



PRIVANKA'S HOST OF PROMISES

'Rs 500 subsidy per gas cylinder, loan waiver for SHGs'

Jalbandha, Oct 30:

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday promised a slew of measures, including waiving of loans of Self-Help Groups, subsidised cooking gas cylinders under a new scheme, and free treatment to victims of road accidents if her party retains power in Chhattisgarh.



AICC General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra addresses a public meeting in Bilaspur

'Even assassinations of father, grandmother could not shake my patriotism'

Bilaspur: Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday said her grandmother Indira Gandhi and father Rajiv Gandhi instilled patriotism in her in such a way that even the assassinations of the two former prime ministers could not shake her faith in the country. Addressing a rally in Bilaspur city in poll-bound Chhattisgarh, she also slammed political opponents over allegations of "parivarwad" (dynasty politics) in the Congress. "It is not parivarwad, it is patriotism towards the nation and faith in its people," the Congress general secretary asserted. Hailing Indira Gandhi, who was gunned down by her bodyguards in 1984, she said, "Our grandmother was not just our grandmother but a great personality."

the loans availed by women under the Saksham Yojna will be waived, she added.

She also said free treatment will be provided to the victims of road accidents and other sudden accidents under the Chief Minister's Special Health Assistance Scheme.

She said 700 rural industrial parks will be set up, which will take their overall number to 1000 as 300 are already operational.

Tivara (a type of lentil) will be purchased from farmers at support price, she said.

Outstanding Motor Vehicle Tax and penalty of Rs 726 crore till 2018 of more than 6,600 vehicle owners associated with the transport business will be waived, she added.

200 units of free electricity if Congress retains power.

Khairagarh is among the 20 Assembly constituencies which will go to polls in the first phase on November 7. The remaining 70 constituencies

will see voting in the second phase on November 17. Votes will be counted on December 3.

"If re-elected in Chhattisgarh, Congress will launch Mahtari Nyay Yojana for women to provide Rs 500 subsidy per

gas cylinder," Gandhi Vadra said.

After the rally, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in a social media post said subsidy of Rs 500 will be directly put into bank accounts of women. Loans of Self Help Groups and

SC TO CENTRE, STATES Fill info commissions, save RTI

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday directed the Centre and the state governments to take steps to fill the vacancies in the Central Information Commission and state information commissions (SICs), observing otherwise the 2005 law on right to information will become a "dead letter". A bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra also asked the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) to collect information from all states on several aspects including the sanctioned strength of SICs, vacancies and the total number of pending cases there. "The Right to Information Act of 2005 will become a dead letter," the CJ said after taking note of the submission that SICs in states like Jharkhand, Tripura and Telangana have become defunct.



CM Bhupesh Baghel files nomination from Patan seat



Raipur, Oct 30: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Monday filed nomination from his traditional seat Patan in Durg district for the assembly polls scheduled next month and expressed confidence that the Congress will retain power in the state. The 62-year-old CM posted pictures on his X handle of filing the nomination papers at Durg collectorate. Chhattisgarh assembly speaker Charan Das Mahant and state Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu were seen accompanying him while filing the nomination. "Name-Bhupesh Baghel. Assembly Constituency- Patan. With the blessings of Chhattisgarh Mahtari (mother Chhattisgarh), today I have

filed nomination as a candidate again from Patan assembly constituency. #fir_se_layenge_Congress (will bring Congress again)," the CM said on X. Before going for filing the nomination, Baghel shared his pictures on social media in which his wife is seen applying 'tilak' on his forehead at their residence in Bhilai. "I always remember the day when I went to file nomination for the first time. Today I have left from my Bhilai residence to file nomination as a candidate from Patan. My wife Mukteshwari applied tilak like every time. Your love is my strength. For the self-respect of Chhattisgarhiya, I promise to always remain dedicated in serving you all," the CM said in his social media post.

Initial probe faults train crew for Andhra crash



NDRF personnel carry out rescue and restoration work.

New Delhi, Oct 30 (PTI): A preliminary railway probe into the Sunday night accident in Andhra Pradesh has held the driver and the assistant driver of Rayagada Passenger train responsible for the collision as it passed two defective auto signals vio-

lating norms. Both crew members were killed in the accident.

Signed by seven experts, the preliminary report said they carefully examined the accident site, available evidence, statements of officials concerned, data logger report

Toll rises to 14

The toll in the collision involving two passenger trains in Andhra Pradesh rose to 14 and the number of injured stood at 50 and traffic was affected on the Howrah-Chennai line, officials said on Monday. "Thirteen died at the accident site itself and one succumbed while undergoing treatment," Joint Collector Mayur Ashok said about Sunday's incident.

PM dedicates 77-km Western Dedicated Freight Corridor section to the nation

Kheralu (Guj), Oct 30 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday dedicated to the nation the 77-km New Bhandu-New Sanand section of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor that will help speed up the transport of goods from ports and manufacturing hubs in the region.



Sixty goods trains that earlier used the passenger rail routes on this section have been shifted to the freight corridor, leading to faster movement of passenger trains. "The travel time of

Porbandar, Jamnagar with Eastern and Northern India for faster movement of Exim traffic and reduced transit time. It has also boosted connectivity to freight terminals of Virangam, Jakhwada, Detroj, Linch and freight loading centers in the Jamnagar area, a senior official said.

There are 19 major bridges, 105 minor bridges, five rail flyovers, 81 road under bridges (Eliminating Level Crossings), and six road over bridges on the 77-km section and 24 km connecting rail lines.

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Vigilance Awareness Week inaugurated at BSF HQ

Amit Jogi files nomination from Patan

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Oct 30: In a surprising move, Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (Jogi) President Amit Jogi filed nomination from Patan on Monday. On the last day of filing nomination, he jumped into fray challenging the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel in his home constituency.

Amit Jogi reached Durg Collectorate with his supporters and surprised everyone by filing nomination papers. While interacting with media persons, Amit Jogi said, "This election is not against 'Bhupesh' but 'corruption'."

This is an election of a powerful Dau 'family' versus the rights of the poor, SC-ST, OBC classes of Patan. I am just a face, the candidates are Patan residents.

The candidates are vic-



tims of PSC scam, housing victims, breach of promise victims, regularization victims, liquor ban victims. I am representing all these victims against corruption.

I had the option of winning from the 'safe' seat in three assemblies, I could

have contested from two seats also but I have decided to contest from Patan alone on the request of the people of Patan. I have held three big meetings in the Patan assembly constituency in the last one month.

After my arrival, elec-

tions will be held for the first time in Patan, till now the uncle-nephew arrangement of the same family has been taking place, elections will be held now", he said. Change in Patan is certain. The people of Patan will win, he concluded.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Oct 30: On Monday, Vigilance Awareness Week was inaugurated at Frontier Headquarters, Border Security Force, Bhilai. As per the instructions of Satish S Khandare, Inspector General Frontier Headquarters (Special Operations), Border Security Force, Chhattisgarh, all the officers, subordinate officers and jawans present at the Frontier Headquarters took oath to work with integrity and honesty to eradicate corruption and observe the "Vigilance Awareness Week".

On this occasion, Ramesh Kumar, Deputy Inspector General, asked



the personnel that corruption can be easily eradicated through youth power. Central Vigilance Commission organizes Vigilance Awareness Week every year to promote integrity in public life and create a corruption free society.

Its objective is to increase integrity, honesty,

transparency and accountability in public life. "We will make our organization proud through collective efforts by being conscious of the development and reputation of our organization and maintaining a corruption-free environment.

We will perform our duties with full honesty and

without bias by providing principle-based service to the countrymen", he said. This year, the theme given by the Central Vigilance Commission is "Say no to corruption, commit to the Nation". All the officers, subordinate officers and about 200 jawans attended the programme and took oath.

CBSE Far East Zone Girls Football Tournament concludes

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Oct 30: The closing ceremony of CBSE Far East Zone Girls Football Tournament took place on October 30, 2023 at the lush green football ground of MGM Senior Secondary School, Sector-6, Bhilai.

This football extravaganza proved a platform for the young talents, who participated to showcase their skills and team spirit. The five-day tournament starting from October 26 was a mega event featuring ten schools - Brahmaid.

The Global School Bhatagaon, DPS Bhilai, Infocus India Public School West Bengal, KPS Raipur, KPS International School Naya Raipur, NH Goel Worlds School Raipur, SC Railway Higher Secondary School

Bilaspur, St Xavier's High School Bilaspur, W e i d n e r Memorial Senior Secondary School Mahasamund and the host School MGM Senior Secondary School, Bhilai.

The Chief Guest His Grace Alexios Mar Eusebius - Manager Bishop graced the closing ceremony with his benign presence.

The other dignitaries present on the occasion were RD Sao, Ex Referee FIFA, the CBSE observer Madam Razia Mohammad, The Vice President of the School Rev Fr Shaji M Baby, Assistant Vicar Rev Fr Shinu Cherian, H o n o r a b l e



Correspondent KC Mathew, School and Church managing committee members, Principal in charge Shaji Chacko and Incharges of both the shifts. All the teaching, non teaching staff and students also attended the function. A group song by the

School choir gave a kick start to the programme. The welcome address was delivered by Swapna Chacko. Principal Incharge Shaji Chacko presented a report on the CBSE Football Tournament. He thanked all the participants for

their enthusiasm and passion for the game of football. Addressing the gathering at the closing event the Chief Guest His Grace Alexios Mar Eusebius - Manager Bishop blessed one and all.

He appreciated the organizers of the tourna-

ment and encouraged the participants by saying that sports & games are the integral part of overall development of individuals and sportsman spirit and teamwork are the key to success.

The teams for the final match were introduced. The final match kicked off between host team MGM Senior Secondary School Sector-6 Bhilai and Infocus India Public School West Bengal in which Infocus India Public School West Bengal emerged victorious by 10 goals.

Group dance during the half time was a spectacular sight and was appreciated by the gathering. During the prize distribution ceremony the distinguished guests were presented with mementos. Both the teams were given trophies and medals for

showing exemplary performance.

The Runners up trophy was awarded to MGM Senior Secondary School Sector-6 Bhilai. The Winning team Infocus India Public School West Bengal proudly lifted the Winner trophy.

Sanchita Biswas and Sania Parveen of Infocus School were awarded Player of the Tournament and Best Scorer Trophy respectively. Harshita Sahu of MGM School was awarded as the Best Defender.

Tanishka Ghosh of DPS Risali and Sakshi of KPS Raipur bagged the Upcoming Players trophy. The tournament was declared closed by lowering the CBSE Flag. The vibrant tournament concluded with a vote of thanks by Swati Balaji.

Women, youth and PwD managed polling centers established

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Oct 30: With the aim of motivating voters and increasing voting percentage during the Assembly Elections 2023, 10 Sangwari polling centres (polling center managed by women personnel), one polling center managed by PwD (Person with Disabilities), 5 model polling centers and one youth managed polling center have been established in each of the six assembly constituencies of the district including Patan, Durg Rural, Durg City, Bhilai Nagar, Vaishali Nagar and Ahiwara. Center. A total of 60 Sangwari polling stations, 06 PwD managed polling stations, 06 youth managed polling stations and 30 model polling stations have been established in the district.

Chhattisgarh Retired Police Officers Welfare Association organises Dussehra Milan

61 candidates file nomination papers on last day

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Oct 30: On the last day of filing nominations for General Elections of Chhattisgarh Assembly 2023, 61 people filed nomination papers from six different constituencies of Durg district on Monday. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel filed the nomination papers from Patan. In a surprising move, Janata Congress (Jogi) leader Amit Jogi has also filed nomination from Patan. The candidates those who filed nominations from Patan Assembly are Bhupesh Baghel (Congress), Madhu Kant (Johar Chhattisgarh), Kehar Prasad Khande (Independent), Vijay Baghel (Independent), Ramcharan Yadav (Independent), Ramchand Jangle (Independent), Ajay Chandrakar (Aam Aadmi Party), Amit Jogi (Janata Congress), Amit Hirwani (AAP), BS Raute (Hamer

Raj) and Sandeep Pal (Gondwana Republic). Candidates those who filed nominations from Vaishali Nagar Assembly are Anju Soni (Independent), Azhar Ali (Independent), Shankarial Sahu (Independent), Harendra Prasad Shah (Independent), G Ashok Kumar (Independent), Subedar Singh (Independent), Vashishtha Narayan Mishra (Independent) and Jaiprakash Prasad (Independent).

Candidates those who filed nominations from Durg Rural Assembly are Lakshmi Verma (Independent), Kameshwar Sahu (Independent), Narad Ram Sahu (Independent), Dwarika Prasad (Independent), Radheshyam Shori (Independent), Girendra Kumar Khande (Independent), Kamlesh Yadav

(Independent), Manoj Kumar Gaikwad, (Independent) and Jugal Prasad Joshi (Independent).

Candidates from Durg City Assembly are Varsha Ritu Yadav (Rashtriya Hindi Ekta Dal), Ashok Tamrakar (Shakti Sena, Bharat Desh), Manharan Singh Chhedaiya (Gondwana Gantantra Party), Bharat Bhushan Sinha (Independent), Rakesh Sahu (Nyaya Dharma Sabha), Ajay Jhaggar Sahu

(Independent), Balkishan Sahu (Independent), Sunil Banjare (Independent), Surya Narayan Sahu (Independent), Sajid Beg (Independent), Kashiram Kurre (Independent), Bunty Chaur (Independent), Narayan Prasad Yadav (Independent), Suresh Kumar Verma (Independent), Jasmeet Singh (India Prajbandhu Party), Sanjay Dubey

(Janata Congress - J), Rauf Khan (Chhattisgarh Swabhimanch), Parasmani Chandel (Azad Janata Party), Rakesh Sahu (Nyaya Dharma Sabha).

Candidates from Bhilai Nagar Assembly are Ram Manohar Agrawal (Independent), R Shamughawale Naidu (Independent), Mohd Naseem (Independent), Uma Pandey (Independent), Dharmendra (Independent), Pushpa Marysa (India Prajbandhu Party).

Candidates from Ahiwara Assembly are Arun Kumar Bandhkar (Independent), Baleshwari Baghyakar (Johar Chhattisgarh), Santosh Kumar Banjare (BSP), Santosh Kumar Jangde (India Praja Bandhu Party), Riti Deshalhara (Independent), Rishi Kumar Tandon (Chhattisgarh Janata Congress) and Amardas Naurange (Shiv Sena Bala Saheb).

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Oct 30: Chhattisgarh Retired Police Officers Welfare Association organised a Dussehra Milan programme at the office of the Association in Sector 7. At the outset all the members exchanged greetings and wished happiness and prosperity on the festival of Dussehra.

The president of the association retired Additional Director General of Police BBS Thakur said that through this program one gets an opportunity to meet everyone and know about their well-being. This increases brotherhood and love. Everyone should make efforts to maintain an atmosphere of love and harmony in the society.

Patron of the associa-



tion, RP Sharma said that the festival of Dussehra symbolizes the victory of good and truth over evil and hence it is also called Vijaydashami. While celebrating this festival, we should always take a pledge to follow the path of truth. At the end of the event, tributes were paid

to Dr Saroj Shukla, mother of a member of the association Sachin Dev Shukla and Shishram father of Shyamsundar Sharma also a member of the association who passed away recently. Association general secretary Digvijay Singh Parihar, Bharat Bhushan

Sharma, V Dave, Ravindra Upadhyay, JS Chaurasia, Vinod Pahade, Neelkanth Sahu, Ajit Yadav, Shaikat Ali, PC Srivastava, GC Pati, Vijay Sharma, DN Pandey, Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, Lallan Singh, Suresh Tiwari, Rajendra Singh, Vijay Singh were prominently present.

Vigilance Awareness Week 2023 inaugurated at BSP

Bhilai, Oct 30: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant is observing the week-long Vigilance Awareness Week-2023 from October 30 to November 05, 2023, to increase public awareness about the perils of corruption. Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) inaugurated the Vigilance Awareness Week 2023, at the HRDD Conference Hall on Monday.

Dasgupta inaugurated the programme by lighting the ceremonial lamp and paying floral tributes to Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, in the presence of S Mukhopadhyay, ED (Projects), AK Chakraborty, ED (MM), Samir Swarup, ED (Rowghat), Pawan Kumar, ED (P & A), BK Giri, ED (Mines), Tapas Dasgupta, Acting ED (Works), CGM

I/cs, CGMs, GMS and other Senior Officials from BSP's various departments.

This year's theme for Vigilance Awareness Week is "Say no to corruption; commit to the Nation", which was chosen by the Central Vigilance Commission the apex anti-corruption body in the country. Anirban Dasgupta, administered a Pledge of Integrity to all guests and invitees present at the programme.

The messages issued by the President of India, Vice President of India, and the Central Vigilance Commission on the occasion of Vigilance



Awareness Week 2023 were read out by Sandeep Gupta, GM (Vigilance), Anshuman Singh, DGM (Vigilance), and Md Naushad Alam, AGM (Vigilance) respectively.

On the occasion the young minds from BSP Schools of Bhilai Annu Yadav of Class XII from BSP SSS-Sector 7 and

Samiksha Jha of Class IX from BSP SSS-Sec-10 very well delivered their thought on the theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2023.

Young Students from various BSP Schools presented a Short Play titled "Chaa Paani" featuring the evil practice of corruption at various levels in so-



ciety including Administration, Government, Hospitals and Industries.

Anirban Dasgupta, in his address appreciated the Short play presented by students and illustrated the ill effects of corruption on society and the Organization. He also elaborated on the current

year's theme of VAW-2023 and the importance of a corruption-free society for making India a developed Nation.

In his address, he also spoke on two basic causes of corruption and said that stringent action must be taken against the offenders who are involved in corruption. Neither take nor

give bribes; be vigilant and be corruption-free, Dasgupta said.

In his Welcome Address Satyabrata Kar, GM (Vigilance) & ACVO briefed upon the significance and theme of Vigilance Awareness Week-2023 and also briefed upon various competitions

Including drawing, painting, essays, slogan, extempore, quiz etc. being organized by SAIL-BSP's Vigilance Department under this initiative.

The Inaugural Programme was completed by Himanshu Dave, AGM (Vigilance), while Sandeep Gupta proposed the Vote of thanks. It is

noteworthy that under the Vigilance Awareness Week-2023 at BSP a Drawing & painting competition for school students was organised at Candle Garden, Maitri Bagh, Bhilai on October 29, 2023, and a Quiz Competition was organised for BSP Employees at HRDD Conference Hall, on October 30, 2023. Vigilance Awareness Week is one of the tools of the Central Vigilance Commission in increasing public awareness about the perils of corruption. Vigilance Awareness. The week is observed every year during the last week of October and continues till the first week of November, during which the Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbai Patel is observed.

If there is an Olympics of lies then all the gold medals will go to Congress, says Fadnavis

Raipur, Oct 31: Senior BJP leader and Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis today took a dig at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on his announcements saying that Rahul Gandhi has amnesia (loss of memories). Congress is making new announcements without fulfilling the old announcements, he said while talking to the reporters at BJP's Ekatma Parivar Office here today. If there is an Olympics of lies then these people (Congress leaders) will take all the gold medals, Fadnavis said.

