



BRIEF



Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets senior BJP leader LK Advani on his birthday, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Refund

New Delhi: The government on Wednesday directed online travel portals to process pending refunds related to air ticket bookings during the coronavirus lockdown period by the third week of November. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, there was a nationwide lockdown for varying periods starting from March 25, 2020, and scheduled commercial flight services were also suspended for a certain period.

Snag

Khajuraho: A helicopter carrying Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday developed some technical snag after it took off from Khajuraho airport in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh. It landed back there safely after remaining airborne for 10 minutes, a party leader said. Yadav was supposed to campaign for his party's candidates in Sidhi and Chitrakoot assembly seats, but was forced to cancel both events, said Bharatiya said SP's national spokesman Yash Bharatiya.

Acquire

Mumbai: Maharashtra government on Wednesday decided to acquire the iconic Air India building at Nariman Point in Mumbai for Rs 1,601 crore. The decision was taken at a meeting of the state cabinet in Mumbai.

ED arrest

Kochi: Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) former general secretary, K K Abraham, has been arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with an alleged loan scam that occurred during his tenure as president of a service cooperative bank in Wayanad district.

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'BJP doesn't want tribals to dream big'

Calls tribals *vanvasi*, asks them to shun English

dren to English-medium schools. "BJP used the term 'vanvasi' (forest-dweller) for adivasis. There is a huge difference between 'vanvasi' and 'adivasi'. You must have seen the video where a BJP leader urinated on a tribal man," the Congress leader said, referring to an incident from the BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh.



urinate on you," he added. Forest cover in the country is shrinking and when it disappears in the next 15-20 years, where would the vanvasi go, would they beg on the streets, he asked.

That incident reflected the BJP's mindset, Gandhi alleged. "The term 'adivasi' has a deep meaning. It expresses your rights to 'jal, jungle, zameen (water, forest, land)'. 'Vanvasi' means those who live in the jungle. The BJP calls you vanvasi, we call you adivasi. The BJP snatches your rights, we give you rights. We hug you, BJP leaders

"BJP leaders ask you not to learn English. We want the tribal youth to learn Chhattisgarhi, English as well as Hindi....ask BJP leaders which school they send their children to, English-medium or Hindi-medium. They all will say English-medium. Their children can study in

'We hug you, BJP leaders urinate on you'

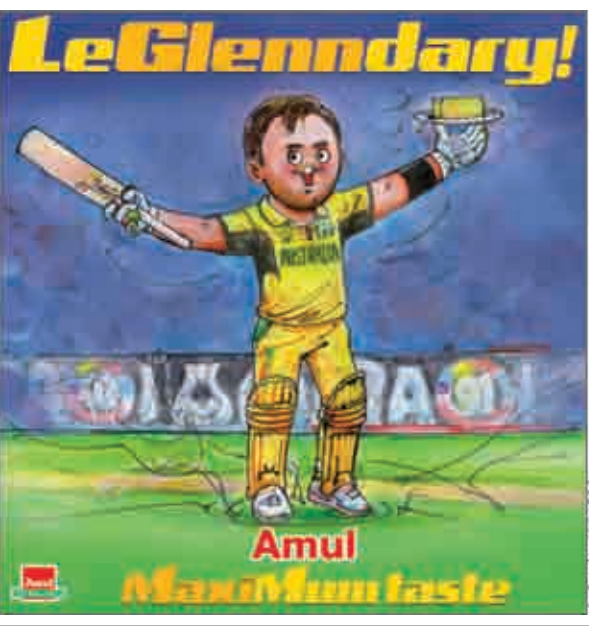
"The term 'adivasi' (original inhabitant) has a deep meaning. It expresses your rights to 'jal, jungle, zameen (water, forest, land)'. 'Vanvasi' means those who live in the jungle. The BJP calls you vanvasi, we call you adivasi. The BJP snatches your rights, we give you rights. We hug you, BJP leaders urinate on you," Rahul added.

English medium schools and dream big, then why can't tribal children do that. They don't want your children to learn English, to dream big. Therefore they call you vanvasi...the word is an insult to you," Gandhi added.

there is only one caste, then who are the ones who are rich," Gandhi further asked.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi calls himself an OBC in every speech and talks about OBC welfare, but when the Congress sought a caste census, the PM said there is only one caste, the poor, he said. "So why do you call yourself an OBC. If

That incident reflected the BJP's mindset, Gandhi alleged. "The term 'adivasi' (original inhabitant) has a deep meaning. It expresses your rights to 'jal, jungle, zameen (water, forest, land)'. 'Vanvasi' means those who live in the jungle. The BJP calls you vanvasi, we call you adivasi. The BJP snatches your rights, we give you rights. We hug you, BJP leaders urinate on you," he added.



Baghel slams Centre over ED raids

Raipur, Nov 08: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Wednesday slammed the BJP-led Centre, claiming that it has sent the Enforcement Directorate to the premises of a person who is handling the record of his election expenditure, and termed the move an attempt to scare the people of his constituency. Baghel represents Patan assembly seat in Durg district.

About the raid...

According to sources, the ED launched a raid at the premises of Suresh Dhingani, a fireworks trader, in Bhalai area of Durg district on Wednesday morning. However, it is not yet known in connection with which case the action is being taken. "Early in the morning, the ED has been sent to the place of Suresh Dhingani ji who had accompanied me when I filed my nomination papers and has been acting as my 'adhikarik vyay lekhak' (official handling poll expenditure records) in the electoral process," Baghel said.

According to sources, the ED launched a raid at the premises of Suresh Dhingani, a fireworks trader, in Bhalai area of Durg district this morning. However, it is not yet known in connection with which case the action is being taken.

thought the exit poll of the first phase would be known after a few days. But Saheb revealed it this morning itself."

