded as the 'State Level Best Performing SHG' by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). Earlier, it also got an award from Chittorgarh district administration for 'Excellence in Women Empowerment'. This is a well-known women SHG of nomadic community, *gadia lohar* (ironsmith) of village *Ochri* in district Chittorgarh (Rajasthan) engaged in making agricultural and household tools.

Radhe Krishna group was formed in the year 2008 by 11 illiterate women who unanimously elected *Badam Bai* as President, *Santara Bai* as Secretary and *Seeta Bai* as Treasurer respectively. The local banks were initially reluctant to allow this SHG to open a savings account but after CUTS intervention, the banks agreed to open their SHG bank account. Moreover, these women preferred to stay at one place rather than wandering from place to place for providing regular and uninterrupted education to their children.

After the formation of the group, each member deposited ₹100 in their SHG bank account with a recurring deposit and created individual corpus fund for domestic and professional use. The group wanted to promote their traditional business but inadequate funds were a major constraint. Previously, these SHG women used to borrow from the moneylenders at very high interest rates but after SHG formation, they could avail bank loans at meagre interest rates.

Manju Bai, one of the *gadia lohars* acquired an initial loan of ₹2500 from the group funds and invested the same in her traditional iron manufacturing business and earned about ₹1500 per month. CUTS also motivated SHG women to procure loans from banks to promote their traditional work.

Progressively, the SHG women procured maximum amount up to ₹4.5 lakh. They bought mechanical hammers and diesel engine to run their power hammer machine.

Interestingly, the SHG women are currently earning ₹1500-2000 every month. Due to the success of this group other women also got inspired to establish 10 more such women SHGs in nearby locality and endorse their traditional occupation through various government welfare schemes.

Badam Bai and her group have truly acknowledged CUTS remarkable assistance and encouragement to their SHGs and ensuring them a promising future.

Although CUTS primarily addresses global issues like international trade and competition effectively through its international presence by implementing various projects and running many overseas centres but this story proves that the organisation also acquires credibility on local and grassroot issues.

Manju Bai, *Deo Bai*, *Badam Bai*'s story is indicative of what is happening across the length and breadth of rural India-underprivileged women finding their footing and firmly progressing towards success and also inspiring others to follow the same. This story narrates the breakthrough of *gadia lohars* from the shackles of poverty to prosperity.

Pradeep S. Mehta
Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General



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INSIDE

- ◆ Eco-friendly Colonies
- ◆ Eldest Woman Das Karta
- ◆ Teen Boy Stuns the World
- ◆ Man vs. Machine
- ◆ Domestic Workers Policy
- ◆ Metro Updates

Bringing Dead to Life

After the high school dropout and Chief Executive Officer of Los Angeles-based firm Bocanegra of Los Angeles (California) announced his latest venture recently, it attracted a blaze of publicity as he claimed that his new artificial intelligence company could resurrect the dead by 2045.



His company, Humai, aims to 'extend and enhance life' by freezing human brains for extended periods of time using cryonics – a deep-freezing technology that uses extremely low temperatures – before implanting them into artificial bodies.

"The best-case scenario, however, would actually be to successfully transplant a live person's brain to the bionic body... to achieve a point where no one has to die at all", conveyed Bocanegra.

(DNA, 02.01.16)

Eco-friendly Colonies

A host of Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) in Delhi are coming out to help each other in making their localities eco-friendly. The collective project being undertaken has three focus areas – solar power, rainwater harvesting and waste management.

According to Atul Goyal, the convenor of the United Resident Welfare Associations Joint Action (URJA) Front, about 95 percent of the existing rainwater harvesting chambers in Delhi is lying defunct.

In a bid to conserve the old water harvesting units, URJA Front, which is an umbrella body of about 850 RWAs in the city, has chalked out a pilot project to revive 50 of them.

(TH, 03.03.16)

Odd Even Parking Policy

Against the backdrop of New Delhi implementing the odd-even policy to reduce pollution and congestion on roads, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) is planning to initiate a move that would daily take 20 percent of vehicles off the roads.

Municipal Commissioner of AMC, D Thara stated that this will keep vehicles off the roads based on the day of the week and the last digit of the car's registration number. For instance, on Mondays, private vehicles – including two wheelers – with registration numbers ending with one or three will stay off the roads, he explained.

