



BRIEF



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during his visit to Kedarnath, in Rudraprayag district, Sunday.

Heavy rains

Thiruvananthapuram: As heavy rains lashed parts of Kerala, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Sunday issued an orange alert in three districts of the state for the day. The IMD issued an orange alert for Pathanamthitta, Idukki and Malappuram districts.

Contract

Shillong: Emergency services provider Medulance on Sunday announced that it had bagged the contract to run the health emergency services in Meghalaya. Equipped with 5G smart-connected ambulances, Medulance aims to reduce response and real-time patient monitoring while being shifted to hospitals in the challenging landscape, officials said here.

Seize

Barasat: The BSF on Sunday seized 17 gold bars valued at Rs 10.23 crore from a motorcyclist in West Bengal's Bagdah area in North 24 Parganas today close to the Indo-Bangladesh border. The 27-year-old man was apprehended, the BSF said in a statement. Acting on a tip-off, the border guards stopped a motorcycle at Ranghat locality and, after searching the 27-year-old rider, found the gold bars weighing 16.7 kg wrapped in a cloth from near his waist.

Multiple injuries

New Delhi: A 25-year-old man received multiple stab injuries on his neck and hand in an alleged attack by two men in Delhi's Nihal Vihar, police said on Sunday. According to police, a PCR call was received on Saturday evening that a man received multiple stab injuries on his neck and hand after two men attacked him near Hanuman Mandir. "A police team was dispatched to the location, which got to know that the victim had been shifted to a hospital. He was identified as Hashim, a resident of Nagloi," said a senior police official.

Consecration

Ayodhya: The rituals for the consecration ceremony of Ram temple here began on Sunday with 'akshat puja'. The 'akshat puja' is being performed at the 'Ram Darbar' or court of Lord Ram in the temple with the worship of about 100 quintals of whole grain rice mixed with turmeric and desi ghee, the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust said.

Campaigning

Aizawl: Campaigning for the November 7 Mizoram assembly elections ended at 4pm on Sunday with no reports of any law and order problems throughout the month-long period, additional chief electoral officer H Lianzela said.

Weather
High 31 Low 18

'Bharose Ka Ghoshna Patra 2023-28'

Cong promises caste census, higher paddy procurement price

Raipur, Nov 05:

The Congress on Sunday released its manifesto for the Chhattisgarh assembly polls, promising caste census, loan waiver to farmers, Rs 3,200 for per quintal for paddy procurement and subsidised cooking gas cylinders to women under a new scheme.

The ruling party in Chhattisgarh unveiled its manifesto titled 'Bharose ka Ghoshna Patra 2023-28' at six different places - Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Jagdalpur, Bilaspur, Ambikapur and Kawardha - two days before the first phase of the state polls.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel released the manifesto in Rajnandgaon while party's state in-



CM Bhupesh Baghel releases party's manifesto for the upcoming State Assembly elections during a press conference, in Raipur, Sunday.

charge Kumari Selja unveiled it in state capital Raipur.

Promises including loan waiver to farmers, caste census, procurement of paddy at 20 quintal per acre, free education to students from KG (kindergarten) to PG (post graduation) made by Congress leaders during their poll campaign have been men-

tioned in the manifesto.

Speaking at the launch of the manifesto, CM Baghel said farmers will get Rs 3,200 per quintal for paddy, including input subsidy currently being given under the Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojna to paddy cultivators.

Tenu leaf collection will be done at Rs 6,000 per standard sack in place of

Salient features....

Loan waiver to farmers, caste census, procurement of paddy at 20 quintal per acre, free education to students from KG (kindergarten) to PG (post graduation). Tenu leaf collection will be done at Rs 6,000 per standard sack in place of the existing Rs 4,000 and tenu leaf collectors will additionally get an annual bonus of Rs 4,000. A Mahtari Nyay Yojana will be launched for mothers and sisters, under which a subsidy of Rs 500 per cooking gas cylinder will be given to women of all income groups. The subsidy will be directly deposited into the bank accounts of women.

the existing Rs 4,000 and tenu leaf collectors will additionally get an annual bonus of Rs 4,000, he said.

BJP sharpens attack

New Delhi, Nov 05 (PTI)

The BJP on Sunday sharpened its attack on the Congress over Mahadev betting app and asked its former president Rahul Gandhi as well as Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel to clarify their alleged links with the money transaction in the case.

Bihar survey inflated Muslim, Yadav numbers: Shah

Muzaffarpur, Nov 05 (PTI):

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday accused Bihar's Nitish Kumar government of deliberately showing inflated numbers of Muslims and Yadavs in the state's caste survey as part of its 'appeasement politics' while giving a "raw deal" to backward classes as a whole.

Addressing a rally at Patahi in Muzaffarpur district, Shah also charged the Nitish Kumar government with "Muslim appeasement



PM visits Dongargarh, meets Acharya Vidyasagar Maharaj

Rajnandgaon, Nov 05:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday visited Dongargarh, a popular pilgrimage spot, in Chhattisgarh's Rajnandgaon district and met Jain seer Acharya Vidyasagar Maharaj. The PM also offered prayers at Maa Bameshwari Temple, located on the foot of a hill in Dongargarh in the poll-bound state. In the morning, Modi arrived at Gondia airport in Maharashtra and travelled from there by a helicopter. "Feeling blessed to receive the blessings of Acharya Shri 108



(tushtikaran)" and warned that this could lead to "big trouble" in areas bordering Nepal and Bangladesh (see- mant kshetra). Widely regarded as the BJP's princi-

pal strategist, Shah pointed out that his party was sharing power with Nitish Kumar when the government in the state had ordered the caste survey.