'What did he say about liquor policy? He used to hold water of river Ganges in his hand and say that he will ban liquor. Leave

aside prohibition, but the kind of liquor scam that has taken place in Chhattisgarh, I think is a unique wonder of the country', said Fadnavis.

While all the states in the country introduced holograms to prevent tax evasion in liquor and spurious liquor sale, in Chhattisgarh a scam of Rs 2 thousand crores has been committed due to fake holograms and all this money is being spent in elections, he alleged. You can see that there was talk of spending four and a half thousand crore rupees annually on the Universal Health Scheme, but that scheme did not come. Now a new scheme has been announced.

Regarding health, there

was talk of spending four and a half thousand crore rupees per year on the Universal Health Scheme, but that scheme did not come, Fadnavis said, adding that a new scheme has now been announced. He said that Prime Minister Modi ji's Jan Arogya Yojana benefited the people in Chhattisgarh.

Referring to PSC scam, Fadnavis said that Chhattisgarh will be the first state where one will either have to be the son or daughter of officers or the son or daughter of Congress party leaders to get jobs. Dreams of the youth of Chhattisgarh have been shattered through the PSC scam, he said, adding that children

studying for two-two-three years, have doubts in their minds that what is the benefit of their studies? Fadnavis said that people of Chhattisgarh lost faith on Congress party and they made up their mind to elect BJP to power in Chhattisgarh.

Former minister and senior BJP MLA Brijmohan Agrawal, MP Sunil Soni, state BJP minister Jagdish (Ramu) Rohra, state spokesperson Sanjay Srivastava, Motilal Sahu, state media in-charge Amit Chinnani, Chandrashekhar Sahu, Purandar Mishra, Sachchidanand Upasane, Dr Vimal Chopra, Jayanti Patel, Anuj Sharma, Inder Kumar Sahu, were present on the occasion.

VOTING AWARENESS



Participants in the first time voters marathon to increase awareness about voting on Monday.

Observers appointed for assembly elections reaches Raipur

To be available to the general public at scheduled times every day

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Oct 30: Observers have been appointed by the Election Commission of India for all the seven assembly constituencies of Raipur district. Common citizens can provide information related to the assembly elections in the district on the mobile numbers of the observers related to their

assembly constituency or by contacting them directly at the designated place.

Under Assembly Election 2023, Observer Mrs. Vimala R, appointed for Assembly Constituency Number 50 Raipur North, Ravindra Laxman Binawade, the observer appointed for Raipur Rural Assembly Constituency (Number 48) and Ravindra Laxman Binawade, the observer appointed for Raipur Rural Assembly Constituency (Number 48), will be available to the general public every day from 10:30 am to 11:30 am at New Circuit House, Civil Lines Raipur.

Observers review election preparations

Collector gives information about the preparations

Raipur, Oct 30: Observers appointed by the Election Commission of India for Raipur district today held a meeting of the officials related to the elections at the meeting hall in the Collectorate. They gathered information about the matters related to the arrangements and election process of all the assembly constituencies of the district. The observers reviewed the preparations made so far for



the elections in all the assembly constituencies of the district.

Collector and District Returning Officer Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure told in the meeting that women officers are being entrusted with the task of conducting elections in North and West Assembly

teams are discharging their responsibilities smoothly, he said. Control rooms have been made in all the assembly constituencies and the main control room has been set up in the collectorate, he said. SSP Prashant Agrawal took information about the security arrangements. Information was given about the preparations done at the polling and counting venue including commissioning of EVMS, VVPAT, vehicle arrangements, action on complaints through CVGL app, postal ballot, polling centres, training of sector officers, police officers etc.

PM Modi to address public meet at Kanker on Nov 2

Raipur, Oct 30: Ahead of the first phase of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly polls on November 7, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be on visit to Kanker in tribal-dominated Bastar region, to campaign in favour of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidates.



According to the information received, PM Modi would be addressing a public meeting at Kanker on November 2 as part of the campaign to woo the decisive Bastar region. It is notable that the BJP had lost grounds in last elections in Bastar with just one win out of the 12 seats. With just few days remaining

for the polling in 12 seats of Bastar region, the BJP think tank feels that the public campaigning of PM Modi could turn tide in favour of the saffron brigade in the Legislative Assembly polls.

Earlier, the Union Defence Minister Rajnath had also campaigned for the BJP to create atmosphere in favour of party.

Nearly 15000 vehicles to be acquired for elections

Passengers likely to face inconvenience during festive season

Raipur, Oct 30: The Transport Department has been given a target to acquire about 15 thousand vehicles for the upcoming assembly elections in Chhattisgarh. This includes about seven thousand passenger buses, two thousand school buses, three thousand trucks and three thousand luxury cars.

Due to the acquisition of passenger vehicles, common passengers will have to face trouble for about a week. People preparing to go to different cities of Chhattisgarh

as well as neighboring states Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra especially during Diwali, may face inconvenience as most of the trains going on those routes have already been canceled. In such a situation, passenger vehicle is the only option. On the instructions of the Election Commission, RTOs of all the districts have given notice to bus owners, transporters and travel operators to provide vehicles five days before voting. If the vehicle is not delivered on time and the notice is ignored, a warning has been given for action of cancellation of permit and blacklisting.

According to Transport Department officials

more than five thousand vehicles have been acquired to transport security forces and state police personnel to and from the polling stations for the first phase of voting to be held on November 7. The process of sending security forces to their destination with these vehicles has started. After the completion of the first phase of voting, the transport department will start acquiring vehicles for the second phase of voting to be held on November 17. For this, about 10 thousand vehicles have to be acquired. Diwali festival is on 12th November and in such a situation, common passengers may face problems.

According to

Department officials government vehicles will be used to send EVMS and VVPAT machines to safe destinations for both the phases of voting. Government officials and employees will leave with EVMS and VVPAT machines amid tight security arrangements under the supervision of the Election Commission. Private travel operators have been entrusted with the responsibility of arranging cars for sector in-charges during voting. Everyone has been given a target. They have been asked to provide new luxury cars on rent along with driver. Instructions have also been given to make arrangements for additional vehicles if needed.

Traffic police's major action on pressure horn, seat belt



Take out pressure horns from 12 buses

Issue challan of Rs 500 to 41 drivers each for not wearing seat belts

this end checking was conducted by setting up points at Labhandi near traffic police station Telibandha and Mahasamund barrier. Pressure horns in buses and seat belts in cars were carefully checked.

Fourty car drivers and another four-wheeler driver were caught without wearing seat belts. A challan of Rs 20,500 was issued against them. Head constable Lambodar Sahu, constable Sanjay Netam, Ajay Dhruv and Gaje Singh Markam were included in the team that took action under the leadership of traffic station in-charge Pramod Kumar Singh.

in-charge of traffic police station, Telibandha, and his team took action against 53 four-wheeler drivers and issued a challan of Rs 44,500. Pressure horns were removed from 12 buses and action was taken against 41 four-wheeler drivers for not wearing seat belts.

Vehicle checking drive is being carried out continuously by Inspector Pramod Kumar Singh, in-charge of Traffic Police Station, Telibandha under the direction of ASP Traffic Sachindra Chaubey on the instructions of SSP Prashant Agrawal. To

October 31, 2023

National Unity Day

Nation pays tribute to **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** on his birth anniversary

Let us all come together to realize the dream of Sardar Patel of

United India, Empowered India

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Oct 30: Traffic police station Telibandha took a major action against those who installed pressure horns in buses and those driving vehicles without wearing seat belts. Inspector Pramod Kumar Singh,

Recruitment of teachers in schools got stuck due to elections

● Problems increased for students preparing for board exams



English medium. Similarly, Mayaram Surjan, JR Dani, JN Pandey and Madhav Rao Sapre School are four Hindi medium schools. Teaching is being conducted in 37 schools in the district combining both Hindi and English mediums. The application process for five new Swami Atmanand English medium schools being opened in the district has not been completed. A large number of applications have been received for primary and secondary classes. But very few applications have been received for classes 10th-12th. The accounts of many schools have not even been opened. In classes where more applications have been received than seats, admission will be given through lottery system. In the newly started Madhav Rao Sapre Shala, Trimurti Nagar, Bhanpuri, education will be provided from class 1 to class 12.

elections. More than five thousand applications have been received for these posts. Maximum applications have come for the posts of lecturer and head master.

There are many schools in the district where there are no lecturers even for main subjects like Mathematics, Physics, Commerce. After the elections, lecturers will be recruited in schools. Board exams will start immediately after two months. In such a situation, a crisis has arisen regarding the time of students to pre-

pare for board exams. Because there are no teachers in schools, there is no one to teach the students. Students will get time to prepare for other exams except board exams. At present 32 English medium schools are running in the district. After the opening of these five schools, the number of Swami Atmanand English medium schools in the district has increased to 37. In the newly started Madhav Rao Sapre Shala, Trimurti Nagar, Bhanpuri, education will be provided from class 1 to class 12.

Raipur, Oct 30: School students are being affected the most by the elections. School teachers are on election duty. They have to come to the district headquarters every day for training. Their arrival affects the study of the related subject. There is contractual recruitment for 71 other posts including lecturer, head master, teacher, assistant teacher in 22 old and five newly opened Swami Atmanand Government English Medium Schools of the district.

Applications have been invited for recruitment to these posts. Due to assembly elections, code of conduct has been imposed in the state. For this reason the recruitment process has been postponed till the

Rotary Club Greater Raipur welcomes Avinash Narayanswami



Raipur, Oct 30: Bangalore resident Avinash Narayanswami, who set out on an awareness journey with the aim of protecting the environment from biodiesel mixed fuel, was accorded warm welcome by Rotary Club Raipur Greater President Ajay Tiwari, former president Raj Dubey, former president Vinay Agarwal, former president Sankalp Varvankar, future president Ritesh Jindal. It is notable that Avinash

works to discover and expand the most impactful innovations in the field of environment.

He runs his car on self-made biodiesel, uses rain water harvesting and rooftop solar power setup, makes compost from kitchen waste, drives an electric two-wheeler that charges from rooftop solar energy, and participates in tree planting campaigns. His involvement in eco-friendly projects has helped him to be selected

for the 2041 Climate Force environmental expedition to Antarctica in March 2022.

Avinash is a double post graduate in Sustainable Energy Management from Twenty University, Netherlands and works as Assistant Professor at the Center for Incubation, Innovation, Research and Consultancy in Bengaluru. Regarding his journey, Avinash said that I strongly believe that I can contribute in protecting the environment for the present generation and the coming generations. Ajay Tiwari, President, Rotary Club Raipur Greater, said that Rotary has always provided a platform for such noble work and we are proud to be a part of the environment friendly rally of our Rotarian friend Avinash Narayanswami, best wishes to him.

Patients coming to Sian Jatan Clinic were motivated to vote



● Elderly who came for treatment were administered the oath to vote

Raipur, Oct 30: Along with treatment in the special OPD Sian Jatan Clinic organised by the AYUSH Department for the elderly in all the Ayush institutions of the state every Thursday, the patients are also being motivated to vote in the upcoming assembly general elections. During this, they are also being administered the oath to vote. Awareness programs are being conducted through AYUSH health institutions to motivate voters to vote 100% and use their franchise. More

900 Sangwari polling stations to be built in Chhattisgarh



Raipur, Oct 30: Continuous efforts are being made by the Election Commission of India to make the Assembly Elections-2023 more inclusive and participatory for all residents including women, disabled and youth. To promote women empowerment in elections, 900 Sangwari polling stations will be built in the state. 10-10 Sangwari polling centers will be made in all the assembly constituencies of the state. The polling team and security forces and other staff in these polling stations will be women. Chief Electoral Officer of Chhattisgarh, Reena Babasaheb Kangale said that at Sangwari polling

stations only women will be the presiding officers and other tasks related to voting will be performed. The responsibility of security arrangements at these polling stations will be handed over to the Women Security Force. Along with this, video recording and photography of election related activities of polling booth will be done by women. Kangale said that Sangwari polling stations will be established in both rural and urban areas. Sangwari polling stations will be created especially in those assembly constituencies where the number of women voters is high and there was less turnout during the last election.

10th Annual General Meeting of RADA concludes



Raipur, Oct 30: The 10th annual meeting of Raipur Automobile Dealers Association (RADA) was held at Hotel Club Parazio in Raipur; FADA President Manish Raj Singhania, former RADA President Amar Parwani, Anil Agarwal, Shashank Shah and Jayesh Pithalia were specially present in this program. Current President of RADA, Vivek Garg addressed everyone. RADA Secretary Kailash Khemani welcomed all the former presidents and members and gave information about the work done this year; while Ravinder Bhasin presented the account of

annual expenses. In this annual meeting, members of RADA were felicitated in which young businessman Mukesh Singhania was honored as the best member of RADA. Vikas Mathani, Rajat Chhabra, Kunal Baradia and Navdeep Bhatia were appreciated for their good work in the Auto Expo done by RADA.

All four-wheelers, two-wheelers, tractors and other commercial members participated in this event. In the meeting, all the former presidents and FADA President appreciated and congratulated all the members for successfully organizing the Auto Expo.

Speeding trailer hits bike rider, sparks villager protest

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Oct 30: The driver of a speeding trailer hit a bike rider on Sarvamangala Kanber road. A young man who was going to drop off vegetables has been seriously injured in the accident. He has been admitted to the hospital for treatment. Angered by the incident, the villagers blocked the spot. After which the police reached the spot and are trying to convince the people. The incident occurred around 6 am on Monday morning. It is being told that Bhagirathi Patel, resident of Chandranagar Jatraj under Sarvamangala police post, does farming work. Like every day, he was going to Sarvamangala Chowk on his bike with vegetables. He had reached Joda bridge near the village.



Meanwhile, the driver of the speeding trailer CG 12 AU 1380, while driving carelessly, hit the bike number CG 12 AT 6845.

Bike rider Bhagirathi Patel suffered serious injuries in the incident. Before people could gather at the spot, the driver abandoned the vehicle and ran away. As soon as information about the incident was received, a crowd of people gathered. They sent the injured youth to the hospital

for treatment. As soon as the villagers got this news, they became angry. The villagers reached the spot and blocked the road. Villagers say that high speed vehicles are being driven on the route. Due to which untoward incidents are happening every day. However, after receiving the information, Sarvamangala police reached the spot. The police is trying to convince the angry villagers.

'Vigilance Awareness Week' launched in SECR Raipur



● Transparency and integrity drive for Railways

Raipur, Oct 30: The South East Central Railway's Raipur Division has launched "Vigilance Awareness Week" to enhance transparency in daily railway operations and raise awareness

among railway consumers. Running from October 30th to November 5th, the event began with Sanjeev Kumar, the Divisional Railway Manager, administering the integrity oath to officials and employees at the Divisional Railway Manager's Office.

In this pledge, participants committed to up-

holding the highest standards of honesty and integrity, actively combating corruption, adhering to the law, refraining from offering or accepting bribes, conducting all activities honestly and transparently, and embodying integrity in personal conduct. The objective is to contribute to India's development by fostering a corruption-free environment. The event was attended by senior officials and employees from the division, along with Tareh Meshram, Deputy Chief Vigilance Officer from the Vigilance Department at Bilaspur headquarters.

Police arrest armed individual

Bagbahara, Oct 30: A vigilant night police patrol swiftly responded to an alarming situation at Ganpati Petrol Pump. An individual had reported a person, clearly under the influence of alcohol, menacingly brandishing a sharp weapon and intimidating customers seeking petrol. Thanks to the efficient police action, the situation was brought under control, and the individual was apprehended.

As per police reports, during their routine night patrol, the police received information about an individual causing a disturbance by wielding a sharp weapon and terrorizing people in the vicinity. Upon reaching the scene, the police, along with the help of



local residents, successfully disarmed the individual. However, the situation escalated when the said individual resorted to verbal abuse and physically assaulted Noj Kumar Sahu, a petitioner and a driver, causing damage to his government uniform and injuring his right hand and neck. Subsequently, a report was filed at the Bagbahara police station regarding the incident. An in-depth investigation led to the arrest of the accused, identified as

Ranjan Yadav, a 22-year-old resident of Madanpur Thana in Aurangabad district, Bihar. He now faces charges under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Arms Act. The entire operation was carried out under the supervision of dedicated law enforcement officers, including Police Superintendent Dharmendra Singh, Additional Police Superintendent Akash Rao, Sub-Divisional Officer Shayulendran Yark, Station Incharge Mahesh Sahu, Head Constable Girish Sahu, Constable Eklavya Bais, Shailendra Shirmor, Manish Yadav, and Rakesh Kosaria, who played pivotal roles in resolving the case swiftly and effectively.

Police foil major liquor smuggling attempt

Bagbahara, Oct 30: In a significant crackdown on illegal liquor trade, Bagbahara police successfully apprehended two individuals who were attempting to transport a large quantity of country-made liquor in an unconventional manner. The suspects, Dev Yadav and Abhishek Tandi, both 19 years old, were caught red-handed with 417 pouches of 75 liters of sealed liquor on a TVS scooter.

Acting swiftly on a tip-off from an informant, law enforcement authorities intercepted the suspects at Pithora Chowk. Each pouch contained 180 ml of sealed liquor, totaling approximately 75,060 liters with an estimated street value of 33,360 rupees. The seizure also included a TVS scooter with registration number CG 07 CL 5606, valued at around



40,000 rupees, making the total value of the confiscated items approximately 73,360 rupees.

Both Dev Yadav and Abhishek Tandi now face legal action under Section 34(2) of the Excise Act, and they have been remanded to judicial custody. This successful operation has drawn attention in the town as it highlights the police's commitment to curbing illegal liquor trade and maintaining law and order in Bagbahara. An investigation into the matter is currently underway to uncover any potential connections to larger criminal networks involved in bootlegging.

Vishal, Haritima win Monthly League Table Tennis event



Raipur, Oct 30: Vishal Decate defeated Pranay Chouhan to win the Senior Men' title of the 4th Monthly League Table Tennis tournament being organized under the aegis of Rajdhani Table Tennis Association at Sapre School-based TT Hall here. Andrew T Williams secured third position. Similarly, Haritima Agrawal defeated Samaya Pandey by 2-0 to win the Senior Women' title whereas Ananya Kala secured third position in the League.

In the Cadet Boys for the Under 13 years players, Shreshtha Mishra defeated Kavish Kala by 2-0 to win the title whereas Vivan Baiswade secured third position. In the Cadet Girls

category, Samaya Pandey defeated Lavanya Pandey by 2-0 whereas Vedi Katchwaha secured third position. Providing the above information, the RTTA Secretary Vinay Baiswade said that Arun Bawaria was the Chief Referee whereas Ajit Banjerjee and Jaya Sahu were the Assistant Referees.

CTTA Office-bearers Pradeep Joshi, Pravin Nirapure, B Chandra as well as Shital Kala, Inshi Pandey, Parivesh Mishra, Rajesh Singh, Priyank Pandey, NIS Coach Miraj, Ashfaque, Anjana Chouhan, Harsh Rajput and Nageshwar Sahu were also present on the occasion.