Moreover, the AMC has already started a crackdown on illegal parking on the city's busiest roads and highways.

(IE, 01.01.16)

Jet Suspends Cabin Crew

India's Jet Airways has grounded five crew members for allowing noted Bollywood singer Sonu Nigam to perform over the in-flight announcement system on a chartered flight from Jodhpur to Mumbai, an airline spokesman said.

The temporary suspension of the crew comes after a video showing singer impromptu performance in January 2016 went viral, prompting an investigation by the authorities.

"All cabin crew on the flight have been taken off from flight duty for enquiry and corrective training to reinforce strict adherence to operating procedures", a Jet Airways spokesman mentioned. The crew's suspension was trending in India with Twitter users lashing out at the authorities for suspending the crew. Many people have supported the carrier's decision, indicating such actions could jeopardise flight safety.

(DNA, 06.02.16)



Women's Special

Indo-Pak Women's Move for 'Right to Loiter'

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Pakistani counterpart Nawaz Sharif go out of their way to revive stalled peace talks, women in India and Pakistan have already begun an unique collaboration for their 'right to loiter'.

A campaign by three women in Mumbai – Shilpa Phadke, Sameera Khan and Shilpa Ranade has been launched fighting hard for their right to loiter few years back. Women in Pakistan joined in with their own version of the campaign, calling it 'Girls at Dhaba', an initiative of Karachi-based journalist Sadia Khatri.

The *chai tapris* (tea shops) of Mumbai connect well with the *dhabas* (roadside eateries) of Pakistan. Phadke had a simple explanation as to why Indian and Pakistani women immediately bonded over their loitering rights. "The ideas of izzat and honour are peculiarly South Asian", stated Phadke.

(Tol, 02.01.16)

Breaking Restrictions to Enter Shani Temple

After a long crusade by women activists led by Tupti Desai demanding entry to the inner sanctum of the Shani temple in Shingnapur, (Ahmednagar) the temple trust finally granted women devotees passage into the temple.

This will be the first time in 60 years that women will be allowed to enter the *garbhagriha* after a decades-long tradition barred women from entering it, and conditionally restricted men too.

The Shani shrine has been at the centre of the raging debate for gender equality after dozens of women activists attempted to storm the temple for the first time on Republic Day this year.

(TH, 23.01.16 & www.hindustantimes.com)

Eldest Woman Das Karta

At a time when women are fighting for their rights to enter temples, the Delhi high court has ruled in a landmark verdict that the eldest woman member of a Hindu undivided family can be its *karta* (manager of the family and its properties).

Justice Najmi Waziri said that the rights of a female family member could not be curtailed when it comes to management of the property. The verdict came on a suit filed by the eldest daughter of a north Delhi business family, seeking entitlement as the *karta* on death of her father and three uncles.

(HT, 01.02.16)

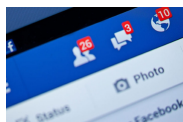
Woman Biker's Swagger

Ranjeet Ranjan, Indian, politician and member of Indian National Congress party arrived in Parliament on March 08, 2016 on an orange Harley-Davidson motorcycle. The Congress member of Parliament dressed in blue and wore dark glasses as she rode around the Parliament complex before entering the Lok Sabha to take part in the Women's Day discussions.

(BS, 09.03.16)

Acquaintance Category in Facebook

People cannot have 1,000 or 500 real friends on Facebook. In fact, anything over 200 starts seeming unlikely, an unusual study asserted recently. Humans can nurture no more than about 150 true friendships on social media, just as in real life, said a paper in the journal *Royal Society Open Science*. The rest are acquaintances, or people recognised on sight.



On an average, one can have five intimate friends, 15 best friends, 50 good friends, 150 friends, 500 acquaintances and 1,500 people we recognise on site. "People can have 500 or even 1,000 friends on Facebook, including people normally called acquaintances".

(DNA, 21.01.16)

Teen Boy Stuns the World

Sleeping on the floor of his single room house in Rambaug, Kalyan (Mumbai), 15-year-old Pranav Dhanawade, son of an auto-rickshaw driver, would not have dreamt of how his life will turn into a roller coaster ride in few days only.