"But we had no inkling what Nitish Kumar would do under pressure from (RJD president) Lalu Prasad. The population of Yadavs and Muslims has been inflated (abaadi bad-haa kar dikha diya). And injustice (anyay) has been done to OBCs (pichhda) and EBCs (ati pichhda)," said Shah.

'Re-electing Cong and Baghel in Chh'garh a guarantee of loot'

Pendra, Nov 05:

BJP president JP Nadda on Sunday alleged Congress and corruption go hand in hand and said re-electing the ruling party in Chhattisgarh meant the "guarantee of loot".

Addressing a public meeting in Pendra town in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi (GPM) district two days ahead of the polling for the assembly elections, Nadda said the Congress indulges in corruption wherever it is in power. Targeting the Bhupesh Baghel government, he said, "They committed scams in liquor, rice, dung, teachers' transfer and Public Service Commission recruitments. They did not even spare the name of Mahadev and com-



JP Nadda

mitted a scam of Rs 5,000 crore (the alleged betting app scam). Asim Das informed that Rs 508 crore was given to Bhupesh Baghel for elections". Nadda's remarks came two days after the Enforcement Directorate, probing the Mahadev betting app 'scam', claimed that a forensic analysis and a statement made by a 'cash courier' had led to "startling allegations" that the betting

app promoters paid about Rs 508 crore to Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel so far. The agency also said, "These are subject matter of investigation". Baghel has denied the allegations.

The courier, Asim Das, has been arrested by the ED after it recovered Rs 5.39 crore from him in the poll-bound state, the federal agency had said. "Corruption and Congress are two sides of the same coin. Where there is Congress, there is corruption, deception and loot while where there is BJP, there is development and growth," the BJP chief said while campaigning for party candidates Prabal Pratap Singh Judev (Kota seat) and Pranav Marpachchi (Marwahi segment).

SFJ LEADER'S THREAT

'Don't fly Air India after Nov 19'

New Delhi, Nov 05:

Designated terrorist Gurbatwanti Singh Pannun, the founder of the banned Sikhs for Justice (SFJ), has released a new video asking Sikhs not to fly in Air India aircraft after November 19, as their lives can be under threat.

He claimed that Air India would not be allowed to operate on November 19. "We are asking the Sikh people not to fly via Air India. From November 19, there will be a global blockade. Air India won't be allowed to operate. Sikh people, don't travel by Air India after November 19.



Gurbatwanti Singh Pannun

Your life can be in danger," Pannun said in the video that is circulating on social media.

Pannun claimed that Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport would remain shut on November 19 and that its name would be changed.

Modi govt's fight against corruption 'nautanki': Kejriwal

Chandigarh, Nov 05 (PTI):

AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday dubbed the Narendra Modi government's fight against corruption a 'nautanki', saying those whom the BJP accuses of wrongdoing are rewarded with ministerial berths upon joining the party.

Addressing a party event in Haryana's Rohtak, the Delhi chief minister also said that if someone has committed a "huge sin or a crime" and joins the BJP, the officials of the Central Bureau of Investigation, the Enforcement Directorate



Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal speaks during a public meeting, in Rohtak, Sunday.

or Income Tax Department will never dare to even touch that person.

"Who are the corrupt? The corrupt are not those who have been nabbed by the ED and sent behind bars. The corrupt are those who joined the BJP due to ED's scare. Those

who have been nabbed by the ED, but did not join the BJP, are fiercely honest. Because they know today or tomorrow they will come out," the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader said.

"But those who indulge in dishonesty, know that if they are arrested they will have to go to jail for life and immediately join the BJP. So, understand who is corrupt and who is honest," Kejriwal said.

The ED had recently summoned Kejriwal for questioning in the alleged Delhi excise policy case and to record his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

POLL PREPARATIONS



Police personnel conduct a flag march ahead of the Chhattisgarh Assembly elections, in Jagdalpur, Sunday.

DOCTORS' WARN 'Air pollution affects brain'

New Delhi, Nov 05 (PTI)

As severely-polluted air has choked Delhi, doctors in the city have warned people, saying air pollution affects not just the lungs, but also other major organs, such as the heart and the brain, across all age groups. There has been a sudden increase in cases of headache, anxiety, irritation, confusion and decrement of cognitive abilities, especially among the vulnerable populations such as the elderly, schoolgoing children and pregnant women, Dr Neeraj Gupta, head of the pulmonary medicine department at the Safdarjung Hospital, told PTI.

BSF jawan on poll duty killed in accidental grenade explosion

Dantewada, Nov 05:

A Border Security Force (BSF) jawan deployed on election duty was killed after a grenade in his possession accidentally exploded in Dantewada district on Sunday, police said.

The blast occurred when a team of the BSF's 70th battalion stationed at Katekalyan police station for poll duty was about to launch a search operation, an official here said.

The patrolling team was moving out of the police station premises when a hand grenade kept in a pouch worn by head constable Balbeer Chand exploded, he said. Chand was seriously injured and immediately shifted to the Dantewada district hospital, where doctors de-

AIR QUALITY CRISIS

Delhi bans entry of trucks, commercial vehicles

New Delhi, Nov 05 (PTI)

The Centre on Sunday ordered a ban on construction work related to linear public projects in Delhi-NCR and the entry of polluting trucks and commercial four-wheelers into the capital as an air quality crisis gripped the region.

These measures constitute the final stage, Stage IV, of the Centre's air pollution control plan, which is activated at least three days before the Air Quality Index surpasses the 450 mark in the capital.