Narrow escape for Amit Shah: Raj govt orders probe

Jaipur, Nov 08 (PTI): The Rajasthan government has ordered an inquiry into the Tuesday incident in which Union Home Minister Amit Shah had a narrow escape when his 'rath' came in contact with an electricity wire in Nagaur. The incident occurred when Shah's cavalcade was moving to Parbatsar from Bidiyad village to address an election rally. While passing through a lane with shops and houses on both sides in Parbatsar, the upper portion of

his 'rath' (specially designed vehicle) touched the power line which led to a spark and the subsequent snapping of the wire. No untoward incident occurred and all including the minister were safe and Shah was shifted to another vehicle.

"The home department initiated an inquiry to be conducted by the Ajmer divisional commissioner," official sources said. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had last night stated that the inquiry into the matter will be conducted.

This Diwali, buy products made locally, post selfie on NaMo App'

New Delhi, Nov 08 (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday urged people, this Diwali, to buy products which have been made locally and then post a selfie with the product or its maker on the NaMo App. In a post on X, Modi said, "This Diwali, let us celebrate India's entrepreneurial and creative spirit with #VocalForLocal threads on NaMo app.

https://narendramodi.in/vocal4local" "Buy products which have been made locally and then post a selfie with the product or the maker on the NaMo App. Invite your friends and family to join your thread and spread the spirit of positivity," Modi said. "Let us use the power of digital media to support local talent, encourage the creativity of fellow Indians and keep our traditions thriving," he said. In his remarks during October's 'Mann Ki Baat', Modi had reiterated his strong pitch for being 'vocal for local' "Like every time, this time too, during festivals, our priority should be 'Vocal for Local'," he had said. "I want to reiterate my request that wherever you go on tourism or pilgrimage, buy products made by local artisans," Modi had said.

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Lokpal has ordered CBI probe against Mahua: Dubey

New Delhi, Nov 08 (PTI):

BJP MP Nishikant Dubey on Wednesday said the Lokpal has ordered a CBI probe against TMC MP Mahua Moitra on his complaint of alleged corruption by her.

In an apparent reference to the development, Moitra said the CBI should first file an FIR to probe alleged coal scam by the Adani Group.

This comes days after the BJP MP accused Moitra of asking questions in the Lok Sabha to target the Adani Group and Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the behest of businessman Darshan Hiranandani in exchange for gifts. The matter is being looked into by the Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha. Moitra has denied the charge of receiving any

'Welcome to count my shoes'

Moitra posted on X, "For the media calling me- my answer: 1. CBI needs to first file FIR on Rs 13,000 crore Adani coal scam. 2. National security issue is how dodgy FPI owned (inc Chinese & UAE) Adani firms buying Indian ports & airports with the Home Minister office's clearance. Then CBI welcome to come, count my shoes."

LS Ethics panel to meet today

The Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha will meet on Thursday to adopt a draft report on the cash-for-query allegation against Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra. The 15-member committee has seven members from the BJP, three from the Congress, and one each from BSP, Shiv Sena, YSRCP, CPI(M) and JDU. The committee is likely to take a grim view of the charges against Moitra, more so after she accused its chief Vijay Sonkar of asking filthy and personal questions to her in the last meeting before walking out in a rage along with opposition members.

pecuniary benefit. In a post on X, Dubey wrote, "On my complaint, Lokpal today ordered a CBI inquiry against accused Mahua Moitra for in-

dulging in corruption at the cost of national security."

However, there was no official word from the Lokpal.

At 97, Kerala man sets world record as longest serving lawyer

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 08 (PTI): P Balasubramanian Menon, a distinguished lawyer in northern Palakkad district of Kerala, has achieved a significant milestone in the legal field.



P Balasubramanian Menon

At the age of 97, Menon has secured a place in the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest serving advocate with an impressive career spanning 73 years and 60 days. "The longest career as a lawyer (male) is 73 years and 60 days, and was achieved by Menon P Balasubramanian (India) as verified in Kerala, India, on 11 September 2023," according to the Guinness Book of World Records.

courts and meets clients daily without fail. "When a party approaches me with a case, he is coming by trusting me...I will do whatever I can do for them," Menon told a television channel. Hailing from a traditional family in Palakkad, Menon said he does not believe in arguing too much in courts and made it clear that his arguments and cross examinations are always short.

Parl's Winter session from second week of December

New Delhi, Nov 08 (PTI): The Winter session of Parliament is likely to commence in the second week of December and could conclude ahead of Christmas, sources said on Wednesday.

The session, they said, could commence days after the counting of votes in five states on December 3. Three key bills which seek to replace the IPC, CrPC and the Evidence Act are likely to be taken up for consideration during the session as the standing committee on Home has already adopted the three reports recently.

The Winter session usually commence in the third week of November and concludes ahead of December 25.

Another key bill pending in Parliament relates to the appointment of chief election commissioner and election commissioners.

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ED raids Dev Mining, seizes documents

with transportation of iron ore and in mining in this region and in which there are chances of partnership and important role of Lakhan Lal Sahu as well.

It is notable here that last on 14 March 2022, ED had conducted raid in the office of Lakhan Lal Sahu in Dalli-Rajhara. Sumit Lodha is having business in transportation of iron ore through Dhulki Minaing, Gidhali Mines, Dalli-Mines and Kacche Mines, Raoghat Mines. This business is looked after jointly by brothers Sumit and Saurabh Lodha. During the raid and checking by ED, it has come to fore that the businessman are having connections with the local Congress leaders as well. After this raid, there was sensation among the businessmen in the region and the mobile phones of local leaders were found closed. Till the writing of these lines the ED officials were present in the office of Dev Mining.

Lakhan Sahu is likely partner in transportation business

Dev Mining is involved in labour supply and mining in iron ore mines and in this there are chances that Lakhan Lal Sahu is partner in it. In the name of remaining anonymous, a local iron ore and transporter informed that Dev Mining and Lakhan Lal Sahu used to take commission of Rs 3000 per vehicles for transportation of iron ore.