Fifteen-year-old boys do not dream of scoring 1,000 runs in an innings. Pranav at best was only hoping to open the batting for his school and score a century in HT Bhandari Cup-U-16 inter school tournament. The wonder boy broke all the records and became the first-ever batsman in the history of cricket to breach the 1,000 runs in an innings mark.

(DNA, 06.01.16)

Injection-free Life

Japanese scientists have developed a breakthrough hydrogel seaweed capsule that can help the diabetes patients lead an injection-free life. The research team, led by Professor Amy Shen from the Okinawa Institute of Technology and Science Graduate University of Japan has invented a seaweed capsule capable of preserving pancreatic cells that can produce insulin. The procedure involves

the transplant of islets (pancreatic region containing its endocrine cells) taken from a donor pancreas to the diabetic patient.

Patients with Type 1 diabetes need daily insulin injections. The transplantation of a pancreatic islet is an alternative method that can significantly lower daily doses of insulin and even abolish the dependence on external insulin. To date, only human islets can be used in the transplant procedure, thus, the low supply.

(TT, 02.01.16)

Replacing India with South Asia

The US-based Hindu Education Foundation has claimed that protests by Hindu students and their parents have led the California Department of Education's Instructional Quality Commission to reject suggestions by a group of professors to replace the word 'India' with 'South Asia' in California textbooks. It said that professors of the 'South Asia Faculty Group' had written to the Department that most references to 'India' before 1947 be replaced with 'South Asia'.

A petition to protest the suggestion was signed by 18,000 people, and several students testifying at a public hearing on the issue in Sacramento on March 24, 2016 said they were "dismayed and anguished at negative portrayal of India and Hindus in textbooks".

(BS, 29.03.16)

Man vs. Machine

A Google-developed supercomputer stunned South Korean Go grandmaster Lee Se-Dol by taking the first game of a five-match showdown between man and machine in Seoul in March 2016. After about 3-1/2 hours of play, Lee, one of the greatest players of the ancient board game in the modern era, resigned when it became clear the *AlphaGo* computer had taken an unassailable lead.

"I was shocked by the result", Lee acknowledged afterwards. "*AlphaGo* made some moves that no human would ever make. It really surprised me and the computer had shut out the game in a perfect manner".

(BL, 09.03.16)

Man Seeking Damages

A man who spent seven years in jail because his name sounded similar to that of an accused moved the Bombay High Court in February 2016 seeking ₹200 crore as compensation. Gopal Shetye who was imprisoned on rape charges in

2009, moved the Court for the seven years of his life he spent behind bars.

Shetye was arrested by the Kurla Railway Police (Mumbai) for raping a 28-year-old from Aurangabad as the woman informed the police that a man called 'Gopi' raped her. The police picked him up as he was popularly called Gopi in the vicinity. The bench said that the state (Maharashtra) will be asked to file its reply. In 2015, Shetye was acquitted of all charges by Court in an appeal filed by him.

(TH, 23.02.16)

Spot-fining Litterbugs

Praveen Prakash, Director of the *Swachh Bharat Mission* (Clean India Campaign) and Joint Secretary of Union Urban Development Ministry



stated that at least some wards should start focussing on 'spot-fining'.

Though the Municipal Corporations of Delhi do have the powers to issue fines for 'insanitation', the process is a long-drawn one, where the accused has to appear before a Magistrate to pay.

The Centre will be amending the Environment Protection Act, 1986, to introduce civil monetary penalties by December 2016, said Prakash.

When *Swachh Bharat* campaign was launched on October 02, 2014, the garbage processed in India was 17 percent, and the target is to have 100 percent processing by 2019.

(TH, 13.03.16)

Unique Indian Wedding Ceremony

An exemplary marriage ceremony was organised in Berhampur of Odisha state to make people aware about 'unnecessary' expenses and rituals during wedding ceremonies. It was the marriage ceremony of Sarthak, son of ET Rao, the President of Humanist and Rationalist Organisation of Ganjam district.

This ceremony tried to break all ritualistic traditions attached to marriage ceremonies that do not have any scientific basis. On December 26, 2015 evening, the marriage of Sarthak was solemnised with the bride Vanashree by the local registrar of marriages.