However, proactive implementation could not

happen this time. The CAQM, a statutory body responsible for formulating strategies to combat pollution in the region, asked Delhi and NCR states to implement all emergency measures, which also include work-from-home directives for 50 per cent of staff in government and private offices. Under the final stage (Stage IV) of the Graded Response Action Plan, only CNG, electric, and BS VI-compliant vehicles from other states are allowed to enter Delhi, with exemptions granted to those involved in essential services.

About the incident

The blast occurred when a team of the BSF's 70th battalion stationed at Katekalyan police station for poll duty was about to launch a search operation. The patrolling team was moving out of the police station premises when a hand grenade kept in a pouch worn by head constable Balbeer Chand exploded. Chand was seriously injured and immediately shifted to the Dantewada district hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

clared him dead, the official said. Chand was a resident of Himachal Pradesh, and his family members have been informed about the incident, he said. An accidental death report has been registered, and further probe is underway, he added.

Dantewada is among 20 assembly constituencies which will go to polls in the first phase of the two-phased elections on November 7. Additional paramilitary forces have been deployed in the Dantewada assembly segment, one of the 12 constituencies in the Naxalite-hit Bastar division.

Mega Jail Lok Adalat held in Central Jail Durg ED raids three houses in Supela



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: As per the instructions of Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority, Bilaspur and under the guidance of District and Sessions Judge Neeta Yadav (Chairman District Legal Services Authority, Durg), "State Level Mega Jail Lok Adalat" was organized on Sunday at Central Jail Durg. The lok adalat commenced at 11.00 am. Different benches were

constituted for the State Level Mega Jail Lok Adalat. Santosh Kumar Thakur (Chief Judicial Magistrate, Durg), Sarojini Janardan Khare (II ADDL JUDGE TO THE COURT OF I CIVIL JUDGE CLASS-I, DURG) and Dilli Singh Baghel (V CIVIL JUDGE CLASS-I, DURG) presided over the benches.

Deepak Kumar Nikunj (SDM Bhilainagar/Chhawani) and Ashish Dahriya (Secretary, District Legal Services

Authority, Durg) chaired the benches formed for disposing of the cases of prohibitory sections. On behalf of Central Jail Durg, RR Rai (Jail Superintendent, Durg), Shyam Lal Thakur (Deputy Jail Superintendent, Central Jail Durg) and other employees / staff of the jail were present.

On this occasion, the Judicial Officers and Secretary of District Legal Services Authority, Durg, provided informa-



tion to the prisoners about plea-bargaining, under trial review committee and many legal aspects of easy disposal of the cases of under trial prisoners. The District Legal Services Authority is always there to cooperate as per the law every prisoner detained in the jail.

In the State Level Mega Jail Lok Adalat held at the Central Jail Durg, the cases of prisoners pending in the Court of Chief Judicial

Magistrate / Judicial Magistrate First Class in which the prisoners have admitted the crime (Plead Guilty) and plea-bargaining and compoundable cases were resolved.

02 division benches were formed in the District Court and 01 division bench of the Revenue Court. A total of 36 cases were resolved in the division benches, which included 29 cases of the Court and 07 cases of the Revenue Court.

ED raids three houses in Supela

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: On Sunday, teams of the Directorate of Enforcement conducted raids in three houses located in Maitri Vihar Colony of Supela in connection with the money laundering case associated with Mahadev Book Betting App. The team reached Supela in the wee hours of Sunday and conducted searches at three houses.

Retired elderly couples reside in two of the houses while a family resides in the third house. According to information, the ED team was unable to recover any significant evidence or proceeds of crime from these houses.

According to information, ED conducted searches at the residence of retired BSP employee Shrikant Musle, retired BSP teacher Unnayan as well as a house named Mustafa Manzil located near Dau Bada in Supela. All the three houses are lo-



cated within a radius of 100 meters.

The ED officials questioned the people residing in the houses about the Mahadev Book Betting App and some close aides of the Chhattisgarh Chief Minister. Later the teams

returned back. According to unconfirmed reports, the children of these elderly couples reside in Mumbai and Dubai and are allegedly involved in the operations of Mahadev Book Betting App.

Second randomization of EVMs held

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: Under Assembly Elections 2023, EVMs were randomised for Assembly Constituency No 62 Patan, 63 Durg Rural, 64 Durg City, 65 Bhilai Nagar, 66 Vaishali Nagar, 67 Ahiwara. The second randomization was done in the meeting room of the District Collectorate, Durg in the presence of the representatives of political parties.

During this process, Collector and District Election Officer Pushpendra Kumar Meena, Additional

Collector and Deputy District Election Officer Bajrang Dubey and all the returning officers and representatives of political parties (INC) Anil, CPI (M) Jagannath Prasad, (JCP) Bhileshwar Kumar Bharti, (Independents) Arun Kumar Joshi, Indrani Bai, Ramratan Shah, Shatruhan Prasad, Kumar Banjare, Gajendra Patel, Govind Dewangan, (Shakti Sena) Ashok Tamrakar, (BJP) Premchand Dewangan, (BMM) RS Naidu, (INC) Sandeep Srivastava, (Godwana Gadtantra Party) Manharan Singh Thakur, (Chhattisgarh

Swabhimanch) Shankar Lal Sahu, BJP - Bhojraj, Janata Congress J - Amit Kumar, Rashtriya Jan Sabha Party - Jugal Prasad Joshi, INC - Keshav Harmukh, Radheshyam Sori, Ramjoginder, Bharatiya Chetna Party - Harendra Prasad, Nyaya Dharma Sabha - Dr Anju Soni, Ram Manohar Agrawal, Anand, Congress - Gajendra Kumar Sahu, Khomendra Kumar Sahu, Harish, Janata Congress - Dhalesh Sahu, API - Pushpa Marissa and BSP - Delisha Rani Lahare were present.