Practice session for Ch'garh India International Challenge Badminton gets underway

Raipur, Oct 30: Players from 16 countries would be participating in the Chhattisgarh India International Challenge 2023 tournament being organized under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Badminton Association (CBA) in association with Badminton Association of India (BAI) at Mowabased i-Sports Arena Badminton Hall from Tuesday.

According to the information received, the players after arriving here, conducted their practice session at the venue. BAI Secretary Sanjay Mishra informed that Qualification round of matches would begin



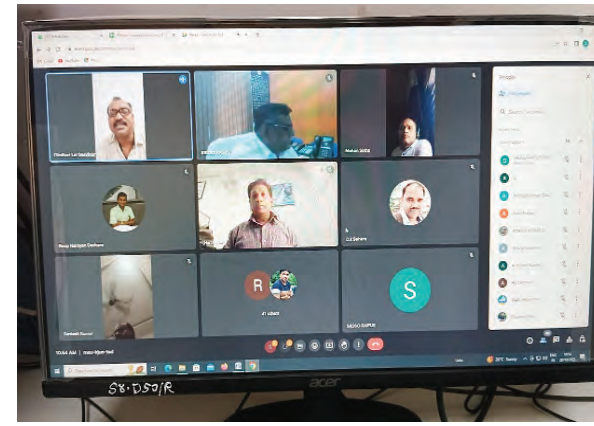
from Tuesday morning whereas the matches

under Main Draw would begin from November 2.

SECR Raipur hosts online safety seminar

● For smooth train operations
Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Oct 30: The South East Central Railway Raipur Division conducted an online safety seminar on October 28, bringing together the Protection Department, Electrical Operation, Signaling and Telecommunication, Mechanical, and Engineering departments. The seminar focused on ensuring the safe operation of trains within the division. Several critical topics were covered during the seminar, including precautions for speed control and



the handling of auto signals in on mode. Safety measures during shunting and procedures adopted by station masters during auto signal failure were also discussed. Additionally, winter precautions and the responsibilities of gatekeepers at level crossings were highlighted. The seminar delved into actions taken by train drivers, managers, and station personnel to prevent train parting and other irregularities on the

tracks. It also addressed precautions taken by station and signal employees in the event of points and signal failures. An analysis of recent incidents and the use and demonstration of fire-fighting and fire control equipment in trains were part of the comprehensive safety discussions. The seminar brought together a total of 53 participants, including Dr. D.N. Vishwal, Divisional Safety Officer in Raipur, along with safety consultants, supervisors, and field staff. This collaborative effort aimed to enhance passenger safety and ensure the well-being of railway staff in the South East Central Railway Raipur Division.

Loot in the name of Cong is new slogan of INC: Ravi Shankar Prasad

Central Chronicle News

Kharora, Oct 30: On October 26, Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad contested the election in Dharsiwa Assembly in support of BJP candidate Anuj Sharma and addressing a huge public meeting at Deendayal Upadhyay Chowk in Kharora, Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said that the fodder scam of Bihar pales in comparison to the cow dung scam of Bhupesh. There was development here for 15 years under the BJP government and in the last 5 years the Bhupesh government has only looted and Bhupesh



government has given only one mantra that the name of Congress is looting, loot it if you can. Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said PM Modi has received an invitation to Shri Ram Temple on 22 January and he called Anuj Sharma to him and told him that after winning the assembly elections, it is your responsibility to take the BJP workers here to Shri Ram temple and have darshan. Ravi Shankar Prasad said that our government has fulfilled the promises of Ram Mandir, Section 370, Triple Talaq, women's reservation. BJP candidate Anuj Sharma, while addressing the gathering in his familiar style, said that we are going among the people in this assembly elections, we are getting the blessings of the public, our first responsibility will be to remove all the evils like drugs, crime from Dharsiwa assembly constituency, build roads, provide basic facilities to the public.

Vigilance Awareness Week commences at NTPC LARA

Central Chronicle News

Lara, Oct 30: Lara Super Thermal Power Station of NTPC Limited has commenced celebration of the Vigilance Awareness Week starting from 30th October 2023 till 5th November on the theme "Say no to corruption; commit to the nation". The inaugural ceremony was organised today in which integrity pledge was administered by S N Jat, Head of Branch, ACB, CBI, Chhattisgarh, Raipur in the august presence of Diwakar Kaushik, Executive Director (NTPC LARA) and other General Managers at Administrative Building (Chakradhar Bhavan).



Both the dignitaries administered integrity pledge to all the participants and elaborated the importance of integrity, honesty and value based ethical work culture for a corruption free society. Addressing the gathering Shri Jat, shared his experience as a Head of Branch, Anti-Corruption Branch of Central Bureau of Investigation at Chhattisgarh. Sharing his experience as an investigation officer Shri Jat gave various examples of corruption and its consequences. Shri Jat advised all to strictly follow value and need based lifestyle to establish a corruption free society. Earlier in the morning a yoga practice session was organised under the guidance of SN Jat. Addressing the employees Diwakar Kaushik, Executive Director (NTPC LARA) said being a value-based company Integrity

is imbibed in NTPC's Core Value. So NTPC adapt utmost transparency in all its activities. To sensitise employees and villagers about ill effect of corruption, Vigilance department of NTPC Lara organising various activities, competitions during this week. On this occasion Akhilesh Singh, General Manager (Operation & Maintenance), Rajeev Ranjan, GM (Maintenance), SK Roy, GM (Operation), Hriday Mandal, GM (Township administration), SK Swain, GM (Fuel Mgmt.), Pankaj Sekhar, AGM (Vigilance), Kanhaiya Das, AGM (HR), Head of departments, employees were present.

As election activities gears up, air fares become costlier by 30 percent

● For cities including Delhi, Mumbai, Indore
Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Oct 30: With election activities gearing up in the state, the effect of the festive season is also having an impact on air fares. Airfare in many areas including Delhi, Mumbai, Indore has become costlier by more than 30 percent. It is being told that on normal days the airfare from Raipur to Delhi is Rs 6,000-6,500, which has currently reached Rs 8,000-9,000. Also, due to flights being full in many areas, cheap fares have ended. Actually, this situation has arisen due to increase in visits of political leaders and VIPs.

Along with Delhi, fares from Raipur to Indore and Raipur to Mumbai are also skyrocketing. These days the fare from Raipur to Indore has crossed Rs 6,000. Travel Agent Kirti Vyas said that with the election campaign intensifying, the festive season is also going on. Dues to this, air fares have started becoming expensive due to increase in passenger movement. As the election campaign intensifies, the movement of flights from Raipur airport has also started increasing. Till last month there used to be around 25 to 27 flights daily, which is currently 28 to 30 flights. Aviation officials say that the movement of flights from Raipur airport is going to increase even more in the coming days. VIP visits are going to in-

crease in many areas of the state including Raipur. Along with this, due to the election tour of VIPs, the number of arrivals and departures of special planes is also going to increase in the coming days. Connecting flights from Raipur to Durgapur and Rourkela are starting from October 29th. Indigo Airlines has announced to start this flight. These days, along with Delhi, the return fare from Bengaluru to Raipur has increased a lot. It is being told that the return air fare from Bengaluru to Raipur has crossed Rs 10,000. The return fare from Bengaluru has increased because during the festive season, students living in Bengaluru from Raipur as well as working people are coming home for holidays.

Mainak Datta clinches gold in 66kg category

● 23rd State-level Judo competition concluded
Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Oct 30: The 23rd State-Level Sub-Junior Judo Competition 2023 for boys and girls, hosted by the Unlimited Judo Academy at the expansive 32-acre CG Housing Board in Bhillai, came to a thrilling conclusion on October 29.



Mainak Datta from Raipur secured the gold medal in the 66kg category, ensuring his place in the state Judo team. Adding to the glory, Nityam Rathod in the 40kg category, Umang Jain in the 55kg category, and Dilaraj Singh Chima in the 66kg category brought home silver medals, elevating Raipur's medal count to an impressive total of four. The event was graced by Arun Dwivedi, President of the Chhattisgarh Judo Association, who was the chief guest of honour. The competition commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Dwivedi. In an inspiring address to the young athletes, he encouraged them to give their very best in their performances and to prepare diligently for upcoming national-level competitions. Dwivedi highlighted the holistic benefits of Judo, promoting not only physical fitness but also a "Healthy Mind - Healthy Body" ethos, which could lead to promising career opportunities. He pledged the full support of the Chhattisgarh Judo Association in providing essential resources for the athletes' training and development. Anis Memon, Secretary of the District Judo Association Raipur, addressed the young athletes, he encouraged them to give their very best in their performances and to prepare diligently for upcoming national-level competitions. He underscored the significance of this event as a crucial platform for approximately 150 athletes and officials from 13 districts across Chhattisgarh. The competition served as the qualifying ground for Judo players aiming to represent Chhattisgarh at the National Sub-Junior Judo Competition scheduled to be held in Kochi, Kerala, in December. Shambhu Soni, Secretary of the Chhattisgarh Judo Association, extended his best wishes to all the athletes participating in the competition. The competition was conducted under the watchful eyes of international judges, including Ms. Kiran Sharma, Sheikh Sharif, National Referee P. Kishore, Ms. Shweta Nag, P. Suresh Rao, Vijay Nag, Yashwant Dhruv, Neha Sahu, Madhu Rani Sahu, Rahul Bharti, Sudarshan Nirmalkar, Suraj Verma, Raj Singh, Anmol, and others. Following the intense bouts, all the victorious athletes were honored with medals and certificates for their remarkable performances.

Demand for CA increased in election market

● Candidates contacting to prepare account of expenses
● Candidate can spend Rs 40 lakh during assembly elections
● Earlier this expenditure limit was Rs 28 lakh
Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Oct 30: The excitement for the assembly elections has now intensified and filling of nomination forms by the candidates has also started. In such a situation, it is no less than a challenge for the candidates to prepare accounts of their income and expenses. To deal with this challenge, candidates of political parties are constantly contacting tax experts. It is known that the amount fixed by the Election Commission for expenditure has to be au-

dated and verified by the Returning Officer. After this the supervisor can also check it. According to the instructions received from the Election Commission, a candidate can spend Rs 40 lakh during the assembly elections. Earlier this expenditure limit was Rs 28 lakh. The amount of election expenditure has increased, but maintaining its account has become a headache for the candidates. According to the instructions of the Election Commission, if the workers wear a cap with the candidate's name in rallies, road shows, conferences etc., then the expenses will be Rs 1.50, if they serve tea, it will be Rs 5, and if they serve samosas and kachoris, the expenses will be Rs 10. Also its accounts have to be verified by the Returning Officer. This can also be investigated. If

irregularities are found, problems may arise after the elections. These days, candidates are taking the help of tax experts (CA) due to the fear of the Election Commission. The most difficult task for a candidate in elections is to keep track of his daily expenses. For this, a register is also given to the candidate. In this register, account of the expenditure incurred by the candidate has to be maintained. Besides, copies of the bills also have to be kept safe. The candidate does not have enough time to do all this work, so he gives the responsibility to his trusted person. Tax expert Devendra Aggarwal said that along with maintaining daily accounts, candidates are constantly contacting their CAs to provide details of their income in the nomination form. He said that tax experts

give him guidance in this regard. The format for accounting is quite complex. It is being said that political parties have also issued guidelines to their candidates that they should be very careful in accounting of election expenses. Even their slightest carelessness can become a headache for them. It is mandatory to maintain the account of expenditure in the register daily and also to be signed and verified by the expenditure supervisor appointed by the Commission every three days. Political parties have also asked their candidates to note that the candidate himself or his election incharge should not travel by plane, train or vehicle with the star campaigner, because 50 percent of the total expenditure of the star campaigner is the candidate's expenditure.

NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I, Sameer Parekh, S/o Navnit Parekh, resident of House Number 48/74, Jugal Opposite Chhattisgarh College, Byron Bazar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, 492001 have changed my old name Sameer Parekh, S/o Navnit Parekh so in future I should be recognized by my new name that is **Samir Navnit Parekh** in all Government and other documents. **Samir Navnit Parekh** House Number 48/74, Jugal Opp. Chhattisgarh College, Byron Bazar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, 492001

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that my client Shri Imliya Khan s/o Muskan Khan, Rio New Hanuman Mandir, Fatidin Chowk, Raipur, Tehsil & Dist. Raipur (C.G.) has purchased a piece and parcel of land bearing khasra no. 524/13, area 525 sq. ft. situated at Mauja - Tikrapara (Laxmi Nagar), Ravindra Nath Tagor Ward no. 51, P.H.No. 114, R.N.M. Raipur, Tehsil & Dist. Raipur (C.G.), from Shri. Jiteswar Padamshali s/o Shri T. Padamshali, vide registered sale deed dated 11.10.2007. The said Jiteswar Padamshali had purchased the said property from R.R. Sharma s/o Raghubardayal vide registered sale deed dated 18.05.2005. The said deed executed between R.R. Sharma s/o Raghubardayal AND Shri Jiteswar Padamshali s/o Shri T. Padamshali dated 18.05.2005 was in the custody of my client and the same has been lost / misplaced by my client. A police report has been lodged against the lost registered deed on dated 28.10.2023. If the said lost registered sale deed dated 18.05.2005 is found by anybody, it is requested that the said deeds be handed over to my staff in my office. Any person having any right, title or interest or any claim, demand or objection of any nature whatsoever against or in respect of the said property or any part thereof is hereby requested to notify the same in writing to the undersigned with supporting documentary evidence within 07 days from the date hereof, failing which no such claims, demands, objections etc. shall be entertained hereafter and the said property shall be considered as free from all encumbrances. **Subhro Chakravorty, Advocate For Ashwini Singh & Associates, 12, Nagar Nigam Pariser, Supeta, Bhillai, Durg (C.G.)**

NAME CHANGE

It is inform to the general public that I BHANUPRATAP S/O ROHIT KUMAR KURRE resident of Village-Loharsi, Post-Tarra, Tehsil-Patan, District-Durg (C.G.) have changed my old name BHANUPRATAP S/O ROHIT KUMAR KURRE in future I should be recognized by my new name that is **BHANUPRATAP KURRE S/O ROHIT KUMAR KURRE** in all government and other document. **BHANUPRATAP KURRE** Village-Loharsi, Post-Tarra, Tehsil-Patan, District-Durg (C.G.)

NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I, Varsha Andani, W/o Avish Kumar Jummani, resident of House Number 231/7, Behind Guru Bhawan, Lakhe Nagar, Raipur (Chhattisgarh) have changed my old name Varsha Andani, W/o Avish Kumar Jummani so in future I should be recognized by my new name that is **MIESHA JUMMANI, W/o Avish Kumar Jummani** resident of Behind Guru Bhawan, Lakhe Nagar, Raipur (Chhattisgarh) in all Government and other documents. **MIESHA JUMMANI** 231/7, Behind Guru Bhawan, Lakhe Nagar, Raipur (C.G.)

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK

(A scheduled commercial bank) Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071. Branch Office: Krishna Complex, Opp. Aurobindo Netralaya, Main Road, Sadar Bazar, Raipur-492001.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagees have availed loans from Jana Small Finance Bank Limited, by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequently to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as Non Performing Asset, whereas Jana Small Finance Bank Limited being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand notice calling upon the Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagees as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagee	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) Mr. Kamlesh Kumar Kaivart, S/o. Bhagwat Prasad, S/o. Nisuram Kaivart, 2) Mrs. Punita Kaivart, W/o. Kamlesh Kaivart	Loan Account No. 45099420002979 Loan Amount: Rs.16,12,500/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of land bearing Plot No.17/1, total measuring area of 2150 Sq.ft., (199.814 Sq.mtrs.), Out of Khasra No.594/1, Mouza Amsena, Block Takhatpur, P.H. No.38, R.N.M. Amsena, Tehsil Sakari & District Bilaspur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: Seller's Remaining Land, West by: Nistari Road, North by: Land of Sardar and South by: Nistari Road.	01-10-2023 & 17-10-2023	Rs.16,71,732.10 (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Seventy One Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Two and Ten Paise Only) as on 10-10-2023
2	1) Mr. Shiv Kumar Sahu, S/o. Bhagwat Prasad, 2) Mr. Arvind Kumar Sahu, S/o. Shiv Kumar Sahu, 3) Mr. Bhagwat Prasad Sahu, S/o. Chhedilal	Loan Account No. 31929430000047 Loan Amount: Rs.16,32,758/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of diverted land bearing Khasra No.2402, total measuring area of 0.05 Acre, situated at Village Kotmi Sonar, P.H. No.15, Block & R.N.M. Alaklara, within the limit of Grampanchayat Kotmi Sonar, Tehsil Alaklara & District Jangir Champa (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: Public Lane, West by: Land of Chhedil, North by: Land of Shiva and South by: Public Lane.	01-10-2023 & 17-10-2023	Rs.16,58,247.00 (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Forty Seven Only) as on 10-10-2023
3	1) Mr. Virender Singh, S/o. Nirmal Singh, 2) Mrs. Kavita Bedi, W/o. Virender Singh	Loan Account No. 31389420000396 Loan Amount: Rs.23,00,000/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of land bearing Plot No.302, total measuring area of 1000 Sq.ft., (92.903 Sq.mtrs.), Situated at Harshil Harmony Colony, Gram Bana, P.H. No.31, Old R.N.M. Dharsiwa, New R.N.M. Raipur-19 Dhaneli, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: Colony Road, West by: Plot No.311, North by: Plot No.303 and South by: Plot No.301.	01-10-2023 & 23-10-2023	Rs.23,94,675.44 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Ninety Four Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Five and Fourty Four Paise Only) as on 16-10-2023
4	1) Mr. Sumit Kumar Baghel, S/o. Rajkumar Baghel, 2) Mrs. Harabai Baghel, W/o. Rajkumar Baghel	Loan Account No. 45099420005198 Loan Amount: Rs.20,50,000/-	Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of diverted land bearing Plot No.10, total measuring area of 2000 Sq.ft., (185.806 Sq.mtrs.), Out of Khasra No.1325/3, Mouza Sendri, P.H. No.46, Sheet No.35, R.N.M. Koni, Tehsil & District Bilaspur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: Nistari Road, West by: Land of Lavkush Sahu, North by: Remaining Land of Seller and South by: Remaining Land of Seller.	01-10-2023 & 27-10-2023	Rs.21,13,645.82 (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Thirteen Thousand Six Hundred Forty Five and Eighty Two Paise Only) as on 16-10-2023

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagee as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within 60 days of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No.6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to Jana Small Finance Bank Limited against the Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagees of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor. Date: 31.10.2023, Place: Bilaspur & Raipur (C.G.) Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

Many take part in SVEEP Maha Carnival



Khairagarh, Oct 30:

A jumbo program was organized for the first time in the district through SVEEP Maha Carnival and District Collector Gopal Verma motivated the voters by administering oath for 100% voting as part of the sweep. Joint Collector and SVEEP Nodal Abha Tiwari said that various programs like Slogan, Rangoli, Oath

Taking, Nukkad Natak, Chunar Selfie Zone and exhibition of SVEEP activities of the district were included in the SVEEP Maha Carnival in which the exhibition of SVEEP activities of the district was included. Youth attracted people during this period by using 12 types of alternative identity cards like MNREGA job card, driving license, PAN card, Indian passport, pension

document with photo, Central State Government, PSU, and other identification documents. It was told that voting can be done even in the absence of voter identity card at the polling station and voters will be able to vote using smart cards, health insurance smart cards, government identity cards, and unique disability ID cards issued

under NPR. Through this, voters will be able to be registered in the electoral rolls on the basis of the details given in their passport and will be able to vote in the polling station only on the basis of their original passport.