GST-ED team raids Shrijeet Transport: Raipur: Meanwhile GST and ED team raided the Director of Shrijeet Transport Harwinder Singh Bhatia alias Raja Bhatia. As per information in this regard, the officers of both the wings raided the residence and office of Bhatia in Gram Kesala. It was after six hours of investigation, the team returned at 1:30 in the night

along with mobile and other important documents. In context of this businessman, the local people say that he has earned lot of income in short time.

ED and IT team raids fire-cracker traders in Bhilai: Further it is learnt that ED team has raided the office and residence of fire-cracker trader in Bhilai- Suresh Dhingani and conducted search of documents. According to

sources, the ED launched a raid at the premises of Suresh Dhingani, a fireworks trader, in Bhilai area of Durg district this morning. However, it is not yet known in connection with which case the action is being taken.

On the other hand, the IT team raided the establishments of Hukumchand Himmachand - another fire-cracker trader in Bhilai at his Link Road, Power

house office/ residence in the morning hours here on Wednesday. As per information in this regard the IT team conducted raids in the house, shops and godown of Hukumchand Gehlot. It is learnt that it is based upon complaint of tax evasion by some unknown person against him that the IT team had reached there and started search of documents.

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Dealing with iron ore transportation

Dalli-Rajhara, Nov 08: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted raid in the office of mining businessman of Dalli-Rajhara in Subhash Chowk at 4:30 in the morning and this created sensation in the district. The CRPF team is present in the office and residence of owner of Dev Mining in Raipur and Doundi viz. Sumit Lodha and Saurabh Lodha since 4:30 am and is conducting search of all the documents. Dev Mining is dealing

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Both urban and rural classes got attention in Congress manifesto

● 50 lakh families to get benefit of 200 units of free electricity.

Raipur, Nov 08: Both urban and rural areas have got attention in the Congress manifesto. State Congress Communication Department Chairman Sushil Anand Shukla said that in Congress, about 50 lakh families of the state will get the benefit of free electricity up to 200 units. Till now, people below the poverty line used to get free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh and other categories had the facility of treatment up to Rs 50 thousand. If the Congress govern-

ment is formed, free treatment facilities up to Rs 10 lakh will be provided to people below the poverty line and up to Rs 5 lakh will be provided to all other categories of people. In case of major diseases, if Congress forms the government, everyone will get treatment up to Rs 25 lakh without any discrimination.

State Congress Communication Department Chairman Sushil Anand Shukla said that after the formation of the Congress government, women leaving below

poverty line will get Ujjwala will at Rs 107 if the Congress government is formed. Cylinders will be available at Rs 474 and all categories of people will get it at cheapest price in the entire country. BJP is claiming to give gas cylinder at Rs 500 to those below the poverty line, whereas Congress has announced in its manifesto that cylinder will be given at Rs 500 to all sections of people. Along with loan waiver, Congress will purchase paddy at Rs 3200. This will bring prosperity to cities through villages, he added.

make all types of education in Chhattisgarh free for all sections from nursery to post graduate. This will save the expenditure on education of every section of the state. Chhattisgarh will be the only state in the country where medical, engineering and ITI education will also be free.



State Congress Communication Department Chairman Sushil Anand Shukla said that after the formation of the Congress government, women leaving below

Guest Speaker Session on 'Engineering Ethics' held



Raipur, Nov 08: National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur's Ethics club organized a Guest Speaker Session titled 'Engineering Ethics' on 8th November. The event was graced by the distinguished speaker Dr. Mukunda Madhav, an alumnus of IITB and presently the Director at CHOICE.

The session started with a warm welcome of the speaker marked by the gesture of presenting a sapling. He described that Ethics is the distinction

between what is right and what is wrong, guiding actions that bring a sense of pride further elaborating with the mirror test that serves as an assessment of these ethical standards. Dr. Madhav stated that values form the cornerstone of an individual's character, while the conscience acts as the custodian of these values and an inner moral guide. Giving examples of some major sudden incidents, he said that all these incidents happened due to disregard of moral values. He concluded by the statement 'Putting oneself in another person's shoes' which is the sole method to engage in ethical behavior. After this a QA session is also organized between the students and the speaker.



Keep adequate amount of cash in banks during festive season: Mishra

● District Panchayat CEO took the meeting of bankers

Raipur, Nov 08: District Panchayat Chief Executive Abinash Mishra held a meeting of various bank officials in the District Panchayat. He said it is festive time, keep sufficient amount of cash

in all banks. Common public should not face shortage of currency in any circumstances. Keep replenishing cash in the ATM from time to time so that customers do not face problems while withdrawing. He said that the security arrangements in banks should be strengthened. Officials of all the banks of Raipur were present on this occasion.

M. Phil in Clinical Psychology inaugurated in Amity University

● Recognized by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) and 'Wellness and Yoga Centre'

Raipur, Nov 08: As Amity University Chhattisgarh, Raipur steps on a new academic journey with a Rehabilitation Council of India recognized course of M. Phil in Clinical Psychology, a Two-Day Orientation Programme was organized by Amity Institute of Behavioral & Allied Sciences.

In the welcome address, Prof. (Dr.) Indrani Singh Rai, Dean, Faculty of Arts elucidated the need of the course and the urgency to have more skilled clinical psychologists to help mentally ailed patients with their behavioral, emotional, or mental difficulties. Prof. (Dr.) Sumita Dave, Dy Pro-Vice-Chancellor in her address, focused on the therapeutic techniques and the interventions of the clinical psychologists.