Dr Shrivastava's Riveting Talk Sparks Cancer Awareness organised at CCET

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: In an insightful session held at Christian College of Engineering and Technology, Dr Atul Shrivastava, MD, Head of the Department of Radiation and Medical Oncology at BSP Bhilai, delivered a guest lecture on cancer awareness. The event, held on November 02, 2023, attracted a diverse audience comprising students, faculty, and staff.

The lecture delved into the critical aspect of early detection, shedding light on common symptoms and the significance of self-examinations, regular check-ups, and screenings. Dr Shrivastava also provided a



comprehensive overview of various treatment options, including surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, immunotherapy, and targeted therapy. Emphasising personalised treatment plans, he underscored the need for tailored approaches to individual patients. One of the notable elements of the event was the in-

Second randomization of polling parties conducted

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: Under the Assembly Elections 2023, the second randomization of the voting parties for assembly constituency number 62 Patan, 63 Durg Rural, 64 Durg City, 65 Bhilai Nagar, 66 Vaishali Nagar, 67 Ahiwara was held in the meeting room of the District Collectorate, Durg. It was conducted in the presence of Collector and District Election Officer Pushpendra Kumar Meena, Chief Executive Officer District Panchayat Ashwani Dewangan, Additional Collector and Deputy District Election Officer Bajrang Dubey and all returning officers and employees were present.

The lecture's positive impact resonated with the audience, leaving them with valuable knowledge on cancer prevention and treatment strategies.

Executive Vice-Chairman Dr Fr PS Varghese and Principal Dr Dipali Soren addressed the gathering, expressing gratitude for the enlightening session. The event was concluded by Lincy Mendonza, who extended a vote of thanks, appreciating Dr Shrivastava's expertise and the audience's active participation. The occasion served as a commendable effort in fostering awareness and understanding of crucial aspects related to cancer within the Christian College of Engineering community.

Vig-Quest-2023 Mega Quiz organised

Late Dr Stephanos Mar Theodosios remembered



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: Mega Quiz Competition named 'Vig-Quest-2023' was organized for the BSP employees, by Bhilai Steel Plant's Vigilance Department in association with HRD Department, at HRD Centre. The objective of this quiz competition was

to provide all BSP Employees with an opportunity to enhance their knowledge and awareness on India's anti-corruption organizations and agencies like CVC, CBI, various anti-corruption drives and its functions, Systems, Procedures, Rules/ Regulations of such Organisations, along with the knowledge of ISO

37001:2016 standard (ABMS), PCP-2020, SAIL CDA Rules etc.

As many as 17 Teams from various departments of the Plant, took part in the competition, besides a large number of highly motivated and enthusiastic spectators to witness the programme. A screening round was held for all the participating teams,

followed by selection of top six teams for the Mega Finale. Vikas Piprani, AGM (SP-III) and Ashish Agrawal, AGM (T&D) were the Quiz Masters of the Vig-Quest-2023.

Team comprising Nivesh Vijayan, Mgr (Pers), and K Venkat Prasad Rao, JSA (Gen Estt) won the Quiz, while team comprising Harpreet Singh, GM (Projects) and Prabha Nair, Section Officer (Purchase) and Team comprising Umesh Malayath AGM (OP-2) and KP Krishnan C/M cum OCT (CAS & CWP) were the 1st and 2nd Runners-up respectively. Three consolation prizes and various audience prizes were also awarded on the spot during the Vig-Quest-2023. Subhash Patel, AGM (HRD) compered the programme.



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: The 16th remembrance of late glorified His Grace Dr Stephanos Mar Theodosios, former Metropolitan of Calcutta Diocese will be celebrated on November 4-5t at St Thomas Ashram, Bhilai.

The late Dr Stephanos Mar Theodosios, was the North Indian Missionary of the Malankara

Orthodox Syrian Church and the founder director of the Bhilai Mission. The 16th anniversary of Stephanos Mar Theodosios will be celebrated in Bhilai St Thomas Ashram where the Bishop entombed. On October 29 morning, the Holy Mass was presided over by the present Metropolitan of Calcutta Diocese, Bishop Alexios Mar Eusebis, followed by flag hoisting for

the week-long feast.

On November 3, His Holiness the Catholics arrived in Raipur the capital city of Chhattisgarh State, from Kottayam, Kerala. His Holiness was given a cordial welcome at the airport and a grand reception at St Mary's Orthodox Church, Raipur. By 15:00 hrs His Holiness arrived at St Thomas Ashram, Kailash Nagar, the Diocesan Centre. A grand

welcome ceremony was organized at the centre followed by St Thomas College, Raubandha and MGM Senior Secondary School, Sector 6, Bhilai.

His Holiness Catholics was the Chief Guest at the 51st Jubilee celebrations of Bhilai Mission at Bhilai St Thomas Ashram Courtyard on November 4. A Diocesan level reception was also accorded to His Holiness on this occasion.

Opponents attempting character assassination with morphed video: Devendra

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: On Sunday, Bhilai Nagar MLA and Congress candidate Devendra Yadav alleged that his opponents are attempting to spoil his character by circulating a morphed obscene video on social media platforms. He asserted that his opponents are practicing the lowest level of politics to win the elections.

"After levelling baseless allegations through the central agencies, now a fake video is being circulated to tarnish my image", he said while addressing media persons here at Sector 5 on Sunday.



Devendra Yadav

Devendra said that he is a family man and is very shocked after coming to know about the morphed video. He informed that a police complaint has been made and during investigations it was discovered that the video has its first

origin from Hyderabad.