A day after the wedding, all friends, relatives and guests of Rao and family got together in the morning and cleaned up the *Ralaba* village area, which was followed by a blood donation camp at the venue of the reception.

(TH, 29.12.15)

Artists Nominated for Padma Shri

Gulabo Sopera, Kalbelia dancer of Rajasthan has been nominated for prestigious Padma Shri award in folk dance category while Prakash Chand Surana, who passed away in 2015 has been posthumously named for the Padma Shri, nation's fourth highest civilian award, for his exemplary contribution in the field of classical music.



Gulabo's life has been full of challenges as soon after her birth the people of her society tried to bury her alive because a girl child. Surana, gem of Rajasthan was nominated for prestigious award as recognition to his sustained contribution in music.

(Tol, 26.01.16)

Online Building Approval

The applicants of Jaipur city can get approval of their building plan online by the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) from April 01, 2016. The authority is in the final stage of launching this online service, which is likely to give huge relief to the citizens, as under the existing system they have to come all the way to the office to get the approval from the authorities.

Under the new system, the application will be submitted online and their approval will be given simultaneously. Besides this, the JDA has also proposed to develop an online service for name transferring of land properties.

(DNA, 23.02.16)

ITMS for Traffic Control

The pink city would soon have a fully functional Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) to monitor traffic and make movement safe for commuters.

Under this, the JDA is all set to introduce a smart signalling system that will measure traffic pressure on a stretch and change signals accordingly.

The project has been taken under the 'Smart City' project and initially would be installed on a 2 km stretch between the airport and Jagatpura. "The new traffic system will considerably ease commuting on the roads. The sensor-enabled traffic lights would manage traffic depending on the volume during rush hour", said a JDA engineer.

(Tol, 25.01.16)

Grand Global Campaign

After two years of its inception, 'the rent an aircraft' scheme of the state government has started performing with moderate success. Currently, the Department of Civil Aviation is getting about seven-eight bookings a month by various groups and families venturing out of the State for various purposes.

Under this scheme, the state government aircrafts can be used by paying a fixed rent by travellers and tourists. The fare for hiring a five-seater King Air C90 A is ₹50,000 per hour, while taking a seven-seater King Air B 200 would cost ₹70,000 for an hour. The consumers could hire the air taxi for minimum two hours.

(DNA, 16.02.16)

Solving Waterlogging Issue

The JMC has decided to develop rainwater harvesting structure. It has marked 31 places, which get filled with rain water. The civic body has targeted building structures by March 2016.

There are several places in the city where people face waterlogging problem during monsoon season. The rain water gets wasted on streets. Thus the JMC has marked 31 places to store the rainwater to solve the problem of water logging in the city. It will build storm rain water harvesting.

(DNA, 19.01.16)

Hiked Water Bills

The consumers of the city are getting shocked and amazed to see their water bills, which they have received after revised tariff came into effect. They are getting the bill amount almost double the amount of their previous bills while the problem of water pressure and lack of correct meters remains the same.

"Our bill used to come around ₹140 till previous month but this time it has risen to ₹260 while our consumption remains the same", stated a resident of the capital city.

Many consumers have been facing this problem and have been approaching their respective Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) offices where they are being informed about the tariff rise and after that consumers are paying bills.

(DNA, 25.01.16)

Domestic Workers Policy

Enforcing labour reforms in the unorganised sector, the Rajasthan government has fixed minimum wages for domestic helps and set a limit on their working hours. According to a recent notification by the State's Labour Department, the rate for an entire day's (defined as eight hours chores – including cooking washing, babysitting and other work) has been fixed at a minimum of ₹5,642 per month.

The new salaries come into effect from January 01, 2016. Domestic helps hired for just washing dishes and laundry will have to be paid a minimum ₹705 per month for a household of four people.

(Tol, 01.02.16)

City Mayor's Learning Platform

There is a need of reviving the old practices of water conservation, sanitation, solid waste management, keeping residential areas clean and green. These views were expressed by Mayors participating in Rajasthan Mayors' Conference, under 'Rajasthan City Mayor's Learning Platform' organised by CUTS with the support of The Asia Foundation, Delhi in collaboration with Department of Local Self Government, (Rajasthan government) at Jaipur on February 17, 2016.