Prof. (Dr.) Piyush Kant



Pandey in his presidential address emphasized on the scope of the course and the role and societal duties of clinical psychologists to help individuals improve their emotional, psychological, and behavioral well-being. Dr. Simi Srivastava, the acclaimed clinical psychologist of Raipur delivered a lecture on 'Disability and Child Psychology' highlighting the need of trained educators, counsellors and psychologists who can handle more than approx. 6 lakh cases of disabled children wherein only 500 trained professionals are available

to rehabilitate them. Dr. Surbhi Dubey, Associate Professor and Consultant Psychiatrist from Pt. JNM Medical College, in her address, spoke on the brain functioning, role of neurotransmitter along with the role of hereditary and environment on the escalation of disorders like psychosis including schizophrenia, hallucinations, delusions and many more. She also discussed the therapeutic and pharmacological aspects of psychological treatment of Psychosis.

A workshop was conducted for the students of

psychology by Dr. Preeti Singh, Consultant Clinical Psychologist of Pt. JNM Medical College on 'Psychotherapy'. The speaker explained the major contents of Psychotherapy like CBT, Cognitive Restructuring, Cognitive Distortions, and other forms of Psychotherapy wherein the students put up their questions and doubts regarding different cases and exposures. The event was coordinated by Ms. Shama Hamdani and Ms. Sushmita Mazumdar, faculty and clinical psychologists of Amity Institute of Behavioral & Allied Sciences.

A 'Wellness and Yoga Centre' has been inaugurated on 2nd November 2023 by Honorable Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Piyush Kant Pandey to create awareness of mental health and well-being amongst students, to promote holistic development of the students, to endorse the health consciousness and to enable the students to practice mental hygiene.

Chh'garh wins bronze medal in Handball event of 37th National Games



Raipur, Nov 08: Chhattisgarh Handball team on Wednesday won bronze medal in the 37th National Games at Goa defeating Rajasthan for the medal match.

According to the information received, Chhattisgarh won the match by 32-26 to win the bronze medal. Md Amir scored maximum 10 goals whereas Basa Mahesh and S Britain Singh scored 7-7 goals for the team to ensure victory.

Chhattisgarh Handball Association (CHA) General Secretary Sameer Khan congratulated the players and the officials for the success. He also announced to provide Rs 5000 cash to each players and officials for the achievement.

JCI provides Rs 10 lakh to member's family upon demise



Raipur, Nov 08: The JCI India Welfare Committee, in collaboration with Raipur Mac United, has extended a financial assistance of 1 million rupees to the family of JCI member JCI Mriga Malu upon her demise.

The JCI India Welfare Committee has announced that in the event of the passing of any JCI member, a minimum of 1 million rupees will be provided to their family immediately. In accordance with this, JCI Mriga Malu, an

active member of Raipur's Mac United, along with her mother, met with an unfortunate accident and passed away. In the presence of Committee Chairperson JCI Rakhi Jain, National Vice President JCI Bharat Acharya, Senate Board Director JCI Rajesh Agrawal, and Area President JCI Akash Sundarani, the said amount was handed over to the deceased's father, Manish Malu.

It is known that JCI

Mriga Malu was a second-year commerce student at Maharaja Agrasen College in Raipur. The special contributions of JCI Kriti Agrawal, the President of JCI Raipur Mac United for the year 2023, and Chapter Officer JCI Rishi Diwan played a significant role in processing the assistance amount.

So far this year, JCI India has distributed approximately one crore rupees in this fund, informs Rajesh Agrawal, Director, JCI India Senate Board.

Paddy lifting starts from paddy procurement centers

Demand order of 384 MT issued
Officers in charge are continuously inspecting centers

Bemetara, Nov 08: A total of 17534 metric tonnes (MT) of paddy has been purchased at the support price in the last six days of paddy procurement starting from Nov 1 for the Kharif marketing year 2023-24 in Bemetara district. Paddy is being purchased from farmers through 127 paddy procurement centers (PPC). In these six days, farmers have sold 17534 metric tons of their paddy at support price in procurement centers.

The lifting of paddy has started from the paddy procurement centers of Bemetara district. Due to this, farmers and cooperative societies have had a sigh of relief. Due to the increase, there will be no

shortage of space to store paddy in the procurement centers. The officers in charge are continuously inspecting the paddy procurement arrangements in the paddy procurement centers. Collector Padum Singh Elma is also in constant touch with the officials.

From last November 1 (Wednesday), paddy procurement started at support price for the Kharif marketing year 2023-24 in the paddy procurement centers of entire Chhattisgarh including Bemetara district. Initially, 106 paddy purchases of the district were started. On the first day, tokens of 448 registered farmers were cut. On the first day, 18501 quintals of paddy was purchased from 409 farmers.

The work of procurement of paddy at support price has been started in the district from 01 November 2023. Under which till now a total of 17534 MT of paddy has been procured through 127 paddy pro-

urement centers. District Food Officer Shri Nitish Trivedi said that till now the process of contracting with 40 millers for lifting and custom milling of procured paddy has been completed and 384 millers contracted with the procurement centers of the district for lifting of paddy directly from the paddy procurement centers. Tons of D.O. has been issued. The lifting of paddy has been started by the millers against the paddy procured.

In the Kharif season 2023-24, 158529 farmers in the district have registered in cooperative societies for selling paddy. Last year, 1 lakh 53 thousand farmers had registered in cooperative societies for selling paddy. Whose area was 1 lakh 83 thousand 242 hectare. This has increased to 1 lakh 85 thousand 928 hectare this year. This year the estimated target of paddy procurement is 802842 metric tons. Last year the estimated target was 679187 MT.

DEO takes stock of the polling centers of Jagdalpur city

Jagdalpur, Nov 08: Collector and District Election Officer (DEO) Vijay Dayaram took stock of the polling centers of Jagdalpur city to ensure smooth voting process on the polling day. During the inspection, the Sector Officer and Presiding Officer were instructed to give priority in voting to the elderly, pregnant women and mothers of newborn children. Taking cognizance of any shortcomings in the voting process by the polling party personnel, sector officers were also instructed to resolve them immediately.