It was first sent to a social media group of some youth in Risali. The mobile number which was used to first send this video has been switched off for the past several months. He alleged that with the elections coming closer, the workers of BJP are spreading this video on social media platforms for political gains.

He further said that in today's era of artificial intelligence, it has become very easy to make such morphed videos. Devendra said that the citizens will never tolerate such sordid conspiracies and give a befitting reply in the upcoming elections.

Vigilance Awareness Week concludes at Bhilai Steel Plant

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 05: The Valedictory Ceremony of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Vigilance Awareness Week-2023, was organised at the HRDD Conference Hall on November 04, 2023. The objective of this week-long programme was to increase public awareness about the perils of corruption. Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) was the Chief Guest on this occasion.

The Valedictory Ceremony began with the lighting of a Ceremonial Lamp and paying floral Tributes to Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, in the presence of Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), S Mukhopadhyay, ED (Projects), AK Chakraborty, ED (MM), Dr AK Panda, ED (F&A), Pawan Kumar, ED (P & A), BK Giri, ED (Mines), Dr Ravindranath M, CMO I/c (M&HS), CGM I/cs, CGMs,



GMs and other Senior Officials from BSP's various departments. Special Guest Satyabrata Kar, GM (Vigilance) & ACVO delivered the Welcome Address on this occasion. A group of BSP-employees from Plant's various departments presented a Short Play featuring evil practices of corruption at various levels in society and the ways of curbing the same, and a debate was also presented by the winner students of Debate competition held at SSS-7 under



Vigilance Awareness Week-2023. Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) in his address congratulated the S A I L - V i g i l a n c e Department and entire BSP Collective for the Anti-bribery Management Certification to BSP. Dasgupta also appreciated the Short play presented by BSP-Employees, and students for presenting the debate, which illustrated the ill effects of corruption on society and any Organization. It is not the corruption alone which is a

major hindrance in a nation's progress, but sometimes immorality in our own behaviour also becomes a major reason. A wrong committed or a lie spoken against the nation's interest can never be acceptable, therefore, it is necessary to adopt a policy of zero tolerance against corruption, so that we make our country a truly developed nation. For this everyone's contribution is necessary. We should always be alert and vigilant everywhere, whether it is

about safety, or be it a matter of production or maintenance, Dasgupta said. The Valedictory Ceremony Programme was compered by Md Naushad Alam, AGM (Vigilance), while Aniket Sul Ojha, GM (Vigilance) proposed the Vote of thanks. This year's theme for Vigilance Awareness Week was "Say no to corruption; commit to the Nation", which was chosen by the Central Vigilance Commission, the apex anti-corruption body in the country.

Vigilance Awareness Week is one of the tools of the Central Vigilance Commission in increasing public awareness about the perils of corruption. 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 Vallabhbhai Patel is observed.

Nepal govt scrambles to rush aid to quake victims



Houses collapsed after an earthquake in Jajarkot, Nepal, Sunday, Nov. 5. More than 150 people were killed and several others injured.

Kathmandu, Nov 05 (PTI): Nepal's authorities on Sunday scrambled to rush aid to people affected by Friday's earthquake that has killed at least 157 people and left a trail of destruction in the Himalayan nation's remote mountainous region.

The earthquake with an epicentre in Jajarkot district, about 500km west of Kathmandu, was recorded just before midnight on Friday. As the earthquake destroyed hundreds of houses in the mountainous region, several people had to spend Saturday night under the open sky.

Out of a total of 157 people who died in the tragedy, the bodies of 120 have so far been handed over to the family members. About 253 people were injured in the quake, the most devastating in the country since 2015. Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' is holding a Cabinet meeting to decide on a special relief package for the survivors of the earthquake. The government on Saturday said it is not in a hurry to seek foreign help for search and rescue operations and in the management of relief distribution and other logistics in the wake of the devastating earthquake in western Nepal, particularly Jajarkot and West Rukum districts.

In the aftermath of the disaster, Nepal's immediate neighbours, India and China, and the United States have offered support with logistics, and search for the victims by sending rescue teams to the country. "We are yet to make any decision on accepting foreign aid,"

Miraculous escape for people in a municipality

Kathmandu, Nov 05 (PTI): A municipality in the epicentre of Friday's deadly earthquake in Nepal's Jajarkot district reported no death from the tremor even though at least 157 people were killed in other parts of the district and neighbouring Rukum West, according to a media report on Sunday. According to the National Earthquake Monitoring and Research Centre, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake with epicentre at the Ramidanda village in Berekot Rural Municipality jolted the country on Friday just before midnight. Despite massive physical damage to the houses and public infrastructure, the rural municipality entirely avoided human causality as of Saturday evening, the Kathmandu Post newspaper reported. "When we see the badly damaged houses, it is difficult to believe how we all cheated death in the area," said Bir Bahadur Giri, chairperson of the rural municipality. "It is a divine land, and many people believe god saved them." According to him, five people in the rural municipality were injured. Of them, two received treatment at the local health office while three were flown to a Surkhet-based hospital, the paper reported. The rural municipality has around 3,500 houses. "There is hardly any house undamaged by the earthquake. At least 90 per cent of them need to be rebuilt while around 1,000 houses have been badly hit and people have been staying in open spaces," said Giri.

Prachanda said on Saturday as he visited the earthquake-affected areas. "There will be a Cabinet meeting on Sunday morning for those decisions," he said. "We will then speed up relief and rehabilitation operations." The government on Saturday evening decided to send relief materials like blankets, clothing and food items starting Sunday. The distribution of relief materials donated by the different agencies will also be carried out. Local government officials say the situation was chaotic on Saturday morning due to inadequate means to deal with the disaster.