With this important reform, voters will now get even more facilities that will make it easier for them to cast their vote. Steps have been taken to ensure that all different identity cards are accepted so that every citizen gets maximum convenience in their voting. During the program, a large number of youth, women and officer employees of various colleges including Expenditure Observer Shobhan Sutradhar, Nodal Abha Tiwari, Assistant KK Verma, CMO Pramod Shukla, CEO District Khairagarh were present.

Big warriors in Congress, no one can defeat me: Amitesh

Rajim, Oct 30:

Addressing the party workers in the workers' conference of the Block Congress Committee, MLA Amitesh Shukla said that I have big warriors in the Congress, in front of whom no one can defeat me. Workers are my real strength, the way the crowd is seen in this program today, this is the result of unprecedented love, he said.

Shukla further said that the people of BJP should not stop telling lies and I am not contesting the elections, rather each and every party worker is contesting the elections and I am swearing in the holy land of Lord Shri Rajeev Lochan, that I will understand the problems and issues of every worker; and it will be resolved immediately. He also further said that what the BJP people did not do in 15 years, we have done in 5 years. District Congress



Committee President Bhav Singh Sahu said that Congress is not a party but an ideology, and we are their members. District Panchayat member Madhubala Ratre said that all the workers will remove their grievances and unite and make Amitesh Shukla win with a huge majority in this election. Former district presidents Lokesh Pandey and

Raghoba Mahadik said that Bhupesh government has worked for the upliftment and welfare of all sections in the last 5 years, the benefits of which are visible today. On this occasion, 20 women of village Kopra entered the Congress under the leadership of Mrs. Sandhya Thakur. On this occasion, District Panchayat President Mrs. Pushpa

Sahu, Lokesh Pandey, Raghoba Mahadik, Mandi President Ramkumar Goswami, Mahendra Sahu, Jitendra Singh Thakur, Prahlad Gandharva, former General Secretary of District Congress Committee Dekeshwar Thakur, Omarkar Singh Thakur, Ram Narayan Sahu and a large number of workers were present.

YHAI's successful Platinum Jubilee adventure

Korba, Oct 30:

The Youth Hostels Association of India, in collaboration with the Korba and Bilaspur units of Chhattisgarh state, celebrated India's Platinum Jubilee year with a remarkable 3-day, 2-night nature study cum training program. This event marked a significant milestone in promoting outdoor education and adventure.

Under the guidance of State Chairman Sandeep Seth, YHAI Chhattisgarh's first inter-state program ventured to Visakhapatnam from October 20th to 24th. The program saw active participation from 75 members, including 37 students and staff from



CPWS, Bilaspur, an Institutional Member of YHAI. The Raipur Unit of YHAI played a hospitable role by providing a delicious dinner for all participants during the train journey.

During this enriching journey, participants explored various attractions, including

Celebrating Nature and Camaraderie in Chhattisgarh

Kailashgiri, Rishikonda Beach, the Indian Meteorological Department, Tiniti Park, and more on the first day. The second day featured visits to Navy Dockyard, INS Sindhushastra Submarine, Warship Ranvijay, TU142 Museum, and Sea Harrier Museum. The third day included visits to Borra Caves and the Araku Valley. Following this adventurous trip, a certificate distribution program was held to acknowledge the participants' efforts.

Notable guests, includ-



ing C. Ravipaul (National Vice President) and representatives from the Andhra Pradesh State Branch of YHAI, graced the certificate distribution program. Tokens of appreciation were exchanged between the Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh state units. The nature study cum train-

ing program, spanning three days and two nights, involved challenging treks covering approximately 30 kilometers, leaving participants tired yet fulfilled. The journey also featured a special celebration of a student's birthday, demonstrating the camaraderie fostered during the expedition.

The success of this program owes much to the dedication of volunteers like Satish Shukla, Shailesh Shukla, CDR Sandeep Murarka, Dr. Bhaskar Chaurasia, Dr. Nishant, Rahul Gupta, and Subhash Panda, who organized and facilitated the enriching nature study and training camp. Their efforts were commended by the state unit and organizers alike.

Temple doors remain closed on lunar eclipse

Rajim, Oct 30:

The doors of temples remained closed in Dharmanagari Rajim on the occasion of the last partial lunar eclipse of the year. The main famous temples here are Rajeev Lochan of Lord Vishnu, Panchmukhi Kuleshwarnath Mahadev Temple located at the confluence of three rivers, Dan Daneshwar Nath Temple, Rajrajeshwar Nath Mahadev Temple, Rajim Bhaktin Temple, Mahaprabhu Jagannath Temple, Vaman Avatar Temple, Varaha Avatar Temple, Bhadrinarayan Temple. The doors of all the temples of the city and village including Narsingh Avtaar Temple, Bhuteshwar Nath Mahadev Temple, Mama Bhanja



Mahadev Temple, Baba Garib Nath Mahadev Temple, Someshwar Nath Mahadev Temple, Maa Mahamaya Temple, Dattatreya Temple, Ramchandra Dewal were closed. It is important to men-

tion that Sutak was observed on Saturday at 4:05 pm. Sutak is observed exactly 9 hours before the eclipse. The lunar eclipse started at 1:05 in the night and ended at 2:24 in the night itself. During the lunar eclipse, worship services in temples and homes remained closed, although people continued chanting the name of God. Due to it being Sharad Purnima, there was an atmosphere of enthusiasm among the people and it is believed that on this day Goddess Lakshmi comes to visit the earth and blesses the creatures of the earth with happiness and prosperity.

Religious programs also continued to take place on the occasion of Sharad Purnima in the region.

SECR launches 'Vigilance Awareness Week'

Railway's commitment to transparency and Anti-Corruption initiatives



Bilaspur, Oct 30:

The South East Central Railway initiated the 'Vigilance Awareness Week' to enhance transparency in railway operations and raise awareness among railway consumers. Running from October 30th to November 5th, the week was inaugurated with a swearing-in

ceremony at the headquarters at 11:00 am, graced by the presence of Alok Kumar, General Manager, South East Central Railway. During the ceremony, all department heads, officials, and employees took an integrity oath, pledging their dedication to honesty and transparency. The oath signifies a

united front against corruption, with all stakeholders working together to eliminate this obstacle to economic, political, and social progress. It emphasizes the importance of citizens upholding the highest standards of integrity and actively participating in the fight against corruption. Participants pledged to

act with honesty, refrain from giving or taking bribes, work for the public good, set an example of personal integrity, and report corruption incidents to the authorities.

The ceremony emphasized the significance of Vigilance Awareness Week in promoting integrity and transparency among railway employees. Similar oath-taking ceremonies occurred in all three divisions of the South East Central Railway, with various anti-corruption programs and workshops scheduled throughout the week.

The primary objective is to reaffirm the commitment to anti-corruption and eradicate corrupt practices while benefiting railway consumers.

In Government Gramya Bharati Mahavidyalaya

Korba, Oct 30: Under the direction of Collector and District Election Officer Saurabh Kumar and under the guidance of District SVEEP Nodal and Chief Executive Officer District Panchayat Vishwadeep, human chain, rally, street play, wall writing and essay competitions are being conducted in urban and rural areas of the district. In this sequence, a human chain was organized under the voter awareness program in Kamla Nehru College and the Principal of the college explained the importance of voting to the students and encouraged them to contribute in strengthening the democracy. All the students and assistant professors were requested by the SVEEP in-charge of the

Various programs organized under SVEEP



college to vote compulsorily. All the assistant professors and students showed their participation in the above program and everyone also took a pledge for compulsory voting

on the voting date. Similarly, under the voter awareness campaign in Jai Budha Dev College, Katghora, a voter awareness rally was taken out by the National Service Scheme Unit in God village Rampur and sweep rangoli was made by the girl students in the college campus. SVEEP slogan writing competition was also organized under the SVEEP program in Government Gramya Bharti Mahavidyalaya of Hardibazar, in which slogans were written by the students on the topic 'My vote - the basis of my strong development'. In the program, Principal-in-charge and Head of the Department, Economics, Dr. Anil Kumar Pandey addressed the students and made them aware to use their voting rights properly and participate in voting. SVEEP in-charge Dr. S. Krishnamurthy administered the oath to all the students to exercise their franchise.

Dussehra festival celebrated with great pomp

Pithora, Oct 30: The city's traditional Dussehra festival was celebrated with great pomp by the Dussehra committee at the local Shaheed Bhagat Singh Ramlila Maidan. Local artists won the hearts of the audience by performing live performances of Ramlila in the crowded Ramlila Maidan. On this occasion, Nagar Panchayat President Atmaram Yadav described the importance of Dussehra festival and congratulated the city residents on Vijayadashami festival. Anup Dixit Ramlila director introduced the characters and during Ramlila staging, Ram Ravi Shankar Tiwari, Laxman Sannidatta, Sita Ishaan

Dixit, Hanuman Puran Nishad, Vibhishan Khemlal Dadsena, Agad Tikesh Sinha, Purohit Sinha and Ravana from



Ravana Dal, Pukhraj Nirmalkar, Kumbhakaran Bhima Rautiya, Meghnath Geetesh Dadsena and others played important roles. After the 45 feet Ravana Dahan, special fireworks were done, colorful fire-crackers burst in the sky and also groups of children also made effigies of



Ravana and burnt them in the streets and saluted their elders and congratulated them on Vijayadashami. The program was conducted by litterateur Shivshankar Patnaik, Kshetrapal Yadav, Prem Sinha, Murali Pradhan, Bharat Soni, Dev Dadsena etc.

Battle of educated candidates in Katghora assembly

Korba, Oct 30: The electoral battleground in Katghora assembly constituency has witnessed a showdown between two well-educated candidates from the Congress and BJP. Incumbent MLA Purushottam Kanwar, representing Congress, is contesting for the second time, while the BJP has nominated Premchand Patel for the first time. Both contenders, as per public opinion, are the frontrunners for this seat, and their educational qualifications have garnered attention.

Premchand Patel holds an MSc degree in Physics, showcasing his academic background. On the other hand, Purushottam Kanwar, who inherited a political legacy, holds a double MA degree in Social and Political Science. Their educational backgrounds



raise hopes for informed political discourse within the Katghora constituency. Former MLA Bodram's enduring legacy, which spanned three and a half decades in the Katghora assembly, has now been passed on to his son, Purushottam Kanwar. The baton has been handed over; and they are embarking on their second innings with hopes of clinching victory. Purushottam Kanwar holds a BMA degree in Sociology earned in 2002 and a subsequent MA de-

gree in Political Science from Hamidia College, Bhopal, in 2004. In terms of assets, it's noteworthy that Purushottam Kanwar's wife, Mrs. Pramila Kanwar, possesses a more substantial wealth portfolio compared to Mr. Kanwar. She holds 90 grams of gold (valued at approximately Rs 5 lakh) and 500 grams of silver (worth around Rs 35 thousand) in her name. Purushottam Kanwar's total assets are reported at Rs 10,36,036, while his wife

holds movable and immovable assets valued at Rs 14,25,195. Additionally, Kanwar has declared cash holdings of Rs 2,30,000, with his wife having Rs 1,22,000 in cash. In their occupations, Purushottam Kanwar lists agriculture and membership in the Legislative Assembly, while his wife is described as a housewife. Their sources of income include Kanwar's honorarium, agricultural earnings, and his wife's income as a housewife. Notably, there is no report-

ed income from dependents, yet Mrs. Kanwar's wealth surpasses that of Kanwar.

In contrast, Premchand Patel, the BJP candidate, holds an MSc degree in Physics from Gurghasi Das University, earned in 1996-97. He describes himself as an agriculturist in his profession. Patel's sources of income include his agricultural work and his daughter, Jigyasa Patel, who is employed at a private hospital. In terms of assets, Patel surpasses the Congress candidate, with immovable assets worth Rs 25 lakh and movable assets valued at Rs 14,42,000, including vehicles. Additionally, his wife possesses jewelry valued at Rs 1,67,323. Patel has also disclosed a loan of Rs 2,35,823 from banks and financial institutions.

NYC Mayor defends Sikhs, denounces hate crimes

New York, Oct 30 (PTI):

The Sikh turban does not mean terrorism but symbolises faith, New York City Mayor Eric Adams said, as he described the recent attacks and hate crimes against the community as a "stain" on the country and vowed to protect its members.

He also gave a clarion call for educating people about Sikhism.

"You are not about terror; you are about protector. That is what needs to be taught throughout this entire city. Our young people need to know that, our adults need to know that," Adams said while addressing members of the Sikh community at the Baba

Makhan Shah Lubana Sikh Center in the Queens neighbourhood of South Richmond Hill.

Describing the Sikh community as an "anchor" in the Richmond Hill neighbourhood, Adams said: "Your turban does not mean terrorism. It means protecting, it means community, it means family, it means faith, it means city, it means us coming together. We will change the dialogue and narrative with you. We can do it together."

Adams and New York State Assemblywoman Jennifer Rajkumar met and addressed members of the Sikh community here Sunday, in the wake of recent incidents of hate

crime and assault against Sikhs.

On October 15, a 19-year-old Sikh boy was attacked by Christopher Philippeaux, 26, while he was riding the bus in Richmond Hill. Philippeaux punched the Sikh teenager in the back of the head, tried to knock off his turban and told him "We don't wear that in this country." Philippeaux has been charged with assault as a hate crime and aggravated harassment, Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz said.

Within days of this assault, 66-year-old Jasmer Singh was attacked when his car collided with another vehicle. The driver of the other car, 30-year-

old Gilbert Augustin, allegedly punched the elderly Sikh man three times in the head and face and Singh later succumbed to his injuries.

Describing the attack against Singh as a "violent senseless act," Adams said "Jasmer should still be with us. He should still be with his son. He should still be living out the American dream, watching his son, who's now an immigration attorney."

"He should still be part of this community. That dream turned into a nightmare the other day when his life was taken from us prematurely," Adams said, flanked by Singh's son Subeg Singh Multani and other members of the Sikh community.

UNITY IN GRIEF



Members of the New Apostolic Church pray at a makeshift memorial outside a bowling alley, the site of one of this week's mass shootings, in Lewiston, Maine. A gunman killed multiple people at the bowling alley and a bar in Lewiston on Wednesday.

UK PM Rishi Sunak chairs domestic security meet amid Israel-Gaza conflict

London, Oct 30 (PTI):

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is chairing a high-level meeting at 10 Downing Street in London on Monday to assess domestic security issues for the UK amid the Israel-Gaza conflict and against the backdrop of widespread protests on the streets of the country.

The Cabinet Office Briefing Rooms A (COBRA) meeting attended by UK Home Secretary Suella Braverman and counterterrorism officials follows another weekend of thousands of people protesting against the conflict in the Middle East, resulting in nine arrests and five being charged with public order offences including for racially aggravated crimes.

"We have to make sure that British citizens are safe and secure from the threat of terrorism as the government always does," UK Education Minister Robert Halfon told "Times



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, right, and his wife Akshata Murty, meet with fundraisers from the Royal British Legion and purchase a poppy in front of 10 Downing Street in London, Monday, Oct. 30.

Radio' with reference to the high-level COBRA meeting at Downing Street.

It follows the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir Mark Rowley, calling for "sharper" laws to deal with extremism on the streets of Britain.

"There is scope to be

much sharper in how we deal with extremism within this country. The law was never designed to deal with extremism, there's a lot to do with terrorism and hate crime but we don't have a body of law that deals with extremism, and that is creating a gap," Rowley told Sky News' over the weekend.

Crowd storms Russian airport to protest flight from Israel

Moscow, Oct 30 (AP):

Hundreds of people on Sunday stormed into the main airport in Russia's Dagestan region and onto the landing field to protest the arrival of an airliner from Tel Aviv, Israel, Russian news agencies and social media reported.

Authorities closed the airport in Makhachkala, the capital of the predominantly Muslim region, and police converged on the facility. There were no immediate reports of injuries or arrests.

Russian news reports said people in the crowd were shouting antisemitic slogans and tried to storm the airliner belonging to Russian carrier Red Wings.

Video on social media showed some in the crowd on the landing field waving Palestinian flags, protesters attempting to overturn a police car and others checking the passports of passengers who had arrived in Makhachkala.

In a statement released Sunday night, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said Israel "expects the Russian law enforcement authorities to protect the safety of all Israeli citizens and Jews wherever they may be and to act resolutely against the rioters and against the wild incitement directed against Jews and Israelis."

Netanyahu's office added that the Israeli ambassador to Russia was working with Russia to keep Israelis and Jews safe. The Ministry of Internal Affairs for Russia's North Caucasian Federal District, where Dagestan is located, stated that CCTV footage would be used to establish the identities of those who stormed the airport, and that those involved would be brought to justice.

While voicing support for Gaza, the regional Dagestani government appealed to citizens to remain calm and not take part in such protests.

Israel expands ground assault into Gaza

● Fears rise over airstrikes near crowded hospitals

Khan Younis (Gaza Strip), Oct 30 (AP):

Israeli troops and armor pushed deeper into northern and central Gaza on Monday, as the UN and medical staff warned that airstrikes are hitting closer to hospitals where tens of thousands of Palestinians have sought shelter alongside thousands of wounded.

Video obtained by the Associated Press showed an Israeli tank and bulldozer in central Gaza blocking the territory's main north-south highway, which the Israeli military earlier told Palestinians to use to escape the expanding ground offensive.

When asked whether forces had positioned on the road, Israeli military spokesman Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari said "we expanded our operations" but would not comment on specific deployments.



Palestinians leave their homes following Israeli bombardment on Gaza City, Monday, Oct. 30.

The video shows a car approaching an earth barrier across the road, where a tank is parked behind a small building. The car stops and turns around.

As it heads away, the tank appears to open fire, and an explosion engulfs the car.

The journalist who was filming the scene from another car races away in terror, screaming, "Go back! Go back!" at an approaching ambulance and other vehicles. The Gaza Health Ministry later said three people were killed in the struck car.

The Israeli advances put

their forces on both sides of Gaza City and the surrounding areas of northern Gaza, in what Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called a "second stage" of the war ignited by Hamas' brutal October 7 incursion.

Casualties on both sides are expected to rise sharply as Israeli forces and Palestinian militants battle in dense residential areas.

Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians remain in the north and would no longer be able to escape if the north-south highway is blocked.

6 teenagers shot at Louisiana house party

Lake Charles, Oct 30 (AP):

Six teenagers were shot at a Louisiana house party, leaving one in critical condition, local authorities said. Calcasieu Parish sheriff's deputies responded to a reported shooting on Saturday at a home in the southeast Louisiana town of Lake Charles on Saturday shortly before midnight. When deputies arrived, they found several teenagers with gunshot wounds.

All of the victims were between 15 and 19 years old, the Sheriff's Office said in a statement Sunday. Authorities said a fight broke out, which led someone to pull out a gun and start firing. The law enforcement statement did not say whether a suspect had been identified.