The Collector also assessed the percentage of votes given to the voters in the polling booth. During this inspection, Senior Superintendent of Police Jitendra Meena also took cognizance of the security arrangements near the polling



stations. District Election Officer Vijay and SSP Meena at Sangwari and other polling stations of Bastar Club of Jagdalpur city, 5 polling stations located in Bhimrao Ambedkar School campus, 4 polling stations of Swami Vivekananda School near Sanjay Bazaar, Kalipur polling station, Dharampura - 2 polling stations, polling station Dharampura-1, polling station Aghanpur, all three polling stations of Gangamunda School,

polling stations of Danteshwari Ward, all three polling stations of Danteshwari School, Panarapara polling station, Dockrighat polling station, all three polling stations of Primary Girls School Panch Chowk. Inspected the centre, two polling stations including the disabled polling center of Kumharpara, polling center 01,02,05 of Hatkachora, Fraserspur polling center and all three polling centers of Bhagat Singh School. The top officials of the district simultaneously released the photo with the voting symbol. On this occasion, Collector Bastar Vijay Dayaram, SP Senior Superintendent of Police Jitendra Meena, CEO District Panchayat Prakash Survey, Commissioner Corporation Haresh Mandavi were present.

All polling stations in the district will be tobacco-free

Under the National Tobacco Control Program, Tobacco consumption and smoking is completely banned in all polling stations

Bemetara, Nov 08: Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Chhattisgarh. It has been directed to all the collectors and district election officers of the district that all the polling stations of the state are to be made tobacco-free in the assembly elections 2023. Under the National Tobacco Control Programme: a campaign is being run in all the districts of the state to create awareness about the ill ef-

fects of consumption of tobacco products and to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003.

In compliance with the provisions of (COTPA) 2003, tobacco consumption and smoking will be completely banned in all the polling stations of Chhattisgarh. In compliance with the instructions, the District Election Office Bemetara has given instructions to paste the information 'Office Premises/Building is Tobacco Free' for the election workers and all the public at the place in every polling station and to put up boards in 747 polling stations of the district and Instructions have been given to take necessary action.

St. Xavier's High School hosts a spectacular annual exhibition

Bilaspur (Bharni), Nov 08: St. Xavier's High School in Bharni, known for its dedication to academic excellence and holistic education, organized its Annual Exhibition within the school premises. The event proved to be a remarkable display of students' creativity and intellectual prowess, captivating both parents and visitors.

Sciences. These models not only demonstrated the depth of the students' understanding but also showcased their innovative thinking and problem-solving skills. Visitors were treated to a visual feast, with each exhibit providing valuable insights into various scientific and mathematical concepts.

Few of the standout features of the exhibition were the spotlight on Chhattisgarh's rich art and culture, horror house depicting city of Gaza, Hindi and Sanskrit hall showcasing rich Indian



culture and heritage. Students paid homage to the state's heritage by presenting captivating

displays that celebrated its unique traditions and artistic legacy. This section proved to be a signifi-

cant attraction, drawing visitors into the vibrant world of Chhattisgarhi culture. Students from classes I to XII enthusiastically participated in the exhibition, each grade level contributing their distinctive projects, reflecting their evolving academic pursuits and interests. The event provided a platform for students to share their knowledge and discoveries with their peers, parents, and the wider community.

To add an element of fun and entertainment, the organizers set up engaging games and food

stalls, creating a lively atmosphere for visitors. The interactive games not only provided entertainment but also encouraged camaraderie among the attendees. The exhibition was inaugurated by two esteemed guests, Mukesh Sarraf, CEO of St. Xavier's Chain of Schools, and Mr. PV Mistry, CFO of St. Xavier's Chain of Schools. Their presence added a touch of prestige to the event and underscored the importance of such initiatives in fostering a culture of learning and innovation.

Mukesh Sarraf expressed his delight at the students' exceptional work, saying, "The Annual Exhibition at St. Xavier's High School, Bharni, is a testament to the school's commitment to providing a holistic education.

The innovative projects on display here showcase the potential and talent of our students." PV Mistry emphasized the importance of such events in shaping well-rounded individuals, stating, "Events like these not only encourage academic excellence but also nur-

ture creativity and critical thinking, essential skills for the leaders of tomorrow." Principal JS Hundal commended the efforts of both students and faculty, saying, "The Annual Exhibition is a platform for our students to demonstrate their academic prowess and creativity. It's heartening to see the dedication and passion that they have put into their projects." He extended thanks to all the teachers including HM Nancy Parekh, Bursar Subash Roy, and Administrator Pradeep Patnaik.

ISIS active member arrested from Smriti Nagar

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 08: Durg Police and ATS Uttar Pradesh carried out a joint operation on Wednesday and arrested an active member of ISIS in Smriti Nagar area of Supela Police Station limits. Supela Police and ATS Uttar Pradesh carried out a search operation for about 24 hours after which they succeeded in arresting the suspected terrorist.

It needs to be mentioned here that on November 07, the team of ATS Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh) had registered a case 13/23 under section 121(1), 122 IPC, and 13, 18(1), 38 of Unlawful

Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) 1967 at Police Station ATIS Lucknow. Wajihuddin son of Wahiuddin Idrish a resident of Firdous Nagar, District Aligarh (UP) was included in the case.

He was presently residing in Smriti Nagar area of Supela Police Station limits. A team of ATS came to Bhilai for arrest and search of addresses in District Durg. Under the guidance of Senior Superintendent of Police (Durg) Ram Gopal Garg and Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Abhishek Jha and



Uttar Pradesh. They conducted a search operation for about 24 hours to find out the address and arrest of the said accused. The accused in the case, Wajihuddin, was successfully arrested by the joint team. After the arrest, the accused Wajihuddin has been handed over to ATS (Uttar Pradesh) by the Durg Police.