HUMANITARIAN AWARDS



Pashtana Durrani, Founder of LEARN Afghanistan, receives the 2023 Muhammad Ali Principle Award for "Conviction" from Azhar Azeez, right, president and CEO, Muslim Aid USA, at the tenth annual Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Awards, at the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Ky. Durrani is an Afghan human rights activist and community development expert whose focus is girls' education.

Ukrainian missile strike on shipyard in Crimea damages Russian ship

Moscow, Nov 05 (AP): The Russian military said a Ukrainian missile strike on a shipyard in annexed Crimea had damaged a Russian ship.

The Russian Defence Ministry said late Saturday that Ukrainian forces fired 15 cruise missiles at the Zaliv shipyard in Kerch, a city in the east of the Crimean Peninsula. Air defences shot down 13 missiles but others hit the shipyard and damaged a vessel, a statement from the ministry said.

The ministry didn't give details about the ship or the extent of the damage.

The Ukrainian air force commander, Mykola Oleshchuk, said in a statement that at the time of the attack carried out by Ukrainian tactical aviation, "one of the most modern ships of Russia's Black Sea fleet was at the shipyard carrier of the Kalibr cruise missiles". He didn't say directly, however, that this particular ship was damaged by the strike.

The Crimean Peninsula, which Russia illegally annexed from Ukraine in 2014, has been a frequent target since Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a full-scale invasion of Ukraine 20 months ago. Crimea has served as the key hub supporting the invasion.

Israeli jets strike Gaza refugee camp

US fails to win immediate support for pause in fighting



Palestinians look for survivors of the Israeli bombardment in the Maghazi refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, Sunday.

Khan Younis (Gaza Strip), Nov 05 (AP): Israeli warplanes struck a refugee camp in the Gaza Strip early Sunday, killing at least 33 people and wounding dozens, health officials said. The strike came as Israel said it would press on with its offensive to crush the territory's Hamas rulers, despite US appeals for a pause to get aid to desperate civilians.

The soaring death toll in Gaza has sparked growing international anger, with

tens of thousands from Washington to Berlin taking to the streets Saturday to demand an immediate cease-fire.

Israel has rejected the idea of halting its offensive, even for brief humanitarian pauses proposed by U.S. Secretary of State

Antony Blinken during his current tour of the region. Instead, it said that the besieged enclave's Hamas rulers were "encountering the full force" of its troops.

"Anyone in Gaza City is risking their life," Israel's Minister of Defense Yoav Gallant said.

Large columns of smoke rose as Israel's military said it had encircled Gaza City, the initial target of its offensive against Hamas. Gaza's Health Ministry has said more than 9,400 Palestinians have been killed in the territory in nearly a month of war, and that number is likely to rise as the assault continues.

Afghan farmers lose income of more than \$1bn

After the Taliban banned poppy cultivation

Islamabad, Nov 05 (AP):

Afghan farmers have lost income of more than USD 1 billion from opium sales after the Taliban outlawed poppy cultivation, according to a report from the UN drugs agency published on Sunday.

Afghanistan was the world's biggest opium producer and a major source for heroin in Europe and Asia when the Taliban seized power in August 2021.

They pledged to wipe

out the country's drug cultivation industry and imposed a formal ban in April 2022, dealing a heavy blow to hundreds of thousands of farmers and day labourers who relied on proceeds from the crop to survive.

Opium cultivation crashed by 95 per cent after the ban, the report from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime said.

Until 2023, the value of Afghanistan's opiate exports frequently outstripped the value of its legal exports.

UN officials said the strong contraction of the opium economy is expected to have far-reaching consequences for the

country as opiate exports before the ban accounted for between 9-14 per cent of the national GDP.

Afghans need urgent humanitarian assistance to meet their most immediate needs, absorb the shock of lost income and save lives, said UNODC executive director, Ghada Waly.

"Afghanistan is in dire need of strong investment in sustainable livelihoods to provide Afghans with opportunities away from opium," she said.

Afghans are dealing with drought, severe economic hardship and the continued consequences of decades of war and natural disasters.

The downturn, along with the halt of international financing that propped up the economy of the former Western-backed government, is driving people into poverty, hunger, and addiction.

A September report from the UNODC said that Afghanistan is the world's fastest-growing maker of methamphetamine, with seizures of the synthetic drug increasing as poppy cultivation shrinks.

Lower incomes along the opiate supply chain could stimulate other illegal activities like the trafficking of arms, people or synthetic drugs, the most recent UNODC report said.

PRO-PALESTINIAN DEMONSTRATION



People raise their fists during a Pro-Palestinian demonstration in Washington.

Russia says it test-fired intercontinental ballistic missile from new nuclear submarine

Moscow, Nov 05 (AP):

The Russian military on Sunday reported a successful test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile designed to carry nuclear warheads from a new nuclear submarine.

The report comes as tensions are soaring between Russia and the West over the fighting in Ukraine. Adding to those tensions, President Vladimir Putin last week signed a bill revoking Russia's ratification of a global nuclear test ban in a move that Moscow said was needed to establish parity with the United States.

The Russian Defence Ministry said in a statement that the Emperor Alexander III strategic missile cruiser fired the Bulava missile from an underwater position in Russia's northern White Sea, and hit a target in the far-eastern region of Kamchatka. It wasn't immediately clear from the statement when the test launch occurred.

The Emperor Alexander III is one of the new Borei-class nuclear submarines that carry 16 Bulava missiles each and are intended to serve as the core naval component of the nation's nuclear forces in the coming decades. According to the Defence Ministry, launching a ballistic missile is the final test for the vessel, after which a decision should be made on its induction into the fleet.