Purushottam Biyani, Director cum Joint Secretary, Department of Local Self Government said that there would be initially some problems in these missions to take off but eventually these would be sorted out. Nirmal Nahata, Mayor, Jaipur Municipal Corporation (JMC) said that there is a need of enhancing civic engagement.



Tough Track Ahead for CMD

The Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the Jaipur Metro Rail Corporation (JMRC) Ashwani Bhagat has a tedious task ahead of completing Phase-I(B) of Jaipur Metro while pushing the early implementation of Phase-II.

The new CMD has joined when Phase-I (A) from *Mansarovar* to *Chandpole* has been in operation from June 2015. He has a major challenge of increasing the ridership while ensuring the timely completion of remaining stretch from *Chandpole* to *Badi Chaupar*.

As construction is going on in walled city area and decision to remove seven temples at *Badi Chaupar* is still pending, it is expected that the CMD would have to face the heat. Bhagat will also inspect all the Metro sites to review the work in progress.

(Tol, 05.02.16)

Wi-Fi at All Stations

The JMRC is all set to provide Wi-Fi facility to the travellers by the end of February 2016. The facility will be available free for one hour in a day and the passengers will be able to use it at all the Metro stations. The Jaipur Metro will be the first in the country to provide this kind of facility at all its nine stations.

The trial for it has already been started at the *Mansarovar* and other Metro stations. JMRC Director (operations) C S Jeengar, said, "The trial for the purpose has already been started. We expect to give this facility to passengers by the end of this month".

"A passenger who wishes to use this facility will have to register first. Then, he will get a one-time password (OTP) to use the facility. The facility would be free for passengers for one hour per day in aggregate at all the stations", Jeengar added.

He said, "Suppose a passenger has used the facility for 10 minutes at *Mansarovar* Metro station. After using it at *Mansarovar*, he can use the remaining 50 minutes at other stations in a single day".

(Tol, 16.02.16)

Smooth Ride for New Mothers

In a major initiative, the JMRC has announced the provision of reserved seats for pregnant and lactating women in Metro trains.

JMRC Chairman-cum-managing Director Nihal Chand Goyal said two seats near entrance gates have been reserved for each of the first and last coaches of Metro trains for pregnant and new mothers.

Informative stickers have been pasted above the allocated seats and pink lines have been drawn around. Besides, seats opposite to those reserved for pregnant women have also been reserved for women in general so as to provide assistance.

(HT, 23.12.15)



Ministry Grills CMD

The Urban Development and Housing (UDH) Minister Rajpal Singh has again expressed concern and directed officials to make efforts to increase the ridership of Jaipur Metro, which is operational between *Mansarovar* and *Chandpole* corridor.

Ashwani Bhagat, was directed to adopt measures to increase the ridership. According to the sources, the CMD was grilled by the Minister over low ridership. He was also being asked about the measures being taken by the department to improve the ridership. JMRC is way behind in achieving the estimated target.

Moreover, the Jaipur Metro has proved to be a white elephant for the government as it has failed to achieve target ridership in phase-I (*Mansarovar* to *Chandpole*) corridor.

(Tol, 16.03.16)

More Fare in Peak Hours

The JMRC has decided to increase the Metro fare during peak hours from April 01, 2016. Commuters who use the Jaipur Metro line (*Mansarovar* to *Chandpole*), which expands across nine stations, will now have to pay ₹10 for the first two stations and ₹15 for the next three subsequent stations.

Those who travel beyond the fifth station will have to pay ₹20 during peak hours fixed between 5 PM to 9.40 PM. JMRC has also ensured an increase in the frequency and availability of trains within ten minutes during rush hours.

(DNA, 23.01.16)

Driverless Car to Run

If all goes as per the plan, Jaipur might soon see cars running without drivers on its streets. After Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) and Metro, the city might also witness a new mode of public transport in the form of Personal Rapid Transit System (PRTS).

Under this system, automatic cars known as Podcar will ferry people from Metro station to railway station and from railway station to Collectorate Circle leading to hassle-free transportation. Further, the JMC will not have to bear any cost for the project, which will be on Built Operate and Transfer (BoT) basis.