City Superintendent of Police (Bhilai) Vishwa Deepak Tripathi, a team of Supela Police Station and Smriti Nagar Chowki carried out a joint operation with ATS rogation, accused Wajihuddin disclosed that he is associated with SAMU (Student of Aligarh Muslim University). He is also a supporter and propagator of the said ideology by taking the oath of allegiance to ISIS. He is directly linked to Mohammad Rizwan, an active member of ISIS, who has been arrested by Delhi Police.

ATS (Uttar Pradesh) team was assisted by SHO Supela Inspector Durgesh Sharma, Smriti Nagar Chowki incharge Naveen Rajput, Constable Atmanand Kosare, Gopal Lamba, Junaid Siddiqui, Mahatma Sahu and Namrata Singh.

Speech Competition held at Bhilai Mahila Mahavidyalaya

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 08: A Speech Competition was organized for the students of Bhilai Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Hospital Sector, under SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Vigilance Awareness Week-2023. The aim of this competition was to sensitize the youth towards the ill effects of corruption and inculcate commitment towards the nation by saying 'NO' to corrupt malpractices in all walks of life.

Samidha Gupta, GM I/c (Mgmt Serv-BSP) and Sandhya Madan Mohan, Principal Bhilai Mahila Mahavidyalaya adjudicated the participants and also shared their thoughts on the topic of the Competition: "Say no to corruption; commit to the



Nation". Deepthi Raj, DGM (Vigilance) administered the Integrity pledge to everyone present during the programme.

As many as 39 students took part in the Speech Competition and expressed their poignant views in form of an eloquent address on

Corruption and delivered a message to increase public awareness about the perils of corruption. Respective HoD's of various departments of the college were also present on this occasion, along with more than 150 students and teachers of the college.

Student Chelsee Tamrakar (M Sc Sem-III) won the first Prize in the competition, while Khushi Vishwakarma (BHSc II year) and Anushka Yadav (B Sc III year) stood second and third respectively. Lalita Pandey (M Sc Sem-I) was awarded the Consolation prize in the speech competition. All the participants were felicitated by BSP's Vigilance Department.

Prof. Dr Archana Sharan compered the programme. Plant's Vigilance Department organized various competitions including drawing, painting, essays, slogan, extempore, quiz etc., based on this year's theme for Vigilance Awareness Week - "Say no to corruption; commit to the Nation".

Annual Sports Meet 2023 held at Krishna Public School, Durg



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 08: Krishna Public School, Durg hosted its two days, Annual Sports Meet on November 06-07, 2023. A day filled with fervor and excitement amidst thrills, shrills and cheers. The opening ceremony of the meet began on November 06, 2023.

The chief guest gracing the occasion were Krishna Tripathi, Snehlata

Tripathi and Kunjlata Tripathi, Founder member of Krishna Education Society. The program started off with the lighting of lamp. The Principal Iti Sharma motivated the students with her energetic and vibrant speech to be disciplined in every field of life. The Chief guest declared the Sports Meet 2023, open and released the balloons. Different field displays which included PT drill, Aerobics and

March past was performed by students.

There were various track events. The winners of various events were given medals and trophies in the Prize Distribution Ceremony. It was really a momentous day to watch the zealous students and teachers. The programme was compered by Nisha Menon and Mona Mockoul. The Annual Sports meet concluded with the National Anthem.

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 08: In view of the festive season, Traffic Police has prepared a parking plan for the traders and shoppers visiting the markets. In view of the possible rush in the markets during Diwali and Dhanteras festivals, the entire twin-city area has been divided into four zones.

Each beat in-charge will do continuous patrolling on motorcycle in their respective areas. Common citizens have been appealed to park their vehicles only in the designated parking. Vehicles found in the no-parking area will be lifted by the traffic police using cranes. The market areas will be under constant surveillance of CCTV cameras. In case of any inconvenience related, people can contact the traffic help number 9479192029.

As per the instructions of Senior Superintendent of Police (Durg) Ram Gopal Garg and under the leadership of DSP Satish Thakur and DSP Sadanand Vidhyaraj, arrangements

Traffic Police makes elaborate arrangements for festive season



have been made for the crowd in the market area during the upcoming Diwali and Dhanteras festival.

Durg Bhilai has been divided into 4 zone areas in which there will be a beat in-charge of each market area who will continuously patrol his beat area on his motorcycle to make the traffic system simple and safe so that the problem of jam does not arise in the market area.

The arrangements for vehicle parking for the general public, traders and staff coming to the market to purchase goods have been made by the Traffic Police Durg. In Power House Market, the traders and employees of Jawahar Market

will park their vehicles in Lal Maidan.

For the general public coming to buy goods in the market, there will be arrangements to park four-wheelers under the over-bridge and two-wheelers in the market parking. Space will be reserved in the service road from Jagadamba Sweets to Hanuman Temple for those who put up pull carts, roadside kiosks for flowers, lamps, candles etc in the market during festivals. General public coming from Circular Market Link Road will park their vehicles in the Government School and Water Tank grounds. Similarly, the general public coming from Nandani Road and Shitala Mandir area will park their

vehicles in the police ground behind the Chhawani police station.

In Indira Market Durg, the traders and their staff will park their vehicles in their institutions in the grounds of Police Line, Mahatma Gandhi School and Marwadi School. Common people will park their vehicles in the vacant land in front of the CSP office premises, veterinary hospital and near Shanichari market. From 10th November, entry of four wheeler vehicles will be prohibited from CSP Office Gate towards Indira Market, from Farishta Complex towards Indira Market, from court to market and from Shanichari Bazar towards Sarafa.

In Akash Ganga Market, common people will park their two-wheelers in the vacant space in front of the garden. Common citizens will park their cars at Circus Ground, Dakshin Gangotri. Roadside vendors will be allowed in the ground next to Sanjay Nagar Pond.