US officials, lawmakers express support for extension of Africa trade programme

Johannesburg, Nov 05 (AP):

US officials and lawmakers expressed support Saturday for the extension of a trade programme that grants eligible African countries duty-free access to US markets.

The move follows a clear push by eligible African countries at the African Growth and Opportunity Act trade forum in Johannesburg to have the programme extended. It is currently slated to expire in September 2025.

AGOA is US legislation that allows sub-Saharan African countries duty-free access to US markets provided they meet certain conditions, including

Bangladesh opens landmark metro rail to ease traffic jams in Dhaka

Dhaka, Nov 05 (PTI):

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Saturday opened the second phase of overhead metro rail service to ease Dhaka's notorious traffic jams, earning the city an ill repute of being the world's slowest city.

"Today, we're so delighted," Hasina said while opening the metro rail service between Uttara and Motijheel, which has eight stations and spans 9.53 kilometres.

On December 28 last year, Bangladesh launched its first metro rail service with Japanese assistance to ease commuting in the capital Dhaka, one of the



most congested cities in the world.

State-owned Dhaka Mass Transit Company Ltd (DMTCL) has been entrusted with the task of operating the service built with Japanese technical

and financial assistance.

"The commuters will be able to travel over 20-kilometre distance from Uttara area to Motijheel (business district) in little over 30 minutes," DMTCL managing director M.N. Siddique told reporters.

The commuters usually needed over an hour to travel the distance during non-peak hours by road, while during the start or end of office hours, they often required as many as two and half hours.

The prime minister had opened the first phase of the route from Uttara to Agargaon on December 28 last year while opening the second phase on Saturday she boarded the

metro and headed to Motijheel for another inaugural programme at the station.

According to officials concerned, each train can run at a speed of 100 to 110 kilometres per hour with 2,300 passengers. The service is designed to carry 60,000 passengers per hour and half a million passengers per day.

"One train will arrive at each station every four minutes," Siddique said.

The metro rail system was built at a cost of Taka 334.720 billions (USD 4 million).

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) provided Taka 19,719 of the total

amount while the rest was financed by Bangladesh's own exchequer.

The service opened on Saturday is called "Mass Rapid Transit Line 6" or MRT Line-6 while five more routes will be opened in phases with one being an underground track. The routes are intended to bring Dhaka under an integrated network of metro rail services in subsequent phases covering areas on the city outskirts as well.

Hasina on Saturday also formally inaugurated the construction work of MRT Line-5 to build a 140-kilometre metro rail network in the capital and adjacent areas.

Blinken meets Palestinian leader in West Bank

Stepping up Mideast diplomacy as Gaza war escalates

Ramallah (West Bank), Nov 05 (AP): US Secretary of State Antony Blinken brought his frenetic Mideast diplomatic push on the Israel-Hamas war to the occupied West Bank on Sunday, meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in his latest bid to ease civilian suffering in the Gaza Strip and begin to sketch out a post-conflict scenario for the territory.

Blinken travelled to Ramallah for his previously unannounced visit in an armoured motorcade and

under tight security just hours after Israeli warplanes struck a refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, killing at least 40 people and wounding dozens, health officials said.

Despite the secrecy and the State Department refusing to confirm the trip until after Blinken had physically left the West Bank, protests erupted against his visit and US support for Israel as word of his arrival leaked.

Aside from pleasantries, neither man spoke as they greeted each other in front of cameras and the meeting ended without any public comment. It was not immediately clear if the lack of words indicated the meeting had gone poorly.



'Cong didn't care for tribals, its two leaders fighting to capture party in MP'

Seoni, Nov 05 (PTI)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said the Congress did not work for the welfare of tribals and that two senior Congress leaders were fighting in Madhya Pradesh to establish their sons and capture the party organisation in the state.

"We are the disciples and worshippers of tribals who made Lord Ram, Purshottam Ram," Modi said addressing a public meeting in Seoni district of MP ahead of the state elections scheduled on November 17.

Out of the total 230 assembly seats in MP, 47 are reserved for the Scheduled Tribe candidates. Of the four assembly seats in



PM Modi speaks during a public meeting, in Seoni.

Seoni, two are reserved for tribals.

Modi said the Congress, despite being in power for five-six decades in the country after Independence, did not do

anything for the welfare of the tribal community.

He also said the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna, providing free ration to 80 crore poor people, will be

extended for the next five years.

The PM listed the works done by the BJP government for the uplift of tribals and slammed the previous Congress government over various scams.

During the Congress regime before 2014, scams worth lakhs and crores of rupees took place but no such thing has taken place during the BJP government and the money thus saved is being spent on providing free ration to the poor people, he said.

Slamming the Congress, the PM said, "The Congress was creating confusion among the tribals. The word tribal does not sound good from their mouth. These tribals have taken care of Lord Ram.

EXERCISING RIGHTS



Voters stand in a queue to cast their votes for the Gram Panchayat election, at Tembhu village in Karad, Maharashtra, Sunday.

INDIA alliance will work for people, not 'leader's image': Tharoor

Aizawl, Nov 05 (PTI)

Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Sunday asserted that the opposition INDIA alliance is the answer if the citizens of the country want the next government at the Centre to work for the people rather than the "image of a leader".

The Lok Sabha MP from Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala claimed that the Congress is ahead of the BJP in all the five assembly poll-bound states and the outcome will boost the morale of the opposition alliance before next year's Lok Sabha polls.

In an interview with PTI, Tharoor said, "I think

the time has come for Indian voters to ask what is in their self interest, not what's in Modi's image or PR work of the BJP. Do you want a government that will give your welfare a priority? Do you want a government that will put people first and not the image of the leader first?"

He asserted that the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) is the answer if the citizens want a government that will think about the people instead of a single leader.