Calcasieu Parish Sheriff Tony Mancuso said the investigation was ongoing and urged parents to keep a closer eye on their children.

"We are in the process of collecting evidence and speaking to all the witnesses. This was a party full of teenagers. Once again we have to figure out how these weapons are getting in the hands of our kids," Mancuso said. "Teen violence is a problem in our country and it is our duty as parents to know what are kids are up to." All of the teenagers were transported to a hospital, where one remains in critical condition.

Pakistan to start expelling illegal immigrants in phases from Nov 1

Islamabad, Oct 30 (PTI):

As the deadline loomed for all undocumented immigrants, including 1.7 million Afghan nationals, to leave Pakistan, interim Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti on Monday said the caretaker government will start expelling these aliens in phases if they do not leave the country voluntarily.

Pakistan this month announced October 31 as the date for the removal of the

illegal immigrants.

"After November 1, the state will commence its operation to expel aliens in phases," The Express Tribune newspaper quoted Bugti as saying.

Bugti confirmed that over 20,000 illegal foreigners have left Pakistan voluntarily over the last three days. He stated that all provincial governments would play an active part in the operation against illegal foreigners. "Committees have been

formed on divisional and district levels," he added.

The interim interior minister further clarified that the expulsion of illegal foreign nationals will be carried out in phases, and people with no travel documents will be deported in the first phase.

The illegal immigrants, many of whom have lived in Pakistan for years, will be processed at temporary centres being set up by the government. "The government has completed the

geo-mapping and will locate illegal foreign nationals wherever they are," he said, adding that they have established holding centres to keep illegal foreigners after the deadline.

"All basic facilities will be provided at these centres to illegal foreign nationals," he assured in a question inquiring about their safety.

Pakistan has been hosting Afghan refugees for the past four decades when millions of them

fled Afghanistan during the 1979-1989 Soviet occupation. The October 31 deadline given to illegal immigrants, especially Afghans, received widespread criticism.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) called on the Pakistani government to "suspend forcible returns of Afghan nationals before it is too late to avoid a human rights catastrophe".

SPIDER-MAN HOLDS A 'MATE'



A person dressed as Spider-Man holds a "mate", used to drink herbal tea, at the Obelisk in Buenos Aires, Argentina. People gathered aiming to set a record for the largest assembling of individuals dressed as the comic book.

Legal battle begins to block Trump's presidential ballot access

Denver, Oct 30 (AP):

The campaign to use the U.S. Constitution's "insurrection" clause to bar former President Donald Trump from running for the White House again enters a new phase this week as hearings begin in two states on lawsuits that might end up reaching the U.S. Supreme Court.

A weeklong hearing on one lawsuit to bar Trump from the ballot in Colorado begins Monday, while on Thursday oral arguments are scheduled before the Minnesota Supreme Court on an effort to kick the former president off the ballot in that state. Whether the judges keep Trump on the ballot or boot him, their rulings are likely to be swiftly appealed, eventually to the U.S. Supreme Court. The nation's highest court has never ruled on the Civil War-era provision in the 14th Amendment that pro-



hibits those who swore an oath to uphold the constitution and then "engaged in insurrection" against it from holding higher office.

"We've had hearings with presidential candidates debating their eligibility before Barack Obama, Ted Cruz, John McCain," said Derek T. Muller, a Notre Dame law professor, listing candidates challenged on whether they met the constitutional requirement of being a "natural born citizen." But these cases, Muller added, are different, using an obscure clause of the Constitution with the "incendiary" bar against insurrection.

Even if they're longshots, Muller said, they have a plausible legal path to success and raise important issues.

"Those legal questions are very heavy ones," Muller said.

Dozens of cases citing Section Three of the 14th Amendment have been filed in recent months, but the ones in Colorado and Minnesota seem the most important, according to legal experts. That's because they were filed by two liberal groups with significant legal resources. They also targeted states with a clear, swift process for challenges to candidates' ballot qualifications.

That means the Colorado and Minnesota cases are taking a more legally sound route to get courts to force election officials to disqualify Trump, as opposed to other lawsuits that seek a sweeping ruling from federal judges that Trump is no

longer eligible for the presidency.

The plaintiffs in the cases argue the issue is simple: Trump's efforts to overturn his 2020 election loss, leading to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol, mean he's disqualified from the presidency just as clearly as if he were not a natural-born citizen, another constitutional prerequisite for the office.

"Four years after taking an oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution as President of the United States ... Trump tried to overthrow the results of the 2020 election, leading to a violent insurrection at the United States Capitol to stop the lawful transfer of power to his successor," alleges the Colorado lawsuit, filed on behalf of Republican and unaffiliated voters by the liberal group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

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Guarding Our Frontiers

A Resolute Commitment

The evaluation of operational readiness conducted by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the Indian Army's forward posts along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh sends a powerful message to the nation and our adversaries. It underscores India's unwavering commitment to defending its territorial sovereignty and the well-being of its soldiers who serve in challenging conditions. The visit to the regions of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Ladakh by the Defence Minister is not just a routine inspection; it is a symbolic demonstration of India's preparedness and resolve. These areas often stand as the first line of defense against potential threats, particularly from China. The history of these regions is etched with tales of valor and sacrifice, and they continue to play a crucial role in ensuring our national security. One cannot underestimate the importance of such visits in boosting the morale of our soldiers. These men and women serve in some of the most hostile weather conditions, and their dedication to protecting our borders is commendable. The personal interactions with the Defence Minister during his visits serve as a source of inspiration and motivation for our troops. The government's commitment to strengthening border infrastructure is evident. Roads, bridges, tunnels, and other critical facilities are being developed to enable rapid troop mobilization and logistical support. Moreover, airports, helipads, healthcare centers, and educational institutions are receiving significant attention, not only to improve the quality of life for border residents but also to enhance intelligence gathering capabilities. The focus on essentials like thermal bunkers, water supply, medical care, and the well-being of our servicemen is paramount. The government has made it a priority to ensure that our armed forces have the necessary resources and support to operate effectively in challenging environments. In addition to infrastructure development, the deployment of advanced weaponry and technology at forward positions is a testament to India's commitment to deterring any potential misadventures by adversaries. The presence of attack helicopters, jet fighters, transport aircraft, and dual-purpose drones enhances our defensive capabilities and ensures a swift response to emerging threats. What sets the present administration apart is its dedication to understanding the evolving global dynamics of defense preparedness. Decisions concerning the armed forces are no longer made solely from air-conditioned offices but through direct engagement and field visits. This approach keeps the senior military leadership vigilant and responsive to emerging challenges. The provision of superior body armor and equipment tailored for extreme environments is a reflection of our commitment to the safety and well-being of our soldiers. The establishment of a robust communication network further enhances our ability to respond swiftly and effectively to any unforeseen circumstances. While the periodic visits by the Chiefs of the Air Force and Army reinforce the government's commitment to oversight and preparedness, it is the visits by the Defence Minister that resonate most with our soldiers. These visits convey a powerful message—that the entire nation stands united in solidarity with those who guard our frontiers.

We need Swami Vivekananda

To weed out Islamophobia and Elitism

Sujit De

In an era when the winds of divisiveness threaten to tear apart the fabric of our society, we find ourselves in dire need of a unifying force, a beacon of hope, and a symbol of compassion. Swami Vivekananda, the 19th-century philosopher and spiritual leader, emerges as a guiding light in these turbulent times. His teachings and actions serve as a timeless reminder of the values that can bind us as a nation and heal the wounds of hatred and prejudice. Swami Vivekananda's wisdom transcends the boundaries of time and space. His words resonate with a profound message that carries the potential to dismantle the malignant tumor of Islamophobia, which has sadly found its way into the hearts and minds of some segments of our society. He reminds us that the Mohammedan conquest of India, far from being a catastrophe, came as salvation to the downtrodden and the poor. Such is the inclusivity of his vision, which sought to bridge gaps and heal wounds rather than sow seeds of discord. One remarkable incident from Swami Vivekananda's life stands out—a testament to his commitment to universal humanhood. In 1898, in Kashmir, he implored a poor Muslim boatman to allow his four-year-old daughter to be worshipped as Goddess Durga during Durga Puja. The boatman, overwhelmed by this request, readily agreed, feeling as though God Himself had spoken through Swami Vivekananda. On the day of Mahasaptami, Swami Vivekananda knelt down to touch the feet of this poor Muslim girl. With this act, he shattered the barriers of religion, region, caste, class, creed, occupation, gender, and generation. He unfurled the flag of universal humanhood, reminding us that we are all part of one human family. Actually, Swami Vivekananda did a Sri Ramkrishna who himself practiced Islam, Christianity and other religions to live his words — "many opinions, many paths." As a matter of fact, they lived secularism not just spoke about it. Secularism gives the people unhindered freedom to practice any religion of their choice. We need to adhere to Swami Vivekananda's prescription for a mixture, "of the two great systems, Hinduism and Islam — Vedanta brain and Islam body" to thwart anti-Muslim Hindu victimhood discourses and hate speeches. When one in four Indians practices untouchability in his or her daily life (India Human Development Survey in 2011-12) and 95 among 100 Indians avoid intercaste marriages (National Council of Applied Economic Research Study in 2016), we need Swami Vivekananda to remind us, "Modern caste distinction is a barrier to India's progress. It narrows, restricts, separates. It will crumble before the advance of ideas." He rightly said that millions were oppressed in the name of religion in India and one of the chief causes of India's ruin was the monopoly of education by a few belonging to the privileged classes. When a paradigm shift has been taken place in political priority from people's welfare to temple politics and the sun and moon missions, our political leaders must listen to what Swami Vivekananda had said, "If you want to find God, serve man. To reach Narayana you must serve the Daridra Narayanas - the starving millions of India." Our society is in urgent need of cutting itself free from the walls of prejudices, superstitions, hatred and falsehood and respond to Swami Vivekananda's clarion call to — "Arise, awake, let minor things, and quarrels over little details and fights over little doctrines be thrown aside, for here is the greatest of all works, here are the sinking millions." At the time when both National Sample Survey report and Global Hunger Index report show a horrific picture of child wasting and child stunting in India, we need Swami Vivekananda's words, "I consider that the great national sin is the neglect of the masses, and that is one of the causes of our downfall. No amount of politics would be of any avail until the masses in India are once more well educated, well fed, and well cared for. They pay for our education, they build our temples, but in return they get kicks. They are practically our slaves. If we want to regenerate India, we must work for them." When a Union minister of Women and Child Development made a joke of hunger which her elite group of audience shamelessly enjoyed, we need Swami Vivekananda to give them a piece of his mind with his words, "I will call every man a traitor who acquired education at the cost of poor but did not bother about them."

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the newspaper.)

Central Chronicle invites articles, write-ups, and comments on a wide range of issues for our editorial page. Submissions should be between 800-900 words in length. In addition, we welcome letters to the editor for this page. While letters may be edited for clarity, we aim to preserve the integrity of the original message, and ask that they be kept to around 50-60 words. Submissions can be sent via email to editor@centralchronicle@gmail.com.

SMOGGY GURUGRAM



Commuters amid low visibility due to smog, in Gurugram, Monday, Oct. 30.

Breakdown of Patel's action derailed Kashmir Policy

ER. PRABHAT KISHORE



Article 370 of the Indian Constitution has been revoked by the Parliament on 5th August 2019 and Jammu & Kashmir has become fully integrated with the country having the benefits of all central laws as well as public welfare schemes. Technically, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh came into existence as Union Territories on 31st October 2019, the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, the architect of present-day unified India, who was actually the choice of first PM. Due to Gandhi's immoral intervention; he was illegally kept away from the country's leadership, paving the way for Kashmir, the China border and various other problems in the years to come. If one goes through the happenings between 1946 to 1950, it is evident that the Kashmir problem is nothing, but is a result of lack of vision, determination, decision, courage and involvement of a vested interest of ambitious politicians. Like Hyderabad & Junagarh, the Maharaja of Kashmir Hon. Hari Singh had also not signed the instrument of accession upto the fixed deadline, 15th August 1947. The Maharaja had executed a standstill agreement with Pakistan and wanted to have similar link with India also, but Indian leaders had no interest. Initially Sardar Patel was dealing the affairs tactfully. Jinnah adopted a policy of coercion & force and cut-off supply of food, petrol and other commodities. Military pressure was also applied through border raids. At Patel's initiative, Planes were diverted to the Delhi-Kashmir routes and communication equipments were installed between Amritsar & Jammu. Patel wrote to the Maharaja on 21st Sept. 1947 that "Justice Mehar Chand Mahajan will convey you the gist of our conversation on all matters affecting the interest of Kashmir. I have promised him full support and co-operation." Patel had virtually instructed the Maharaja to appoint Mahajan as his PM. Patel also sent Guru Golwalkar, RSS chief, to Srinagar to brainwash the Maharaja regarding the futility of independent Kashmir and convey the message that Pakistan will never tolerate your independence and will engineer a revolt.

Gurujee assured the Maharaja that Sardar Patel would look after the Kashmiri people. After Maharaja expressed his readiness to sign the instrument of accession, Gurujee returned back to Delhi on Oct 19 and briefed Sardar about the happenings. On 15th October 1947, the Kashmir PM has complained to the British PM regarding the lack of supplies and border raids by Pakistan, but the Britishers had nothing to do. In the valley, there were contrasting views between the two national personalities. Seeing Sheikh Abdullah's vision & ambitious approach, Patel had negative thinking about him; whereas Nehru has aversion for Maharaja and affinity for Abdullah. Actually, Maharaja had arrested Nehru in June 1946, when he was fighting for Abdullah during the "Quit Kashmir" movement. Nehru's sole aim was to reinstate Abdullah and dethrone the Maharaja. Sheikh Abdullah was at loggerheads with Jinnah. He was against going to Pakistan for his own personal reasons. He had ambition to become the Prime Minister of Kashmir, but he was fully aware that Jinnah being the champion of Muslims he had no chance in Pakistan. In 1947, Government of India received intelligence reports that Pakistanis were preparing to enter Kashmir. Nehru pressurized that accession should take place with the co-operation of Abdullah and a letter was written to Mahajan, the PM of Kashmir, that as Abdullah is anxious to cooperate in handling with external danger, power should be shared with him without in any way jeopardizing Maharaja Position. As Maharaja Hari Singh had agreed in principle for the accession, there was no need to take such hasty steps. Before Mahajan received the letter, 5000-armed tribesmen from Pakistan entered Kashmir, burnt Muzaffarabad, shot dead Lt. Col. Narayan Singh (in Command of the State forces), captured the power house at Mahura and switched off Srinagar's electricity. Brigadier Rajinder Singh, Chief of Staff of State, engaged raiders in Uri for two days, but he and his team were allegedly killed. The raiders were near Baramulla, just 40 miles from Srinagar.

Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) CM encouraged tribesmen to enter Kashmir and Pakistan General Akbar Khan openly acknowledged Pakistan's involvement. Jinnah told Mountbatten that if his conditions were satisfied, he whole thing would be called off. The British Commander of Gilgit Scout, Major Brown revolted against Kashmir Government and handed over Gilgit to Pakistan. On 23rd October 1947, the Maharaja wrote to Patel that nearly whole military of a particular community had either deserted or refused to co-operate. On October 25, at the meeting of the defence committee of the Indian cabinet, Patel offered to help the Maharaja, but Nehru's first reaction was "Maharaja must associate Abdullah without resistance". On 26th October in crucial meeting at Nehru's residence, Mahajan as well as Abdullah pleaded the urgent need for Indian troops. Patel asked Mahajan to return Kashmir and to convey the Maharaja that the Indian army was on its way. On the same day the Maharaja signed the Instrument of accession in Jammu and requested in writing for military assistance. Under pressure from Nehru, the Maharaja agreed to install Abdullah as the head of the administration along with de jure Premier Mahajan. On 27th October 1947, over a hundred planes and a Sikh battalion were in Srinagar. Patel first time visited Srinagar on 3rd November 1947, studied the situation and ordered the enemy to be driven out. As per the Hari Singh-Abdullah formula, Abdullah had to run the valley and leave Jammu to the Maharaja. But Abdullah started interfering in Jammu. Patel went to Srinagar to handle the issue, but Abdullah was rigid to be the premier for the whole State. The leaning Nehru wrote to the Maharaja "Sheikh should be the PM and should be asked to form the government. Mr. Mahajan can be one of the ministers and formally preside over the cabinet. You could be its constitutional head". This letter completely changed the whole scenario at a crucial juncture. Nehru was afraid of Patel that he would not allow Sheikh to do, whatever his ambition was. Viewing Abdullah as the key of Kashmir's future, Nehru decided to manage Kashmir himself. To assist him N.G. Ayyangar, a former Dewan of Kashmir, was inducted into the Indian cabinet as a Minister without portfolio. Nehru violated the democratic propriety by intruding into the domain of his own Home Minister Sardar Patel. A rift had been created between Patel and Nehru and a series of hot letters were exchanged, in which Patel offered even his resignation; to which Nehru wrote that as PM he must have a certain liberty of direction. On Mountbatten's persuasion, Nehru had agreed to refer the matter to UN and also obtained Gandhi's reluctant consent. Patel strongly opposed the

move, but Kashmir was now Nehru's baby. Patel wanted the whole of Kashmir, even if it meant war. In a private conversation, Patel said "Jawahar Royyega", which came true 4 years later when Abdullah was sacked and arrested on charges of conspiracy. The Indian army found that the only way to completely remove the raiders from Kashmir was to attack their bases and supplies in Pakistan. India warned that unless Pak denied assistant & base to invaders, she would be compelled to take action. Mountbatten confused Nehru that any such move would undermine his foreign policy and progressive social aspiration. In UNSC, Nehru's representatives Abdullah and Ayyangar could not put forward the issue firmly and outperformed by Pak's Zafarullah Khan. Following Ambedkar's refusal to draft Article 370 for special status to Kashmir, Abdullah approached Nehru; who eventually directed Ayyangar, also a member of Drafting committee, to frame it. Not only Patel but Ambedkar and all leaders of constitutional assembly (except Maulana Azad & Ayyangar) were in opposition on this issue. They felt that limited application of Central laws to J&K would create a lot of problems rather than solution. But the matter being Nehru's childish insistence, no one interfere. Dr. Karan Singh, the son of Maharaja Hari Singh & lateron Sadar-e-Riyasat of the State, recalled "while Pandit Nehru was dealing directly with Jammu & Kashmir; it was Sardar Patel who carried on the correspondence with my father, which ultimately led to smooth political transition in J&K". Unhappy with Nehru's handling of Kashmir, especially the offer of a plebiscite, the reference to the UN, the ceasefire that left one-third part of the State in Pakistani hands, free hand to Sheikh and the removal of the Maharaja, Patel occasionally dropped remarks on these issues. But he never tried to dismiss the decisions in absence of Nehru, even when he served as the acting PM. In the mid-fifties, he chatted with Rajaji, "Till Babu's death, I used to oppose and fight with him. But now I have given up. In view of Gandhi's last wish, any open criticism would look bad. But he would not remain silent if he found Nehru causing irreparable harm to the country". Thus, the breakdown of Patel's tactful action and Nehru's personal recalcitrance for Sheikh's ambition, entrapped the Kashmir Policy and darkened its future indefinitely. The Central Government's initiatives to mainstream Kashmir with the Republic of India will lead a step forward towards fulfilling Patel's vision of "Sashakt & Atmanirbhar Bharat".