In Civic Center Market, all the vehicles will be parked in the parking space behind the public toilet. In Sector-06 A Market, parking arrangements will be made for the traders and employees of the market and the general public at Street No 31, Old Lal Maidan. Proper lighting and marking will be done in the existing parking lots and parking lots set up during the festival.

Dr Vaishali Bhagat conferred FMAS Certificate

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Nov 08: The Association of Minimal Access Surgeons of India (AMASI), a section of association of Surgeons of India, has conferred Dr Vaishali Bhagat, a renowned surgeon, FMAS certificate at a convocation ceremony organised during the 18th International Conference AMASICON-2023 in Raipur. With this, Dr Bhagat has been admitted as a fellow of The Association of Minimal Access Surgeons of India (AMASI).

Here it needs a mention that AMASI was started in the year 2003 as a subsection of Association of Surgeons of India



(AS1). Under the guidance of the Founder President Dr C Palaniyandhi this chapter had phenomenal growth with members from every nook and corner of the country.

The main objective of the chapter is to provide education & training to surgeons in the field of Laparoscopic Surgery. AMASI boasts a membership of over 14000 active members which is one of the largest Minimal Access Surgical Associations in the World.

AMASI is engaged in conducting skill courses and awarding fellowships to the deserving candidates. Besides organizing skill course it also organises Zonal CMEs and workshops in different parts of the country with live demonstration of basic to advanced surgeries.

NSS Cell of CCET organises Voter Awareness Rally

Bhilai, Nov 08: The NSS Cell of Christian College of Engineering and Technology, organised a 'Voter Awareness Rally' on November 07, 2023. The main objective of this rally was to educate people about the importance of voting and to spread awareness among citizens. In the morning, NSS volunteers conducted a massive rally that traversed through Kailash Nagar and Housing Board Area.

Regional Office, First Floor, Zonal Market, Sector-10 Bhilai (C.G.) - 490006, Mobile No. 90514 05724 E-mail: PE.Durg@bankofbaroda.com

PREMISES REQUIRED FOR NEW BRANCH

Bank of Baroda invites offer from the owners / Power of attorney holders of premises for housing of its office/ Branch at:

S.No	Name of The Branch	Premises Required At	Required Carpet Area For Premises in Sq.Ft.
01	Dhamdha District Durg	Village: DHAMDHA, Po: DHAMDHA, Tahsil: DHAMDHA, District: Durg (CG) Pin: 491331	1000 - 1300

Premises available with all facilities including adequate power. The premises shall be ready for occupation or likely to be ready for occupation within a period of 2 to 3 months. The intending offerers shall submit their offers in two separate sealed cover superscribed Technical bid and Price bid to "Assistant General Manager, Bank of Baroda, Regional Office Durg, 1st Floor Zonal Market, Sector 10, Bhilai, District Durg, Pin :- 490006" on or before 01-12-2023. Priority would be given to the premises belonging to public sector units / Govt. Departments. (For details please login to the tender section of our website www.bankofbaroda.in/zonal-regional-offices-tenders.htm)

The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning reasons thereof.

Asst. General Manager
Bank of Baroda, Regional Office, Durg

Date: 09.11.2023, Place: Durg, Chhattisgarh

Circle Office, Plot No. A-48, Ring Road No. 2 Gaurav Path, Bilaspur, Ph.: (07752) 432710/729

E-AUCTION ON 18.12.2023

Sale of Immovable Property/ies Mortgaged to Bank Under SARFAESI Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002)

APPENDIX-IV-A [See proviso to rule 8(6)]

Whereas the Authorized Officer of Punjab National Bank had taken Symbolic/Physical Possession of the following properties pursuant to the notice issued u/s 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, in the following loan accounts with right to sell the same on 'AS IS WHERE IS', 'AS IS WHAT IS' AND 'WHAT EVER THERE IS BASIS' for realization of Bank's dues plus interest, costs and charges as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, by the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor, the undersigned in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(4) of the said Act proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the immovable properties

The Borrower's / Guarantors' / Mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Last date and time for EMD submission with respect to Properties is 16.12.2023 up to 04:00PM and the e-auction shall be conducted on 18.12.2023 from 12:00PM to 04:00PM.

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower & Address/ Branch Name	Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor Name & Address	Detail Address of the Property	Date of Demand Notice/ Outstanding Amt./ Nature of Possession	Reserve Price (Rs.) EMD (RS) BID Increase
1.	Branch-Bhatapara OBC Neetu Traders, Prop-Naresh Kachela, Grasim Road, Vill- Khokhli, Bhatapara, Dist-Baloda bazar, CG-493118	Guarantor- Mr. Jairam Das Kachela S/o Pooran Mal Kachela, Add-Bhagat singh ward, Bhatapara, Dist- Baloda bazaar, CG-493118 Borrower/ Mortgagor / Prop-Naresh Kachhela S/o Jamiyat Mal Kachhela, Add- Bhagat singh ward, Bhatapara, Dist- Baloda Bazaar, CG	Property No.1) Plant and Machineries- Vill- khokhali, Tah- Bhatapara, Dist-Baloda bazar	03-03-2018	₹ 3400000
			Property No.2) Land and Building- Property situated Khokhali, KH no-192/6, PH no-14, RIC and Tahsil- Bhatapara, Dist -Baloda Bazar CG-493118, Area- 0.093 Hec i.e 10035 sqft, owner- Mr Naresh Kachhela S/o Jamiyat Mal Kachhela	Symbolic	₹ 30000
2.	Branch-Bhatapara OBC Mr. Mantriram Narang s/o Gittaram Narang, R/o Bhagat singh ward Tehsil- Bhatapara, Dist- Baloda Bazar	Borrower / Mortgagor- Mr Mantriram Narang s/o Gittaram Narang, R/o Bhagat singh ward, Tehsil- Bhatapara, Dist- Baloda Bazar	Property situated at plot NO-231, kh no-324/1, PH no- 11, Nazul sheet no 17 B, Admeasuring 53 SQM, sadar bazar Bhatapara, RIC & Tahsil- Bhatapara CG	03-12-2022	₹ 1923000
				₹ 7,54,619.98	₹ 192300
				Symbolic	₹ 10000