"Frankly, it seems the people of India are getting ready to send a strong message to the BJP. If you look at the elections, at the

moment, the BJP is way behind the Congress in four of the five states and slightly behind in the fifth one, Rajasthan.

"So, if you are looking at the outcome, it looks like the opposition is going to get a very strong wind in its sails when it goes for Lok Sabha elections next year. And that can't be good news for the BJP," he added.

Referring to the pre-poll surveys in Rajasthan, Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana, the senior Congress leader said that all of them have put the opposition party ahead of the BJP in all states except Rajasthan. "If you also

pick up what party workers are saying on the ground, there is a lot of confidence in the Congress party that we are going to do very well in these elections," he added.

Polling in these five states will take place between November 7 and 30 in multiple phases, while the votes will be counted on the same day on December 3.

Asked if he would like to term the polls in these five states as "semi-finals" before the Lok Sabha elections, Tharoor said the terminology is a "bit awkward" because the voters have learnt to vote differently in assembly and Lok Sabha elections.

Kishan Reddy slams Rahul for making light of BJP's promise of backward caste CM

Hyderabad, Nov 05 (PTI)

T'GANA POLLS

Taking exception to Rahul Gandhi making light of BJP's announcement to make a backward caste leader the chief minister in Telangana, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy on Sunday said the Congress leader insulted the BCs with his comments.

Asked about Rahul Gandhi saying as to how BJP can make a Backward Caste leader the CM when it would only get a meagre percentage of votes, he said anything is possible if

backward classes who constitute 55 per cent of the state's population get united.

Reddy, who attended a Meet the Press event at Press Club here, said Rahul Gandhi is speaking in a way of insulting the backward classes when the BJP, which is in power at the Centre and in many states, took a decision to make a leader from backward caste as chief minister if it came to power.

Recalling late N T Rama Rao's scheme of

supplying rice at two rupees per kg in undivided Andhra Pradesh, Reddy, president of BJP in Telangana, said it would have been meaningless had the TDP founder been questioned about implementing the popular scheme.

On the charge against the BJP that it only made corruption allegations against BRS and BRS MLC Kavitha has not been arrested despite being questioned in the Delhi excise policy case, he said probe agencies had also ques-

tioned Congress leader Sonia Gandhi but not arrested her.

कालड़ा बर्न एंव
सांस्कृतिक कांसेंट्रिक सर्गरी सेंटर
कानों की रिशेपिंग

जन्मजात, दुर्घटना या अन्य कारणों से कटे या टेढ़े-मेढ़े कानों की रिशेपिंग

एम्पली काका, प्रमोदी रोड, कलवर्ली मील के पास, वाराणसी
कॉल : 9827143060/8871003060
Ajay Advt.

LOVED IN 73 COUNTRIES

THE BIGGEST. BOLDEST. 125 CC

STARTING AT ₹82,253/-*

Attractive down payment ₹2,999/-

pulsar DEFINITELY MALE

BAJAJ THE WORLD'S FAVOURITE INDIAN

72198 21111 BAJAJ FINANCE LTD. - AF BAJAJ SECURE Terms and conditions apply. *Starting price and Down payment for Pulsar 125 Neon variant. Down payment is excluding processing fees & other charges and is based on fulfilment of credit parameters. Actual colours and accessories may vary or not be included as a part of standard equipment. AMC available on specific models and in specific states. Check with Bajaj dealer for more details. Roadside Assistance is provided by third parties and is subject to their terms and conditions.

Authorised Dealers for BAJAJ Auto Ltd.: Bilaspur: Tifra Over bridge TRIPUR BAJAJ 9752133444, 07752-400444 • Naya Sarkanda KHANDELWAL BAJAJ 9300998989, 9165552222 • Old Bus Stand TRIPUR BAJAJ 7999848912, 419333 • Mungeli : KHANDELWAL BAJAJ 9399021705, 07755299124 • Ambliapur LAXMI BAJAJ 231501,9074816511 • Janigir SHREE SALASAR BAJAJ 9179981000 • Champa 9926012330 • Korba TIRUPATI BAJAJ 6232103042, 7879313041 • Dipka TIRUPATI BAJAJ 6232103063 • Raigarh JINDAL BAJAJ 9589905646,7067109202 • Jashpur JINDAL BAJAJ 8817775566, Baikunthpur KOREA BAJAJ 7089904408. Authorised Service Centre: Akaltara 9300672917, Bagicha 8889105139, Bagbahar 9340462499, Baloda 9926165736, Baramkela 9329337258, Balrampur 6261982600, Baradwar 9131988365, Batouli 8817294969, Bhaiyathan 8717818700, Bishrampur 07441143400, Chikarbhata 7415967052, Churha 7828109004, Jajjalpur 9098505388, Jarhi 8959616468, Kansabel 9993641010, Katghora 9981527526, Kharsia 7771078078, Kota 9424158177, Kusmi 07693929918, Kusmunda 8516960508, Lallunga 9424187790, Lormi 9399021708, Manendragarh 9893808250, Nawagarh 9981550386, Pali 7489606177, 9575370010, Pathalgaon 9424180227, Pendra 8109692873, Pratappur 7509007575, Pusore 9993222334, Pathariya 7987188192, Rahod 9926909427, Rajpur 7000810536, Ramanujanjanj 9977907755, Ratapur 9399998235, Sakri 9752133444, Sargaon: 7089006614, Shakti 9300373738, Saranggarh 9300566800, Seepat 9926569656, Surajpur 8319944087, Takhatpur 9893742811, Urga 7773000774, Seorinarayan-9926907321, Sitapur 8109861007, Wadrafnagar 750900664, Shrinagar 7987897837