(Author is a technocrat & academican. He is Master in Engineering from M.N. Regional Engineering College, Allahabad/Prayagraj)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

India abstains from voting

The decision of Indian government to abstain in a UN General Assembly vote on resolution that called for a humanitarian truce and ceasefire in Gaza is unfortunate. Since independence India has been firmly standing by Palestine, its sovereignty and safety. India has always demanded for free Palestine. But the current government has changed the India's earlier stand and now indirectly backing Israel. Palestinians are being deprived of food, water, medical facilities and internet. It is time for India to maintain its earlier stand and back Palestine and its people rather than supporting Israel.

Hassan Khan, Mumbai

Securing Fertilisers, Ensuring Food Safety

The Centre has done well to announce provisions of 23,303 crore as fertiliser subsidy for the ensuing rabi or winter-sown season, which should be sufficient to keep supplies steady and cheap. India relies on imports to meet its total domestic demand for crop nutrients. This year's El Niño, a global weather pattern that led to a deficient monsoon, has fuelled concerns over food output, especially pulses and oilseeds. If summer harvests fall short, ample winter-sown crops can replenish food stocks. The timely availability of subsidised crop nutrients is critical to the country's food security. At the same time, it needs to pay some urgent regulatory attention. It is not rare for farmers to complain about substandard fertiliser admixtures, even fake ones. The government must step up vigilance and crack down on spurious products.

TKR.Noori, Mumbai

Onion Prices Rise Again

Onion prices started increasing once again gradually in all cities. According to the Department of Consumer Affairs data, on Saturday the all-India average retail price of onion is Rs 45 per kg, but the maximum price is Rs 80 per kg. In Delhi, the average price is ruling at Rs 75 per kg. Prices are up by over 50 per cent in many stores in the city, with sellers scrambling to find adequate stock to meet the demand for the essential kitchen staple. Highlights - Wholesale onion prices in APMC, Yeshwantpur, at Rs 65 per kg; it was Rs 35/Rs 40 for the past couple of weeks APMC seeing only 100 truckloads of fresh onion from districts every day compared to between 500 and 1,000 truckloads a few years ago Many farmers reluctant to reinvest in the crop after several of them, especially in Maharashtra, suffered major crop loss earlier this year.

MT.Farooqi, Chennai

Private hospitals becoming centers of plunder



About seventy-five percent of the hospitals in our country are in the private sector. Only twenty-five percent of hospitals are run by the government, and most of them lack doctors, nurses, and quality medical resources. In such a situation, the arbitrariness of private hospitals full of facilities and resources is natural. To curb their arbitrary behavior, the government should fix the rates for all the tests, medicines, surgeries, consultations and all types of treatments being done in private hospitals. The status of facilities like ICU beds, ventilators, etc. available in private hospitals should be online. Action should be taken against private hospitals for violating these rules. Along with this, the government should focus on increasing the number of government hospitals, doctors, nurses, and modern resources there. The fees of doctors at private hospitals should also be fixed, they have not come from some other planet. The situation is such that nowadays some doctors charge three times the fee for seeing Tatkhal patients like Tatkhal doctors.

It is a common practice in all the private hospitals here to ignore government orders and charge arbitrary amounts. Due to the nexus of top government officials and owners of private hospitals, all the rules and regulations are kept aside and to mislead the public, the leaders start crying about the looting of private hospitals while the leaders of the party and opposition are kept inside. Know the whole game. It is the result of cheap politics of diverting the real issue from allegations and counter-allegations that today private hospitals are the center of looting. The government allocates crores of rupees in every budget for the improve-

ment of its medical services, yet government hospitals appear inferior to private hospitals. America's Nobel laureate in economics Kenneth Arrow had warned in 1963 that handing over health care to the market would prove fatal for the common people. Whatever impact this warning may have had around the world, the healthcare sector in our country has turned into an industry. News related to what and how it is blooming is coming out every day. Non-availability of doctors and lack of testing machines is a common thing in government hospitals. For all these reasons, patients go to private hospitals, where they are financially exploited. In

private hospitals, all types of facilities are available to the patients for treatment. Not getting immediate treatment and all facilities in government hospitals is also a big reason for this. In private hospitals, huge fees are charged to patients in the name of treatment, and due to many people getting involved in this game of sharing food, this arbitrariness cannot be stopped. The poor patient is helpless because he feels that proper treatment is available only in private hospitals. Private hospitals are being run like private corporate companies. Instead of serving the society, their aim is only to earn profits. Private hospitals give importance to profit. Generally, their owners have direct connections with influential leaders. In such a situation, they run the hospital arbitrarily without any fear. On the one hand, pictures of the dilapidated arrangements of government hospitals keep appearing, while on the other hand, the story of looting in the name of so-called well-equipped arrangements of private hospitals also keeps coming to light every day. Extortion from patients in the name of better treatment is common in private hospitals. Private hospitals know how to avoid government interference. They save their image from being tarnished by donating money in the name of social service and CSR. The main reason for not curbing the arbitrariness of private hospitals is the collusion of government officials. When the protectors become the eaters, it becomes difficult for all the public welfare schemes to get off the ground. Chiranjeevi Yojana is a better

plan but if private hospitals are not controlled, it will also not be effective. Innocent people have to suffer the consequences of this. Just like a doctor union or an employee union, a patient union should be formed as a pressure group. All classes should be represented in this union. Apart from this, efforts should be made to take immediate action against private hospitals if any irregularities and negligence are found. Licenses of negligent doctors and staff should be confiscated. Their names should be made public, so that others can also learn. The fees of doctors at private hospitals should also be fixed, they have not come from some other planet. The situation is such that nowadays some doctors charge three times the fee for seeing Tatkhal patients like Tatkhal tickets. In private hospitals, patients are fooled in the name of quality food. Preservatives in the name of juice and fast food in the name of breakfast. There is no trained staff in these hospitals, nor is there anyone to take care of the equipment. Everything is going on depending on God. There should be a complaint box in these hospitals. Also, they should be brought under the ambit of RTI. Posts like Lokayukta can be created for private hospitals, which will take action on receiving complaints. Governments should take over private hospitals. The government should also bring a bill that if a patient dies in any government or private hospital, his entire medical bill will be waived. With this, private hospitals will not be negligent in treatment. About seventy-five percent of the

hospitals in our country are in the private sector. Only twenty-five percent of hospitals are run by the government, and most of them lack doctors, nurses, and quality medical resources. In such a situation, the arbitrariness of private hospitals full of facilities and resources is natural. To curb their arbitrary behavior, the government should fix the rates for all the tests, medicines, surgeries, consultations and all types of treatments being done in private hospitals. The status of facilities like ICU beds, ventilators, etc. available in private hospitals should be online. Action should be taken against private hospitals for violating these rules. Along with this, the government should focus on increasing the number of government hospitals, doctors, nurses, and modern resources there. The fees of doctors at private hospitals should also be fixed, they have not come from some other planet. The situation is such that nowadays some doctors charge three times the fee for seeing Tatkhal patients like Tatkhal tickets. In private hospitals, patients are fooled in the name of quality food. Preservatives in the name of juice and fast food in the name of breakfast. There is no trained staff in these hospitals, nor is there anyone to take care of the equipment. Everything is going on depending on God. There should be a complaint box in these hospitals. Also, they should be brought under the ambit of RTI. Posts like Lokayukta can be created for private hospitals, which will take action on receiving complaints. Governments should take over private hospitals. The government should also bring a bill that if a patient dies in any government or private hospital, his entire medical bill will be waived. With this, private hospitals will not be negligent in treatment. About seventy-five percent of the

(Writer is a Research Scholar in Political Science, Poetess, Independent Journalist and columnist. Views expressed here are personal).

BRIEF

Food loss



New Delhi: Minister of State for Agriculture Shobha Karandlaje on Monday pitched for using technologies of developed and developing nations to address the problem of global food wastage estimated at 3 billion tonnes. Addressing the international workshop on food loss and waste prevention in the South Asian region, the minister said social organizations need to play a vital role in spreading awareness among various stakeholders and also should practice the methods to minimise food wastage.

Coal despatches

New Delhi: State-owned SECL said it has despatched 100 million tonnes of coal in record time till October 28 this fiscal. About 80 per cent of the despatch supply has been made to the power sector. South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) said in a statement. "SECL has achieved 100 million tonnes (MT) of coal dispatch for FY23-24. This is the fastest 100 MT coal dispatch achieved by the company since its inception," the statement added.

Review progress



New Delhi: India and the UK reviewed the progress of negotiations of the proposed free trade agreement (FTA), talks for which have reached the final stage. The progress was reviewed by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade Kemi Badenoch in Osaka, Japan. Both ministers are in Japan for the Group of Seven (G7) trade ministers meeting in Osaka. "Discussed the progress of India-UK free trade agreement negotiations with UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade Kemi Badenoch," Goyal said on social media platform X.

Preliminary bids

New Delhi: The government has received multiple expressions of interest for strategic sale of Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited (IMPCL). "Multiple Expressions of Interest (EOIs) received for the strategic disinvestment of Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited (IMPCL). The transaction will now move to the second stage," DIPAM Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey posted on X (formerly Twitter).

Intergovernmental coop essential to crack down on masterminds: FM

■ Behind smuggling, illicit trade

New Delhi, Oct 30:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday called for inter-governmental cooperation to share "actionable information" to crack down on the masterminds behind smuggling and illicit trade networks. She said the focus of enforcement agencies should be to nab the "brain" behind illegal trade, which would in turn act as a deterrent for such unlawful activities that hurt the economy as well as citizens. The nature of smuggled or illegally traded goods has not changed over the last 50-60 years and it continues to be precious metals, narcotics, and precious reserves from forest or marine life, Sitharaman said at the Global Conference on Cooperation in Enforcement Matters organised by the Directorate



of Revenue Intelligence (DRI). "Largely the goods which are illegally traded remain the same. There are no newer areas on which the customs authorities are baffled. If this is the way it is showing a trend over the decade, by now most of us should be fairly informed of who are the forces behind it. "I place a lot of emphasis on intergovernmental cooperation, along with WCO (World Customs Organisation), so that we are able to crack the brains behind it (smug-

gling), the masterminds behind it, with the help from local authorities and governments," the minister said. She said deterrence of illicit trade will be strengthened if all confiscated goods are destroyed and not put into the market. "It is also periodically our duty to restore confidence in the minds of citizens saying such activities will be punished, will be curbed, and will be deterred. So if only gold, cigarettes, narcotics, antiques and wildlife materials are being smuggled, it is your experience which will have to show us the direction and the path forward so that we are able to contain this evil because it hurts all our economies," Sitharaman said. Stating that prevention and deterrence would help in curbing the menace of illicit trade and smuggling, she said enforcement agencies are at an advantageous position as they are armed with technology.

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON COOPERATION IN ENFORCEMENT MATTERS



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during the inaugural session of the Global Conference on Cooperation in Enforcement Matters 2023 organised by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, in New Delhi, Monday, Oct. 30.

BSE, NSE to conduct one-hour 'Muhurat Trading' on Diwali

New Delhi, Oct 30:

Leading stock exchanges BSE and NSE will conduct a one-hour special muhurat trading session on the occasion of Diwali on November 12. The symbolic trading session will be held between 6 pm and 7.15 pm. This includes a 15-minute pre-market session, the stock exchanges said in separate circulars. The session also marks the beginning of a new Samvat — the Hindu calendar year that starts on Diwali — and it is believed that trading during the 'muhurat' or auspicious hour brings prosperity and financial growth for the stakeholders. Market analysts said that Diwali is

considered to be the ideal time to start anything new. Investors are said to benefit from trading during this session all through the year. Since the trading window is only open for an hour, markets are known to be volatile. The focus might not be on profitability as much as it might be on the gesture, they added. Trading would take place across various segments like equity, commodity derivatives, currency derivatives, equity futures & options, and securities lending & borrowing (SLB) in the same time slot. The exchanges will remain closed on November 14 on the occasion of Diwali Balipratipada.

Vision plan being prepared for India: NITI Aayog CEO

■ To become developed economy of \$30 trn by 2047

New Delhi, Oct 30: NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam said a vision document is being prepared for India to become a developed economy of about USD 30 trillion by 2047. The vision document will outline the institutional and structural changes/reforms that will be needed for the country to become a developed nation by 2047. The draft Vision India @2047 will be ready by December 2023 and it will be presented before the country in the next three months, he said. "A vision plan is being pre-



pared for India to become a developed economy of about USD 30 trillion (USD 29.2 trillion) by 2047... the whole purpose of the vision document is to avoid the middle-income trap," he told reporters here. According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the middle-income trap captures a situation where

a middle-income country can no longer compete internationally in standardized, labor-intensive goods because wages are relatively too high, but it also cannot compete in higher value-added activities on a broad enough scale because productivity is relatively too low. "We are worried about the middle-income trap, India has to cut through the poverty thing and middle-income trap," he said. While addressing the Chief Ministers of all states in the Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog in May 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had asked all Chief Ministers to work towards making our nation Vikshit Bharat by 2047.

Govt asks private cos to dematerialise securities by Sep 2024

New Delhi, Oct 30: The government has asked private companies to dematerialise their securities by September 2024, a move that will help enhance transparency and will have a broad impact. The requirement will be applicable to private companies, excluding small companies and government companies. There are about 1.4 million private companies registered under the companies law with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA). Private companies can issue securities only in dematerialised form and should facilitate the dematerialisation of all securities by September 2024, according to an MCA notifi-

cation. Dematerialisation refers to the conversion of securities held in physical form to dematerialised or digitised form. In this regard, amendments have been made to the Companies (Prospectus and Allotment of Securities) Second Amendment Rules, 2023. "A private company, which as on the last day of a financial year, ending on or after 31st March 2023, is not a small company as per audited financial statements for such financial year, shall, within eighteen months of the closure of such financial year, comply with the provisions of this rule," the notification dated October 27 said.

OPPO launches its latest A79 5G

Mumbai, Oct 30: OPPO India has launched its latest A79 5G, built for users who seek a premium 5G device that strikes a perfect balance between sleek design, smooth performance, and a fast-charging battery that lasts over a day of mixed-use. The device is priced at Rs 19,999 and will be available starting Oct 28, 2023, at the OPPO Store, Flipkart, Amazon, and other retail outlets. Sleek, durable, and built for entertainment The OPPO A79 5G—available in Glowing Green and Mystery Black colour options—weighs just 193g and is a mere 7.99mm thin. Its rear surface sports a rectangular island that draws attention to the dual polished rings around the camera lens. Also, the unique treatment of its robust polycarbonate frame to give it a metallic texture



is another of its standout design elements. For extra durability, the IP54-rated smartphone is subjected to more than 320 quality tests and 130 extreme reliability tests, which include drop, anti-splash, radiation, extreme weather, fire and flame retardant, temperature protection, and signal tests to ensure enduring craftsmanship and quality. Up front, the device sports a 6.72-inch FHD+ Sunlight

display with a punch-hole camera. This screen comes with a 90Hz refresh rate for smooth scrolling and packs OPPO's All-Day AI Eye Comfort for continuous eye protection and a safe viewing experience. Users can enjoy HD video content from Amazon Prime and Netflix thanks to its Widevine L1 certification while its dual speakers provide immersive stereo surround sound, defined by crisp audio, achieved through optimised noise reduction and echo-suppression algorithms. The OPPO A79 5G also includes an Ultra Volume Mode that exceeds the 100% volume level to reach up to 300% for speakers and 200% for earpiece calls; the A79 has undergone hardware upgrades that enhance the sound quality by 86% compared to the previous generation.

NHAI awards two highway projects under TOT model for Rs 6,584 crore

New Delhi, Oct 30: National Highways Authority of India on Sunday said it has awarded two highway projects with a combined length of 400 km under the toll-operate-transfer (TOT) model for Rs 6,584 crore. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), in a statement, said the two bundles (11 and 12) consist of Allahabad Bypass on NH19 in Uttar Pradesh and the Lalitpur Sagar-Lakhnadon section in the state of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. According to the statement, the TOT bundle 11 for the 84 km long Allahabad Bypass on NH19 in Uttar Pradesh has been awarded to Cube Highways and Infrastructure Ltd for Rs 2,156 crore.

India 5G rollout fastest in world but revenues not picked up: COAI DG

New Delhi, Oct 30: Rollout of 5G network in India has been the fastest in the world but revenue has not picked up as apps that are generating 80 per cent of the traffic are not paying for the network, a top official of the telecom industry body COAI said. While speaking with PTI at India Mobile Congress, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) Director General S P Kochhar said telecom players do not want to burden consumers but someone has to bear the cost of investment being made in the network. "The 5G rollout has been very good. It has set world records with the fastest 5G rollout. But having said that, I'm a little constrained to say that the revenues for the tele-



com industry have not picked up," Kochhar said. He said a huge amount of capital expenditure is being invested to roll out these networks. "The private players who are rolling this out definitely expect the return on that. That unfortunately is not happening on the scale as which it should. 5G rollout has brought in 4-5 large en-

tities who are consuming 80 per cent of telecom networks bandwidth but not paying revenue," Kochhar said. Internet companies and their lobbies have said that the proposal of telecom players if accepted will adversely impact start-up ecosystems in India and throttle innovation. Kochhar said that such arguments are misleading. "There are only 4-5 large traffic generators (LTG) who are making huge profit. Start-up ecosystem consumes only about 1.8 per cent of total traffic which is very small. We want MSMEs to be exempted from this proposal but those who are consuming 80 per cent of the bandwidth should pay to support infrastructure," Kochhar said.

India calls for initiating formal talks on WTO's dispute settlement body reforms

New Delhi, Oct 30: India has called for starting formal negotiations by WTO members to reform the dispute settlement body of the World Trade Organisation, as the present informal deliberations are creating hindrance for several nations to participate in the talks, an official said. The official added that formal talks on the subject can help in arriving at some kind of consensus by the 13th ministerial conference (MC), the highest decision making body of the WTO, in Abu Dhabi in February next year. The issue came up for discussion during a recent meeting of senior officials of WTO members in

Geneva last week. Certain countries flagged their concerns on the informal system of talks. "We have to formalise this process as soon as possible. India stated that if you want to maintain the WTO's credibility, we need to talk on this," the official said. WTO's dispute settlement body (DSB) is one of the important arms of the 164-member Geneva-based body. Besides monitoring global exports and imports related rules, it adjudicates trade disputes between the member countries. "The US has started engaging in DSB reforms, but in an informal setting. In this setting, not all members get the opportunity to talk.

