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The Modern School Weekly

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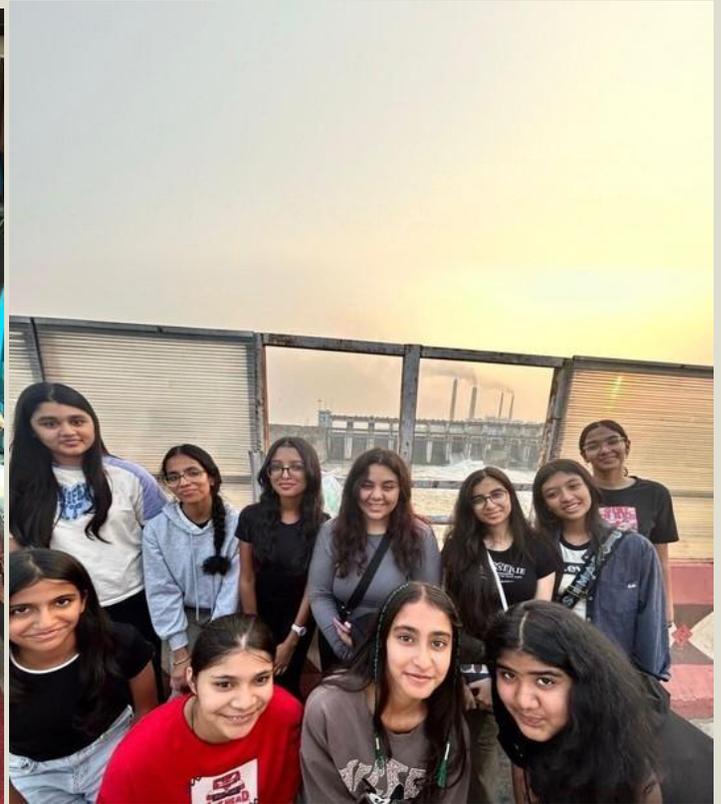
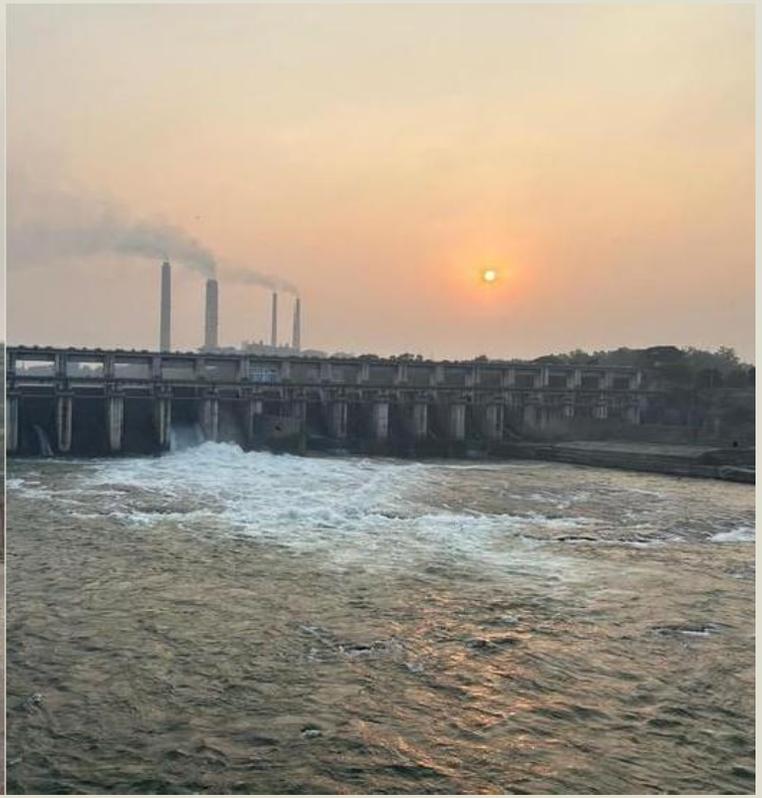
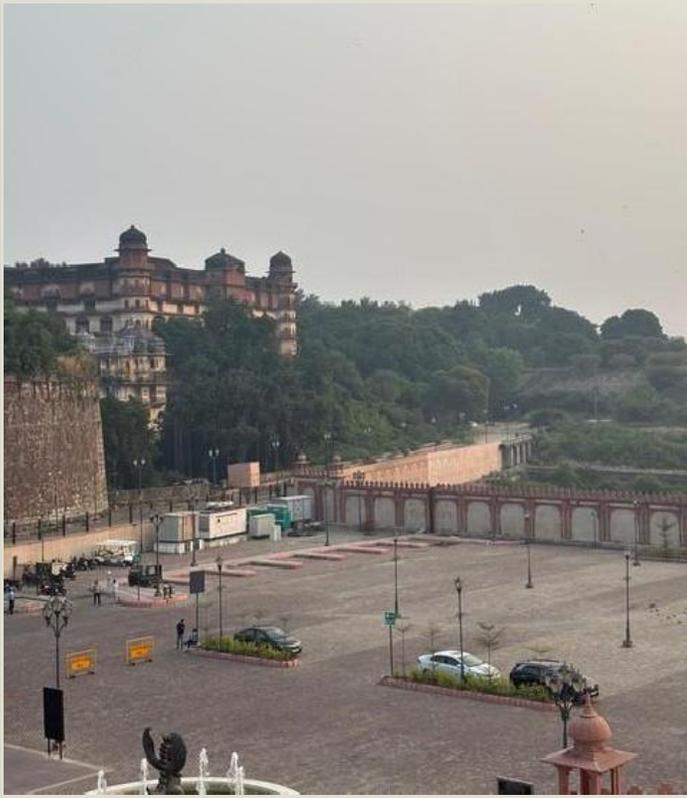
MODERN EXPLORES CHAMBAL RIVER - JOURNEY BEGINS WITH KOTA