(DNA, 23.01.16)

Rajasthan Budget 2016

Fulfilling Hopes and Promises

Chief Minister of Rajasthan's Vasundhara Raje presented a budget, which was full of promising announcements for majority of the people of the State. Based on the underlying theme *Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas* (Together with all, development for all) this budget started on a promising note.

It could not be a better way to celebrate the prowess of female gender on March 08 (International Women's Day) than the way Raje did. More than 1.5 lakh females from the *Aaganbadi* to benefit with a three-year improvement programme of ₹5 crore and 1.50 lakh girls to be trained in self-defence annually for the following three years. Introduction of schemes like *Garima Girl Child Protection Award*, *Chief Minister Shubha Mangla Yojana*, and a new scheme for creche on public-private partnership (PPP) basis were some major women boosters.

Rajasthan Grameen Aajeevika Vikas Parishad (RAJIVIKA) Programme, which already employs 15000 women workers, has been planned to get an extension to further 100 new blocks that will provide greater help to 400000 women by the year. Subsidies for women include extra aids on community marriages, on birth of girl child, increase in gift amount for widow remarriage up to ₹30000, among many others. Introduction of *Raj Shri Yojana* for girl child welfare is another laudable step taken by the Chief Minister in her budget.

Among other such announcements, the academic arena received gifts like opening of eight new colleges, which will consume a fund of ₹104.50 crore and new undergraduate and postgraduate courses to be started in 13 and 11 colleges respectively.

Two new small business management and entrepreneurship centres were announced to be started in the education hub Kota and Jaipur. Moreover, ₹10 crore 85 lakh worth of funds to be allotted for motivating youth towards startups.

Sports talent of the state has been well provided with a new 500 capacity hostel in Swai Man Singh stadium, ₹3.34 crore for 14 games of state level sports, direct recruitment in selected departments of the government for players who win medals in reputed International Games and ₹7.41 crore for construction and maintenance of various stadiums.

Moving onto the bread providers – farmers of the state, Budget 2016-2017 has formulated many relief providing pathways for them. Monetary aids for them like ₹676.37 crore for new Prime Minister Crop Insurance Scheme, 5.90 crore for operationalising 1170 *Krishi Seva Kendras*, ₹7205 crore as a subsidy to distribution companies (DISCOMs) for subsidised power to farmers, and ₹2 crore one time grant for new self-financed integrated courses of agriculture are potential path breakers in this sector.



Tourism being the back bone of country's largest state it has been allotted with these mentioned monetary aids. Airstrip development got ₹17.88 crore and destinations like Amer, Nahargarh, Jantar Mantar, Albert Hall etc. received ₹22.60 crore. Nearly ₹7 crore and ₹1.5 crore are allotted for *Jawahar Kala Kendra* and libraries respectively.

Various promises have been made for sections of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes of the state. Four times increase in mess allowance of Social Justice Empowerment Department (SJED) PPP hostels with ₹7.98 crore for fulfilling their infrastructural gap has been proposed. Around 100 new *Ma-Bari Kendra* worth ₹3.14 crore, and with Kitchen sheds in 509 of them amounting to ₹3.05 crore is a significant step ahead to uplift the weaker society realms.

Facility of online search, legalisation and registration of documents are soon to be made available for state public. About 43,000 families are to be benefited under *Bhamashah Health Insurance* and along with this, 5000 *Annapurnaa Bhandars* (fair price shops) are to be set up. General masses also get ₹23.22 crore for rest room, ramps, parking and toilets etc. at various sub-ordinate courts.

In 2016, ₹600 crore will be invested in developing more than 2702 km of roads in the state. Facility of online appeal and refund under entry, luxury and entertainment tax has been proposed with unified appeal form.

The budget is a reflection of how deeply the needs of the state were studied. Hopes have been taken care of and aspirations being fulfilled it would be interesting to see how this proposed road-map will come into action. Covering all major sections of the society, it involved all attention seeking sectors and provided essential solutions for them.

(This feature has been abridged from <http://www.ohmyindia.com/rajasthan-budget-2016-an-overview-of-how-raje-fulfilled-her-promises>, 08.03.16)

Sources: BL: The Hindu Business Line; BS: Business Standard; DNA: Daily News and Analysis; HT: The Hindustan Times; IE: The Indian Express; TH: The Hindu; ToI: Times of India; TT: Tech Times