JK receives investment proposal worth Rs 86,000 crore: LG Manoj Sinha

Pulwama, Oct 30:

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said the Union Territory has received investment proposals worth Rs 86,000 crore as the region has emerged as a favourite destination for investors in the country and abroad. "Investment proposals to the tune of Rs 86,000 crore have come to the Industries and Commerce Department. People from within the country and outside are considering J&K as a favourite investment destination," Sinha said while addressing a function at the Industrial Complex at Lassipora, 35 kilometres from Srinagar. Sinha, who



inaugurated 12 controlled atmosphere stores here, said the government was working to ensure that these investment proposals are translated into tangible projects for the development and prosperity of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. "We are working to bring these proposals to

the ground level, but there can be no development without peace. While security forces will do their job, people will have to raise their voices against attempts to disrupt peace. Innocents will not be harmed or put to unease, but we will not spare the criminals," he added. Referring to the controlled atmosphere stores as a fruitful business option, Sinha said the 12 stores, which have been dedicated to the public, will prove to be a boon for the farmers. "It (the new stores) has increased the capacity by 60,000 tonnes and will give employment to 500 to 600 persons. This is just the beginning, there is room for more.

Airtel collaborates with Microsoft to enable integrated calling through Microsoft Teams

New Delhi, Oct 30: Bharti Airtel, one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, announced that it has partnered with Microsoft to offer Indian organizations calling services over Microsoft Teams through an integration with Airtel IQ. With Airtel IQ for Microsoft Teams, enterprises will soon be able to enjoy greater flexibility in connecting with customers across the country over fixed line through the internet. This new service will enable enterprises to make and take calls to external users through the Teams experience streamlining communications and collaboration within the flow of

work. Abhishek Biswal – Business Head, Airtel IQ said, "We are delighted to partner with Microsoft to bring an agile, flexible and innovative solution to ease one of the biggest issues facing Indian enterprises today. Airtel's traditional strength of connectivity combined with Microsoft's technology will result in reliability, cost savings, ease of management and, most importantly, scalability for all customers, ensuring that going forward they can focus solely on productivity." Airtel IQ for Microsoft Teams is a plug and play solution that can be set up within a day with minimum provisioning and management.

Nadda exposes corruption in Chh'garh

Campaign rally sheds light on scams and false promises

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Oct 30: During his visit for election campaigning, BJP's National President Jagat Prasad Nadda delivered a powerful speech, shedding light on the alleged corruption and false promises of the Chhattisgarh Congress government.

Addressing the Vijay Sankalp Maharatna held in the Dongargarh and Khairagarh constituencies, Nadda accused the Congress government of presiding over a regime rife with scandals.

Nadda specifically pointed to various corruption cases, including the liquor scam, rice scam, land scam, coal scam, sand scam, transfer-posting scam, DMF scam, and saree purchase scam.

He argued that these cases expose the government's policies and intentions, painting a picture of a government mired in corruption.



The BJP National President expressed confidence in the people's resolve to remove this allegedly corrupt and anti-development government and replace it with a BJP administration.

Nadda sought votes for Dongargarh candidate Vinod Khandekar and Khairagarh candidate

Vikramt Singh, emphasizing the BJP's commitment to serving the people, in contrast to what he characterized as a Congress party engaged in corruption.

Nadda went on to criticize those who, in his words, "make false oaths with holy water from the Ganges" and suggested that individuals facing corruption charges cannot be considered honest.

He highlighted the contrast in opportunities, noting that during Congress rule, the children of officers have ascended to positions of power while the children of the poor, labourers, and farmers remain unemployed.

During the campaign, BJP candidates Vinod Khandekar and Vikramt Singh, accompanied by Nadda, sought the blessings of the public for their victory at various loca-

tions, including Thelakadh, Itwari Bazaar in Khairagarh, Shaheed Park in Chuikhadan, and Gandai in front of the co-operative bank.

The election rally featured speeches by senior BJP leaders, including MP Santosh Pandey, and was marked by a warm reception from enthusiastic BJP workers, who welcomed Nadda with flower garlands and fireworks.



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Rs 15 lakh aid for deceased videographer's family

Central Chronicle News

Arang, Oct 30: District Election Officer and Collector Dr. Sureshwar Narendra Bhure provided much-needed assistance to the grieving family of the deceased videographer, Dhananjay Dheever, who tragically lost his life during election duty in Paragaon.

On October 20, when an uncontrollable truck caused severe injuries to Dhananjay Dheever, he was immediately recognized by Collector Dr. Sureshwar Narendra Bhure. The Collector recommended an ex-gratia amount of Rs 15 lakh under the election rules to support the videographer's family. The Chief Election Officer of Chhattisgarh promptly approved the grant, and Returning Officer Dr. Atul



Vishwakarma handed over the Rs 15 lakh check to the closest relative of the deceased, Indra Kumar Dheever (father), offering condolences to him and his family.

The incident, which involved a truck damaging the election duty setup at the check post barricade point, led to serious injuries to Dhananjay

Dheever, who was subsequently declared dead at the Arang Community Health Center. The Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Collector, and Superintendent of Police (SP) personally visited the incident site and accompanied the grieving relatives to the hospital, providing support during this difficult time.

High-stakes battle in Kurud: Tarini vs Ajay

Can Tarini secure victory for Congress or Ajay's winning streak continue?

Informed and vigilant voters expected to shape the outcome

Central Chronicle News

Kurud, Oct 30: As the Kurud Assembly election in 2023 takes center stage, the question on everyone's mind is whether Tarini can clinch victory for Congress or if Ajay's winning streak will endure.

This electoral contest has become the talk of the town, with BJP workers striving to secure their leader's victory and assert BJP's dominance, while Congress supporters express unwavering confidence in Tarini Chandrakar's potential victory.

The influence of the previous election, where



Congress candidate Neelam Chandrakar contested independently after failing to secure a Congress ticket, played a significant role in the Congress candidate's eventual loss. Now he is contesting with Congress ticket, this factor remains a crucial element that could sway the outcome of the upcoming election.

The Kurud constituency, known for its consistently high voter turnout

throughout the state, is poised to make a resounding statement once more. On November 17, when voters exercise their democratic right and cast their ballots, they will contribute to a robust and impactful mandate.

It's worth noting that from 2008 to 2018, the vigilant Kurud electorate achieved the highest voter turnout percentage in the entire state three times. Neelam Chandrakar, who

served as a Congress MLA from 2008 to 2013, lost the position in 2013 with the 27,177-vote margin, now back in the electoral race.

Chandrakar's unwavering dedication to development, education, health care, innovation, and skill development in the region may help him this time. Similarly, in 2018, despite the state's political landscape undergoing changes due to public dissatisfaction with the BJP government, Kurud voters continued to place their trust in Ajay's capability and make him winner.

These historical precedents affirm that Kurud's well-informed and vigilant voters are likely to once again play a pivotal role in shaping the outcome of the 2023 Vidhan Sabha elections.

District gears up for paddy procurement

Enhanced facilities and more centers for farmers' convenience

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Oct 30: With just three days remaining for the paddy procurement season in the district, committees are bustling with activity, leaving no room for gaps in the process. Grains have already begun flowing into the procurement centers, and this year's determination to ensure a smooth operation is unwavering, despite the added challenge of elections.

Farmers in the district are actively engaged in both manual and mechanized paddy harvesting, while procurement committees are adding the final touches to their preparations. Bags filled with paddy grains are meticulously cleaned and placed on platforms.

In a bid to prevent theft during the night, adequate



lighting arrangements have been made at the procurement centers. Furthermore, facilities such as toilets and clean drinking water have been fully provided to ensure the convenience of farmers selling their produce.

In a notable expansion from the previous year, paddy procurement will take place through 105 centers operated by 66 committees this season, compared

to 101 centers before. The district has witnessed an increase in registered farmers, with 9,207 new registrations, bringing the total to 103,846 farmers. The paddy procurement target for the district this year stands at an impressive 4,80,000 metric tons.

Preparations are also in progress to establish new paddy procurement centers in Motimpur, Dhapai, Kona, and Aurabandha.

While biometric machines are yet to arrive at the centers, discussions are underway to issue biometric tokens at all centers, simplifying the process and alleviating the need for farmers to wake up at the crack of dawn or spend entire nights at the committees, a practice from previous years. Despite delays in machine delivery, the commitment to farmer welfare remains resolute.

Shiv Sena's support bolsters BJP's state assembly election prospects

Central Chronicle News

Arang, Oct 30: The political landscape in Chhattisgarh is buzzing with excitement as the state gears up for the upcoming Assembly elections. In a significant development, the Shiv Sena of the Arang constituency has chosen not to field its own candidate but instead throw its weight behind the BJP candidate, Guru Khushvant Sahab.

The decision was made official during a workers conference organized by the Arang BJP, where all Shiv Sainiks, under the leadership of Shiv Sena District General Secretary Rakesh Sharma, extended their support to the BJP candidate.



This show of unity also garnered support for former Union Law Minister and current BJP MP Ravi Shankar Prasad, along with esteemed leaders of the Arang BJP.

In a symbolic gesture of solidarity, the BJP honored all Shiv Sena members present at the event by presenting them with saffron scarves. The gathering

was graced by the presence of Arang Constituency President Raja Tode, Vice President Badal Suryavanshi, Arang Nagar President Raj Dubey, Organizational In-charge Vyash Sonkar, and many more prominent figures from both parties, fostering a spirit of collaboration and unity in the upcoming elections.

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Oct 30: The police have taken decisive action against the operators and managers of Anya Hospital for their negligence in maternal care. Mahendra Sahu, the hospital operator, and manager Jitendra Sahu have been apprehended by Lormi police and subsequently sent to judicial custody. They now face charges under Section 304 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code.

This development sheds light on the pressing issue of unlicensed nursing homes operating in the district due to administrative indifference. These establishments often start their operations

with a simple application, resulting in increased instances of negligence and endangering the lives of patients.

The incident came to public attention when Durgesh Kumar Rajput, a resident of Gram Junapara, Tikatpur, reported the matter to the Lormi police station on October 27. He recounted that on the night of October 26-27, he had taken his pregnant wife, Sharada Rajput, to Lormi Government Hospital for delivery.

Due to complications, she was referred to Anya Hospital in Lormi, where negligence during a series of operations tragically led to the loss of Sharada Rajput's life.



During their investigation, the police questioned the operator Mahendra Sahu and manager Jitendra Sahu of Anya Hospital, requesting documentation related to hospital operations and urging them to call qualified doctors for treat-

ment. However, they were unable to provide valid documents, revealing that the hospital had been operating without a license and employing unqualified surgeons, resulting in the unfortunate death of the pregnant woman.

In response to these findings, the hospital was promptly sealed, and the accused were charged under Section 304 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code. Throughout the investigation, several dedicated officers played crucial roles in uncovering the truth and ensuring justice.

This incident underscores the critical need to address unlicensed nursing homes operating solely for profit, ultimately jeopardizing the lives of patients. It is imperative that the facilities and standards outlined in the Nursing Home Act are upheld and maintained for the safety and well-being of the community.

Harmony Cricket match promotes 100% voting commitment

SVEEP team triumphs over Media team by 5 wickets

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Oct 30: In a bid to boost voter awareness and commitment, the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) campaign orchestrated a thrilling Harmony Cricket Match between SVEEP Eleven and Media Eleven.

The 15-over showdown, hosted at Raghuraj Singh Stadium, witnessed SVEEP triumph over Media Eleven by 5 wickets. Collector Avanish Sharan led SVEEP, while Press Club President Irshad Ali captained the Media team, with Superintendent of Police Ajay Yadav inaugurating the event.



In the match, the Media team won the toss and opted to bat first, setting a target of 92 runs for SVEEP after scoring 91 runs. SVEEP achieved the target with 2 overs to spare, showcasing exceptional batting skills.

Following the match, Captain Irshad Ali pre-

sented the Election Trophy to winning captain Collector Avanish Sharan, while Collector Sharan awarded the Runner-up Trophy to the Media team.

The accolades continued as Captain Avanish Sharan was declared the

Man of the Match, Roshan Vaidya from the Media team earned the title of Best Batsman, and Ajay Agrawal from SVEEP was honored as the Best Wicketkeeper.

Collector commended the successful organization of the Harmony

Match by the local Media team and the Bilaspur Municipal Corporation, emphasizing the positive environment it created for 100% voting in the district.

He urged everyone to maintain this momentum leading up to the election date on November 17th. Captain Irshad Ali applauded the event's organization and highlighted the Press Club's efforts in raising awareness about 100% voting among the public.

SP Santosh Singh praised the SVEEP Campaign's record entries in the Golden Book of Campaigns, expressing his joy and best wishes. Municipal Commissioner Kunal Dudawat delivered the vote of thanks.

Central Chronicle News

Pithora, Oct 30: Local police are actively pursuing leads after unknown thieves targeted the residence of Mahendra Sahu, located near Pushpavatika in the city and made off with cash and jewellery, including gold and silver ornaments, prompting the victim to report the theft to the police.

The incident unfolded when unidentified thieves gained entry into Mahendra Sahu's home during the night. They ab-

sconded with a pair of silver anklets, a gold mangal-

sutra, various gold orna-

ments, and 5 grams of gold grains, along with a sum of 7,000 rupees in cash. Mahendra Sahu, the victim, explained that he had left for his sister's place in K a m a r u d Mahasamund with his family at 11 am on the morning of the 28th.

Upon returning home at 4:30 pm on the 29th, he was met with a broken door and a ransacked house. The open almirah revealed the loss of valuable items, leading him to promptly report the incident to the police and seek immediate action.

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Pakistan expected to give all in must-win clash against Bangladesh

Kolkata, Oct 30 (PTI):

All but out of semifinal race, Pakistan would be desperate to snap their four-match losing streak and add some semblance of respect to their floundering campaign when they take on an equally struggling Bangladesh in their do-or-die World Cup match here on Tuesday.

Pakistan have just four points in their kitty and they can add a maximum of six more to touch 10 by the end of league stage.

Three teams are already above Pakistan and it would be a miracle of sorts if they make it to the knockout stage.

The multiple favourable results are highly unlikely given the fact that Australia have regained their form and New Zealand have also emerged as one of the toughest sides to beat in this tournament.

As of today India and South Africa look certain to make the cut while the Trans-Tasman rivals are looking in good shape to grab the other two spots for the semifinals.

Pakistan will not have to just win their remaining matches but they need to win with big margins to



swell their net run rate (currently minus 0.205). A defeat against Bangladesh will certainly knock the 1992 champions out of the showpiece.

In such a scenario, it is expected that Pakistan players will go all-out and give their all. At a time when their batters have failed to last the distance in four of their six outings, it's Pakistan's bowling attack that has shone through. On a seamer-friendly Eden wicket that offered some extra bounce from short of the length during the first match on Saturday, the likes of Shaheen Shah Afridi, Haris Rauf and Mohammad Wasim will

hope to hand Bangladesh the early blows.

Pakistan's biggest positive is sparkling show by Mohammad Wasim junior who made his World Cup debut in place of an indisposed Hasan Ali against South Africa.

Wasim returned with figures of 2/62 but the way he created pressure, especially at the death over against Keshav Maharaj, was a big plus for the embattled side.

Wasim is expected to retain his place as Pakistan would look to rattle the Bangladeshi batters who have been struggling in the tournament. Pakistan's biggest let down has been their batters who

have failed to last the full quota of 50 overs on four occasions. The buck will certainly stop with skipper Babar Azam, their best batter, who has not been converting his starts into big scores.

Babar has so far struck three fifties and he could be eyeing a big score against Bangladesh.

On the other hand, all is not well in the Shakib Al Hasan-led Bangladesh camp. Their batters have failed to post big totals. In their previous match against the Netherlands, four of their top-six batters failed to score in double digits to be bundled out for 142 in a chase of 230.

It was their sixth defeat on the trot for the Bangla Tigers.

"You can say that it's the worst World Cup without any doubt," Shakib had admitted after their 87-run loss to the Netherlands here on Saturday.

"It is hard to swallow, very difficult to digest. But these things can happen in cricket."

Bangladesh have just two points from six matches and they are currently at ninth spot in the 10-team league.

Match starts from 2pm IST.

Shahidi, Omarzai, Rahmat bring more glory to Afghanistan

Pune, Oct 30 (PTI):

In a stunning upset against Sri Lanka, Afghanistan managed to secure a convincing seven-wicket win, successfully chasing down a target of 243 runs in just 45.2 overs while losing only three wickets in the process.

This triumphant victory over Sri Lanka in the World Cup match has brought immense glory to their cricketing journey.

What sets this victory apart is the measured and professional approach that Afghanistan displayed throughout their innings. Unlike their past tendencies to engage in high-risk cricket that often led to wicket clusters, the team exhibited a newfound sense of calm and self-belief, a transformation that seemed to have solidified after their previous wins against Pakistan and England. Their batting displayed a remarkable combination of restraint when necessary and maintaining a steady run rate, showcasing their remarkable consistency in this World Cup.

The match was marked by standout performances from key players. Ibrahim



Afghanistan's Fazalhaq Farooqi (L) celebrates with teammates after taking the wicket of Sri Lanka's Charith Asalanka.

Zadran contributed with 39 runs, Rahmat Shah played a pivotal role with 62 runs, Hashmatullah Shahidi made a significant impact with 58 runs, and Azmatullah Omarzai was the star of the show with a remarkable 73 runs. This collective effort with the bat, coupled with a disciplined approach, allowed Afghanistan to achieve a memorable victory.

On the bowling front, Afghanistan's Fazalhaq Farooqi made a resounding statement by grabbing

four crucial wickets, effectively dismantling Sri Lanka's batting lineup. Farooqi's fiery pace posed significant challenges for the Sri Lankan batsmen. Furthermore, Afghanistan's spinners, including Mujeeb Ur Rahman and Rashid Khan, displayed the right intent and energy, creating pressure and limiting the scoring opportunities for in-form Sri Lankan batters.

Despite the absence of significant assistance from the pitch,

Afghanistan's bowlers maintained tight lengths and varied their pace effectively, preventing Sri Lanka from capitalizing on their starts and falling well short of a competitive total.

While Pathum Nissanka showcased confidence and composure in his batting, it was Azmat Omarzai who eventually got his wicket. Nissanka, one of Sri Lanka's most consistent batters in the tournament, was unable to convert his start into a substantial score. Afghanistan's disciplined bowling and fielding strategies continued to pay dividends, with wickets falling at regular intervals.

In the end, Afghanistan's victory was a testament to their evolving cricketing prowess, marked by their ability to maintain composure under pressure and execute their game plan with precision. Their incredible journey in the World Cup has been a source of inspiration and pride for cricket fans in Afghanistan and around the world, further solidifying their position as a formidable cricketing nation.

Shooter Anish Bhanwala wins bronze

And India's 12th Paris Olympics quota place



the silver medal. Local favourite Lee Gunhyeok took home the gold. Bhanwala fetched the quota for the Paris Games by qualifying for the final as China, Japan and Korea have already exhausted their two Olympic quotas each in the event. Apart from

New Delhi, Oct 30 (PTI):

Commonwealth Games gold medallist shooter Anish Bhanwala bagged India's 12th Paris Olympic quota in shooting as he clinched a bronze medal in the men's 25m rapid pistol fire event at the Asian Championships in Changwon, Korea on Monday.