Modern School organized an artist's camp, where 11 students from classes VIII- XII, of diverse talents and experience were taken to Kota from 24th October 25 to 26th October 2025 for an educational expedition. The camp served as a space for students to try new techniques, work with different materials, and collaborate by exchanging ideas and skills.



**WHAT'S NEW
IN MODERN:**
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Village KAITHUN
to observe local
handloom**



During the road journey, the students observed the geographical features of Rajasthan, its arid soil, scattered vegetation, and occasional flashes of green near water bodies and cultivated fields. The changing terrain offered an introduction to how geography influences human settlement and agriculture in this part of India. A few halts were taken along the way for rest and refreshments, during which the students interacted, shared food, and reflected on the vastness and beauty of the landscape. A sumptuous lunch was organized for the group at the

Ranthambore National Resort, Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan.



By afternoon, the group arrived at Kota, a city known for its unique blend of natural beauty, industrial growth, and educational prominence. The day's primary destination was the Kota Barrage, one of the four major dams constructed on the Chambal River. The barrage is an integral part of the Chambal Valley Project, a post-independence development initiative aimed at harnessing the waters of the Chambal for irrigation, flood control, and power generation. The barrage stretched across the wide Chambal River, with its massive steel gates glistening under the afternoon light. The roar of the white frothy water surging through the gates created an atmosphere both powerful and serene. The teacher explained that construction of the barrage began in 1954 and was completed in 1960, forming a key link between the Gandhi Sagar, Rana Pratap Sagar, Jawahar Sagar, and Kota Barrage. The four dams that collectively regulate the river's flow and support agriculture across Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

The barrage helps to store and divert water, ensuring a steady supply for irrigation during dry seasons and preventing floods during heavy rainfall. This scientific integration of engineering with natural geography serves as a lifeline for farmers across the region. The teacher emphasized on how such projects not only support agriculture but also generate employment sustain ecosystems, and encourage regional development. At the power station the students were briefed on how water stored in the reservoir is used for hydroelectric generation: water is released from upstream dams, flows through the penstocks/tunnels to the powerhouse where turbines convert the water's potential energy into mechanical energy and then into electrical energy via generators. At Rana Pratap Sagar the installed capacity is 172 MW, comprised of four generating units each rated at 43 MW. The dam (masonry gravity type) stands approximately 53 m high and 1,143 m

Rajasthan is a veritable kaleidoscope of ethnic handicrafts and vivid hand spun fabrics.

Kaithun, a small village located near Kota is world-renowned for its age-old handloom craft. During the visit to Kaithun, the students observed the entire process of weaving and dyeing, and interacted with the local artisans who have preserved this craft for generations. They were told that the silk sarees were originally woven in Mysore from where two weaver families were brought to Kota by the great patron of crafts, Maha Rao Kishore Singh (1684-1695) the weavers settled in Kaithun village in the early seventeenth century and gradually grew in number.



The village was earlier known as Kanak Nagri, located near the Chandraloi river. Over time, Kaithun became the central hub for Kota Doria production. Today, about 75% of the sarees produced in Kaithun are sold in Hyderabad, while the remaining are distributed across India. Despite the modernization of textile industries, Kaithun continues to rely primarily on handlooms, keeping the authenticity of the craft alive.

The production process was explained in detail by one of the weavers Mr Musarraf.

Pre-Loom: Thread Winding and Charkha Work: Before weaving begins, artisans use a charkha (spinning wheel) to convert threads into lachhi (bundles), which are then placed on wooden beams of the loom. It takes about 1.5 hours to set threads sufficient for five sarees. The base strands of the sarees are procured from Coimbatore, while Kota silk comes from Bangalore.

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