

Important Gujarat News including A Brief Note on Dayro (pages 4-5) February 10, 2023

1. February 10, 2023: Ahmedabad: **“Redesign cities for cycling and walking, instead of for cars,” says Amitabh Kant:** At the inaugural program of the 2-day **Urban-20 meeting** under the **G20 rubric**, India’s G20 Sherpa, Amitabh Kant said that urbanization must be an instrument of growth, job creation and elimination of poverty. Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that leaders of our cities must decide about their goals of socio-economic environment and the city’s planning must be based on such goals.

This is the **6th U20 meeting of G20** and it has **six priority areas:**

- a) Environment-friendly behaviour
- b) Water security
- c) Climate finance
- d) Local identity
- e) Urban planning and administration
- f) Digitization of urban amenities.

Two G20 related meetings have already taken place in Gujarat till February 10, 2023.

2. February 7-10, 2023: Rann of Kutch, Gujarat: **Conclusion of the meeting of the First Working Group on Tourism, under G20:** The first day of 7th February was for the theme of **‘Rural Tourism for Community Empowerment & Poverty Alleviation’**. Besides other presentations, Miya Hussain Gul Beg, ‘Sarpanch (Head)’ of Dhordo village, highlighted the positive impact of

- development of tourism infrastructure and of
- tourism promotion activities like Rann Utsav

on the local economy and on creation of jobs.

The last day of 10th February was for the theme of **‘Promotion of Archaeological Tourism: Discovering shared Cultural Heritage’**. Secretary, Tourism Arvind Singh said that this type of tourism can provide socio-economic development of local communities in a sustainable manner.

On 8-9 February, the Working Group identified five priority themes:

- a) Greening of Tourism Sector for a sustainable, responsible and resilient tourism

- b) Harnessing the power of Digitization to promote competitiveness
- c) Empowering the youth with skills for jobs and for entrepreneurship in Tourism
- d) Nurturing Tourism MSMEs, StartUps and Private sector
- e) Destination Management that can help deliver SDGs.

At the concluding session, all the G20 countries, Guest countries and international organizations endorsed the five priority areas.

The delegates had stayed in the **tent city in Rann of Kutchh** near Dhordo village. During their stay, they got an opportunity to participate in Yoga sessions at sunrise. They saw colourful clothes, made by hand by women of the area. They participated in local dances with the villagers.

They visited:

- Harappan archaeological site of the ancient city of Dholavira – a world heritage site, known for efficient water management in the city
- Smritivan Earthquake Memorial Museum at Bhuj

3. February 9, 2023: Jamnagar: **Hardik Patel, BJP Leader, acquitted in a police case of November 2017**: Manish Nandani, the Jamnagar Chief Judicial Magistrate acquitted Hardik Patel, MLA in Gujarat Assembly from the Viramgam constituency and Ankit Ghadiya in a case related to Gujarat Police Act. The case relates to 4th November 2017, when as a Patidar Leader, Hardik addressed a public meeting at Dhutarpur village in Jamnagar, in support of the then ongoing Patidars' agitation, when Ankit Ghadiya had been granted permission by the Mamlatdar (executive magistrate) for holding a social event.

The Court said that the prosecution had failed to establish its case and it was unable to explain the 70 days of delay in registering a First Information Report, after the public meeting had been organized. Moreover, the court noted that neither the complainant nor the witnesses were aware of the contents of the speech by Hardik Patel.

During the Patidar agitation, led by Hardik Patel, the agitators may not have remained within the boundaries, set by laws of the land and some speeches

may have been inflammatory. Hardik Patel faces a good number of cases, including two sedition cases, which refer to what he, along with other agitators did during that agitation. This newsitem refers to one such case, about the public meeting in the village of Dhutarpur.



Readers of DiGiNews360.com may like to read the news in Gujarati at <https://gujaratguardian.com/verdict-in-a-case-of-jamnaagar-against-viramgam-mla-hardik-patel-know-the-punishment/>.

4. February 9, 2023: Hazira, Surat: **Devotional Music program**, called **Dayro**, by **Geeta Rabari** at **'Shri Rajeshwar Mahadev Dada Temple'**: The famous artist from Kutchh, Geetaben Rabari, led the 9th anniversary celebrations of the temple.



Reference: Thanks for the photograph to <https://wikibio.in/geeta-rabari/>
A large number of people from all the villages around the temple took part in the Dayro and rained currency notes on the popular singer. An amount of Rs. 800,000 was collected for the temple through this Dayro.

A Brief Note on *Dayro*

In Kutch, a Lok Dayro used to be organized when harvesting the first crop of date palm (called kharek in Kutch) by every large farm. Many farms maintain the tradition even today.

Through Dayros, people could understand moral, ethical and philosophical basis of Indian religion and culture and become aware of legends of sacrifices by their ancestors.

A Dayro has evolved from programs, wherein people would get together in the village main square sing songs, tell stories and talk about their travels. Those informal programs have **now** developed into a model, wherein an artist or two, who excel in singing (Bhajans i.e. devotional music) and in telling stories about history, culture and philosophy in an interesting style, are invited to present special shows, which attract a large number of people.

The basic format of today's Dayro is that the artist, who is invited, sings a few songs and tells jokes and stories, which are mostly folklore. He also recites poems of other famous people and writers. For each Dayro, a particular theme is selected and all the talks, stories, songs and poems are based or related to that theme. The performance usually starts at about 10 p m and may continue up to morning 5.00 a m.

DEFINITION: A Lok Dayro is an Indian performance (from the cultural traditions of the region of **Kathiawad, Gujarat**), that consists of a mixture of singing of bhajans and patriotic songs (in the form of Dohas, Sorathaa and Chhand), popular history, stand-up comedy, philosophy. It is accompanied by traditional Indian folk musical instruments such as Prabhati, Katari, Dhol etc. At a Dayro, the people may also join actively in the program through traditional dances like Garba, Dandiya Raas, Padhar, Dangi and Tippani.

A Dayro is usually organized at a temple and it may be an all-night performance. The audience showers money and valuables, whenever anyone finds any part of the Dayro interesting.

The funds, collected at a Dayro are usually allocated for Temples, Ashram, Gaushala or for some other social cause.



A Dayro artist surrounded by currency notes, showered on him

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