The 21-year-old from Karnal, who had 28 hits in the final, lost a shoot out to Japan's Dai Yoshioka, who won

Bhanwala, all the other shooters who made it to the final were from China, Japan and Korea. Bhanwala shot 588 to finish third in the qualification stage and move to the final.

Another Indian competing in the event, Bhavesh Shekhawat shot 584 to be among the top-eight in the qualification but could not enter the final as he was competing for ranking points only (RPO). He was not eligible for the final.

Indian team is so dominant that it has not been tested in World Cup: Graeme Smith

Mumbai, Oct 30 (PTI):



The balance might have been affected due to Hardik Pandya's untimely ankle injury but even then the Indian team has hardly faced any tough test in the ongoing World Cup, feels former South Africa skipper Graeme Smith.

Indian team has been in rollicking form in the league stage as they have recorded crushing victories in all six matches so far to firmly place itself at top of 10-team table.

"India have been so dominant that they have not even been tested yet in the tournament. Last night probably, with a 230 total (against England) was perhaps the first time you could say, but it was a tough wicket and it showed that. They have been very dominant so far," Smith told PTI in an exclusive interview here on Monday.

Smith made no bones in admitting that India as a team, over the years, has been a formidable opposition at home. "India, at home, are always tough to beat. They play so well in

their conditions. You have got the balance, the bowling attack has weapons with fast bowling and great spinners, you have got a lot of bases covered," he added. "One worry at the moment is that you are playing one extra bowler because of that injury to Hardik Pandya. They have lost a little bit of balance that he brings," he said.

"If you play against a team that gets you into trouble, say you are three or four (wickets) down, you are a batter short you are missing that all-rounder. "But (the) thing from watching India and the IPL, you have got players that have played in big situations a lot in their career and they have always managed to find a way," Smith said.

Talk with Bumrah and Shami is all tactical and nothing technical: Mhambrey

Lucknow, Oct 30 (PTI):



Such is the class and skill of Mohammed Shami and Jasprit Bumrah that India's bowling coach Paras Mhambrey doesn't need to discuss anything technical with them. Their talk is all tactical. Shami and Bumrah produced a sizzling spell of fast bowling to set a 100-run victory over England here on Sunday, India's sixth in a row.

There was bit of help in the air and off the pitch but it was a sight to see the wily duo getting the best out of the surface under lights. Shami's 10 ball burst against Ben Stokes was a sight to behold with the champion England all-rounder having no answer to the Indian pacer's relentless pursuit.

Both Bumrah and Shami are at the top of their game and they don't need to be told anything on the technical front, said Mhambrey.

Having missed the first four games due to the team combination, Shami has made himself undroppable with his performances

against New Zealand and England. "When you have such kind of skills-set in the team, what Shami and others bring, you really don't need to have a discussion over it. These guys have played enough cricket and understand what is needed by the team. "I wish I could say this that we had a team discussion and planned for this. The quality of the bowlers we have in the team, the experience they bring to the table, it makes my job easier."

"It is all about man-management at this level. They have played enough cricket; they understand bowling inside out. I don't explain much about the technical bit but only about the tactical bit."

Pakistan head coach blames World Cup debacle on 'foreign Indian conditions'

Kolkata, Oct 30 (PTI):



Pakistan are hurt by their woeful World Cup show and their head coach Grant Bradburn on Monday blamed it on "foreign" Indian conditions and their lack of familiarity with the venues.

Four defeats on the trot have virtually dashed Pakistan's semifinal hopes. They have to win their remaining three matches by big margins and hope that other teams' results also favoured them to have any chance of making it to the last-four stage. "We are in a position that we didn't want to be. We are determined at this stage of the tournament to be in control of our destiny but we're not. That hurts the group," said the Pakistani coach on the eve of their match against Bangladesh here on Tuesday. "This tournament is on foreign conditions for us. None of our players have played here before. Every venue is a new one, including this one," he added. Bradburn

said his side have done their homework meticulously. "We've done our homework meticulously on our opposition, on our venues that we're playing at, and we're prepared very, very well for each and every encounter."

"But the reality is that each and every venue is a new one for us and we don't feel disadvantaged at all in terms of the knowledge, the quality, the skill, the backing that we have for this team of cricketers," he said.

The former Scotland coach, who had served as Pakistan's fielding coach and then consultant, was handed the reins by the PCB on a two-year deal in May.

Surya's superior performance will put Iyer's slot in danger

New Delhi, Oct 30 (PTI):

Suryakumar Yadav is an antithesis to what proverbial Mumbai school of batsmanship is all about - dollops of doggedness in a fine mixture of style and class. Style and class has never been a problem with 'SKY'. He has given ample display of that in T20 cricket, a format he has bossed with remarkable ease. However some of his low scores in ODIs did raise questions if he is unable to blend a bit of serenity in his all or nothing approach, which is perfectly in sync with T20s but not the 50-over format.

But on Sunday, at the Ekana Stadium in arguably the toughest batting conditions of the current World Cup, Surya channelised his inner Mumbaikar to play an innings which would be rated very highly in terms of responsibility and substance quotient.

The 49 off 47 balls on a track, where it was extremely difficult to just plonk front-foot and hit through the line, showed



why the team management had way more faith in his abilities compared to a few other players, who missed the World Cup bus. And not only did Surya do a world of good for himself but also put Shreyas Iyer under considerable amount of pressure going into the matches going forward. Hardik Pandya, who is nursing a left ankle grade 1 sprain (damage to fibers of ligament), is ex-

pected to come back towards the business end of the league stage and a debate could ensue who should stay in playing XI: Iyer who is enduring a low string of scores or Surya who has proved what he could do in critical situations.

"We all know what Surya can do in T20Is. What was impressive was how he read the situation and was ready to play the second fiddle till Rohit was at the crease. It was a top class innings keeping conditions in mind and he only played his customary pick-up shot behind square when he knew that it is time to attack," former national selector Jatin Paranjape said.

"On Sunday, you saw that 'khadoos' Mumbaikar in Surya where he was ready to show the other side of his batting. And if you ask me about what happens when Hardik comes back, I would like to see Surya continue in his role and KL (Rahul) can bat at No. 4 in place of Shreyas Iyer," opined Paranjape.

Leader Rohit: Setting perfect example with 'impact' instead of numbers

New Delhi, Oct 30 (PTI):

A day before the 2017 IPL final between Mumbai Indians and Rising Pune Super Giants, Rohit Sharma had to take a tough decision.

Two-time champion MI skipper Rohit was gunning for a hat-trick of titles and had to choose between leg-spinner Karn Sharma or senior off-spinner Harbhajan Singh, who had his best days behind him but was still a force to reckon with in big games.

Rohit went to Harbhajan's hotel room, spoke to him about the possible team combination he is planning to field and ensured that the feisty 'Turbanator' doesn't feel hurt or insulted on missing out on IPL final.

That is what Rohit brings to the table as a captain of a high-stakes national team in a ruthless world of professional sport -- the human ele-

ment in a universe where end justifies the means.

The final result is always sacrosanct but there are characters, who can't be judged by results and Rohit falls in that category. The manner in which he has led the Indian team, you want him to stay as long as his mind and body allows him to shoulder the responsibility.

Before the World Cup in an exclusive interview to PTI, Rohit had spoken how he wanted to create memories during the World Cup with this team. And 25 days

into the tournament, there is no doubt that the Indian skipper is walking the talk and leading from the front with his inspirational knocks.

Kapil Dev was a doer, Mohammed Azharuddin



stincts, Rahul Dravid was more into methods, MS Dhoni was a general with firm grip and Virat Kohli is the alpha-male everyone looks up to. So where does Rohit fit in among the Indian captains, who have led the country in previous World Cups since 1983? Rohit will always be there as someone who was, is and will remain a 'Players' Captain' as the H a r b h a j a n episode will give you an example.

The difference between captain and leader is very subtle and a lot of people get caught somewhere in between. They suffer the most as the crown sits heavy on the head and the team also gets affected. But bringing his own brand of captaincy, where he is colleague, elder brother and team boss at the same time has worked wonderfully well with the

'Hit-Man'. He exactly knows when he needs Shardul Thakur and what exactly are the situations where a big name like Ravichandran Ashwin will fit into the system. He understands what is Suryakumar Yadav's role in the side and why Kuldeep Yadav is absolutely indispensable in this ODI set-up.

Make no mistake, when England arrive for Test series next year, if Rohit leads the side (he most probably will), you will perhaps find Axar Patel playing ahead of Kuldeep and that is because that will be the need of the hour. In his head, Rohit is the most secured man, who knows what he needs to do and how his expectations and goals will be perceived by 14 others, who share that change room with him.

A secured individual always has clarity in his decision-making and herein Rohit has already passed the test with distinction.



BRS MP stabbed during poll campaign

● **KCR calls it attack on himself**

Hyderabad, Oct 30 (PTI):

BRS assembly election candidate Kotha Prabhakar Reddy was on Monday stabbed while he was campaigning in Siddipet district by a 38-year-old man, police said.

The accused, identified as Raju, was taken into custody following the incident and a case was registered against him on the charge of attempt to murder, they said.

Prabhakar Reddy, who is an MP from Medak Lok Sabha constituency, suffered injuries in his stomach and was shifted to a hospital in Hyderabad after initially being rushed to a hospital in Gajwel of Siddipet district. His condition is



BRS MP and party candidate Kotha Prabhakar Reddy undergoes treatment.



Raju, who allegedly stabbed BRS MP, being taken into custody.

said to be stable, police

in Surampalli of said. The accused who came to meet the MP went close to him and attacked him with a knife, Siddipet Commissioner of Police N Swetha said. Some party workers immediately caught hold of the accused and handed him over to the police.

The incident took place in

Doulthabad mandal when Prabhakar Reddy, who has been fielded by BRS from Dubbak for the November 30 assembly elections, was campaigning, police said.

Reacting to the incident, Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao said at a rally in Banskada that everyone should unequivocally condemn the attack on the candidate.

"I am saying the attack on our Dubbak candidate is an attack on me," he said.

"If the attacks are not stopped, if there is no self control, we also have courage. If we also resort to the same acts, you will not remain. Even (your) dust also will not remain," he further said.

He appealed to the people of Telangana and intellectuals to condemn violence in politics.

HOMAGE TO SARDAR PATEL



School students pay homage to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a day before his birth anniversary, in Surat, Monday.

CM Chouhan files nomination papers from Budhni

MP POLLS

Bhopal, Oct 30 (PTI):

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Monday filed his nomination papers from his traditional Budhni seat for the November 17 Assembly polls in the state.

Monday was the last date for filing nominations, while scrutiny will take place on Tuesday. Votes will be counted on December 3.

Before filing his nomination papers in the presence of wife Sadhna, the chief minister performed puja of his ancestral deity in his native Jait village, prayed at Salkanpur Devi



MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan during his election campaign for Assembly polls in Seoni in Narmadapuram district, Monday.

temple and sought blessings of Narmada river, considered the lifeline of the state and revered by its people. Chouhan, who led a roadshow on the occa-

sion, urged people to "consider themselves as Shivraj" and ensure his victory on the basis of welfare works he has done in his political career.

Nomination filing process begins for Raj assembly polls

Jaipur, Oct 30 (PTI):

The nomination filing process for the November 25 Rajasthan assembly polls formally started on Monday with the state's chief secretary issuing a gazette notification for the conduct of the election.

The last date for submission of the nomination papers is November 6. With permission from Governor Kalraj Mishra and the recommendation of the Election Commission of India (ECI), Chief Secretary Usha Sharma issued the notification, an official statement said. The ECI further issued a notification according to sections 30 and 56 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, to announce the schedule of the election process, it said.

Chief Election Officer

(CEO) Praveen Gupta said the notification of the schedule of the polls would be followed by public notices from returning officers (RO) of all 200 assembly constituencies on October 30.

This information will be posted at the offices of the ROs, assistant ROs and other important offices across the state. For the process of filing nomination papers, November 5 will be a day off. The papers will be scrutinised by November 7 and November 9 will be the last date for the withdrawal of names. As per the schedule declared by the ECI, in Rajasthan, polling for the assembly elections will be conducted in one phase on November 25 by casting of votes through EVMs between 7 am and 6 pm. The counting of votes will be done on December 3.

Kamal Nath slams 'corrupt' BJP rule

● **Says all work gets done through bribes**

Indore, Oct 30 (PTI):

Madhya Pradesh Congress chief Kamal Nath on Monday said the level of corruption was such under BJP rule in the state that even people owning 50 acres of land can get themselves into the 'below poverty line' (BPL) list by paying bribes.

Dubbing Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan as "thagraj" (king of cheats), Nath alleged the latter had deceived the people of the state in his 18-year rule.

"A system of corruption has been created in the state. Give money and get work done. Yesterday, I was in Raisen and Vidisha. I was told corrup-



everything. They have made Madhya Pradesh 'chaupat' (rundown/tattered) state. There are about one crore unemployed youths in the state," he said, adding Chouhan was only making false announcements.

Addressing the gathering, Punjab Congress president Amrinder Singh Raja Warring, without mentioning the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, said the Bharatiya Janata Party was spreading lies that Nath was involved in atrocities against the community.

"No FIR has been registered against Kamal Nath, but BJP has started fearing him. That's why they send sardars (Sikhs) from Delhi who spread false propaganda that he had committed atrocities (on Sikhs)," the Punjab Congress chief said.

BJP alleges deliberate removal of party symbol and flags by officials

● **Moves EC**

Bhopal, Oct 30 (PTI):

A BJP delegation on Monday approached the Madhya Pradesh chief electoral officer alleging that some officials at the district level are deliberately removing the party's flags and the symbol from vehicles of BJP workers and private houses in violation of the model code of conduct.

The BJP argued that installing the party flag and the poll symbol (lotus) on private two-wheelers and houses is not a violation of the poll code and sought the

MP ELECTIONS

direction of the CEO to officials. Senior leader and Union minister Bhupender Yadav claimed the Chief Electoral Officer has agreed to BJP's demand and assured that a circular would be issued and the matter taken up with the concerned offi-

cial. Yadav, the BJP in-charge of Madhya Pradesh assembly elections, led the delegation which handed a memorandum to CEO Anupam Rajan.

"We have submitted a memorandum to the election commission demanding that officials must be instructed not to remove flags from private two-wheelers and houses. Installing the

party flag and symbols doesn't violate the model code of conduct. Some officials have deliberately removed our party symbol," Yadav told reporters after meeting the CEO.

He said the BJP has also submitted a copy of the letter from the election commission which has allowed BJP workers to display the party flag on their private vehicles and properties in accordance with the rule.

For Bru families resettled in Tripura, Mizoram polls non-issue

Damcherra (Tripura), Oct 30 (PTI):

Hundreds of Bru families from Mizoram, who had migrated and settled in neighbouring Tripura following ethnic clashes, do not bother about the assembly elections in their home state.

The 40-member Mizoram assembly goes to the polls on November 7.

The names of more than 6,000 Bru voters from nine assembly constituencies in three districts - Mamit, Kolasib and Lunglei - have been deleted from the Mizoram voters' list following their resettlement in Tripura. "We have no interest in Mizoram elec-

tions even if some of us had voted there in the last polls. Now, we are permanent residents of Tripura following the 2020 historic accord. It hardly matters to us who comes to power in that state," Charles, secretary of Kaskoupata Bru resettlement village in North Tripura district, told PTI.

During the 2018 Mizoram assembly elections, a large number of Bru voters who were then staying in relief camps in Tripura came to their home state and voted at 15 special polling booths created for them in Kanhmun village along the interstate border after public

outrage over their place of voting. Charles said Brus had tried to live in Mizoram peacefully, but could not because of skirmishes with the majority Mizo community.

"We are happy that the refugee status no longer haunts us. Now, the Brus are permanent residents of Tripura. We are not concerned about Mizoram at all, but are focused on the future of thousands of Bru brothers and sisters," he said. Bru migrant voters had been able to exercise their franchise for the first time in many years during the Tripura assembly elections in February. Special efforts were made

to enrol voters from the community.

Nishikanta Reang, one of the members of the Bru tribal community also known as Reangs, is also not concerned about Mizoram elections.

"I have no time to think about elections in Mizoram. Let them rule Mizoram as per their wish because we could not become part of the state even after being born there," the father of five lamented. "Sometimes, we remember our land where we were born and raised. But the past is past. We are now focused on the present and future," Charles said.

PUBLIC MEETING



Union Home Minister Amit Shah accompanied by Madhya Pradesh BJP president VD Sharma during a public meeting ahead of the assembly elections, in Ujjain.

PRCI celebrates World Communicators Day



Secunderabad, Oct 30:

Eminent speakers gathered at Secunderabad on 28th October to address a select group of PR professionals on the occasion of World Communicators Day. The day was celebrated with great enthusiasm followed by insightful discussions. The event aimed to shed light on the history of World Communicators Day.

Suraj Singh Malhotra, the Chairman and Managing Director of Namdhari Group, & Honorary Consul General of Lesotho, Southern Africa was the Chief Guest. He narrated his experiences through anec-

dotes and engaging stories. He conveyed the message that countries too practise diplomacy with all seriousness keeping in view the fact that each word spoken will set the tone for resolving issues. Eminent Sr Journalist, R Prithviraj, shared valuable insights into the evolution of communication and its role in shaping society.

K. Ravindran, Sr National Vice President, PRCI spoke on the significance of World Communicators Day and how it evolved on the basis of the first Press Release issued on 28th October in 1906 in USA. Shakeel Ahmed,

Chairman, PRCI Hyderabad welcomed the gathering and introduced the speakers.

Fredrick Michael, Director, Young Communicators Club (YCC), PRCI shared information on how PRCI supports young professionals from diverse backgrounds through mentorship.

TVS Narayan, Zonal Chairman, South Zone, PRCI gave an overview of PRCI activities with reference to the region. G. Aneja, Vice Chairperson, PRCI, Hyderabad presented the Vote of Thanks.

Earlier awardees were felicitated for their exemplary work & bringing laurels to the chapter. Philip Joshua, Secretary, Jacob Ross, Jt. Secretary, Noel Robinson, Treasurer of PRCI Hyderabad curated the event. Sarah Varadha compered the programme.

The event provided a unique platform for attendees to gain a deeper understanding of the importance of effective communication and its historical relevance.

Special call centre started to encourage migrant workers

● **To vote in MP assembly polls**

Indore, Oct 30 (PTI):

Kirla Dodwa (40), who works a cotton picker at a ginning factory in Surendranagar district of Gujarat, is among the thousands of tribals from western Madhya Pradesh who are forced to live far away from homes to earn their livelihood.

It is a big challenge for the Election Commission to motivate and encourage these migrant workers to come to their native place to vote in the Madhya Pradesh assembly elections.

A special call centre has been started in MP's Alirajpur district from Sunday to invite these migrant labourers to vote in the state polls scheduled on November 17, officials said.

Special posters and songs have also been prepared in local Bhili dialect to raise awareness

about voting among the migrant workers of the tribal community, they said. There has been large scale migration of people from the tribal-dominated Alirajpur district for employment. The district has two assembly seats - Alirajpur and Jobat.

According to government estimates, out of the total 5.66 lakh voters in the two seats, about 85,000 people have gone to the neighbouring states of Gujarat and Maharashtra for jobs.

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