Note: Bidders interested for visiting the property can contact the concerned branch personally or over phone/mobile at the numbers provided of bank officials under terms & conditions. Date of visit to property: 15.12.2023. (Within Bank working hour) Contact for property for Authorised Officer, Mo. 9954944737

Important Note : Bidder has to complete following formalities well in advance : Step1: Bidder/Purchaser Registration: Bidder to register on e-Auction portal (link given above) <https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp> using mobile number and email-id. Step 2: KYC Verification: Bidder to upload requisite KYC documents. KYC documents shall be verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days). Step 3: Transfer of EMD amount to his Global EMD Wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction portal. Step 1 to Step 3 should be completed by bidder well in advance, before e-Auction date.

Note: Interested Bidders needs to make their User ID and Password by own and it will take time of minimum 02 days, therefore, it is requested to the bidder to create his User ID 02 days prior to last date.

Terms & Conditions The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and to the following further conditions:

1. The properties are being sold on 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS' AND 'AS IS WHAT IS BASIS' AND 'WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS'. 2. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule here in above have been state to the best of the information of the Authorized officer, but the Authorized Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in his proclamation. 3. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> on 18.12.2023 For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer www.ibapi.in, www.tenders.gov.in, www.mstcecommerce.com, <https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app>.

Date: 09.11.2023 Place : Bilaspur (C.G.) Authorized Officer/Punjab National Bank, Secured Creditor

Dr. HU Khan to attend World Chief Justice Conference

Global leaders unite in Lucknow to tackle urgent global challenges

Bilaspur, Nov 08:

Dr. Hameed Ullah Khan, a distinguished social worker and former public relations officer of Hidayat Ullah National Law University, is poised to represent Bilaspur at the prestigious 24th International Conference of Chief Justices of the World, scheduled to be held in Lucknow from November 3 to 7.

KK Singhania, the head of the organizing committee and chairman of Cygnus Group of Companies, extended a warm invitation to Dr. Hameed Ullah Khan. Singhania expressed his immense pleasure in inviting Dr. Khan to this esteemed gathering of global luminaries, where the focus will be on the significance of Article 51

of the Constitution of India. The conference's theme, 'Uniting the World for Children through enforceable global law and effective global governance,' spotlights the pressing challenges confronting humanity today. The presence of vast stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction worldwide looms as a dire threat. Additionally, the rapid pace of global warming and climate change has already unleashed devastating effects on the environment, resulting in unprecedented floods, storms, and heatwaves worldwide.

Compounding these concerns are issues like international terrorism, ethnic and civil wars, anarchy, poverty, insecurity, and human rights violations, all of which pose



serious threats to people across the globe. The limitations of the United Nations in addressing these multifaceted problems have become increasingly evident. Ongoing wars have inflicted substantial loss of life and destruction, impacting the world economy and potentially generating additional international complications.

In light of these formidable challenges, establishing robust global governance structures to regulate international behavior becomes imperative. Such structures aim to foster an environment of global unity and peace, ensuring a secure future for humanity, with a particular focus on safeguarding the well-being of the world's more than 2.5 billion children. In this context, Article 51 of the Constitution of India serves as a guiding beacon, promoting the ideals of international peace and security.

Before embarking on his journey to Lucknow, Dr. Hameed Ullah Khan emphasized the distinguished gathering that will grace the conference, Chief Justices and former Chief Justices from

various countries will convene at this significant event. Adding to the prestige of the occasion, the conference's chief guest will be the former Chief Justice of India, Honorable KG Balakrishnan.

Dr. Khan underscored the historic significance of this gathering, marking the twenty-fourth year of the World Chief Justice Conference. During this event, prominent global issues will undergo thorough and detailed discussions, with the aim of generating meaningful solutions. Subsequently, recommendations will be submitted to official institutions, emphasizing the conference's unwavering commitment to addressing and resolving critical global challenges.

Ex-woman Naxal commander-turned-cop votes for first time

Naraynpur, Nov 08: Voters standing in a queue outside a polling station in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur constituency waited patiently for their turn and when a woman police constable walked out after exercising her franchise, they didn't take note as there was no apparent reason to do so.

For constable Sumitra Sahu, 34, this was the first occasion in her life, which took a turn for the better in December 2018, to participate in the poll process as a voter. Before December five years ago, Sahu donned brownish-green fatigues and carried a gun as an active commander of the Aamdai Area Committee of Maoists in Narayanpur. On Tuesday, voting was held in 20 constituencies during the first phase of the state assembly polls amid Naxalite violence, officials said. "I

joined the police force in January 2019. I am happy that for the first time, I have exercised my franchise on Tuesday," she told PTI. During elections-dubbed the festival of democracy-Naxalites in LWE-affected areas often threaten people against participating in the voting process but thanks to the efforts taken by the police and poll officials, voting can be held. This was evident on Tuesday when a provisional turnout of around 71 per cent was recorded in the first phase of the state assembly elections for 20 constituencies. A resident of Kadenar village in Narayanpur district, Sahu joined Naxalism in 2004 as a member of Chetna Natya Mandli- a cultural wing of outlawed CPI (Maoists). She was recruited by then

East Bastar Division secretary Urmila, a dreaded Maoist leader. During elections, including parliamentary, assembly and panchayat she was also tasked to spread propaganda of the boycott call given by Naxalites, Sahu said.

After her 6-7 colleagues were killed in encounters with police and a police camp set up in her village Kadenar, she quit Naxalism in December 2018 and joined the police force in 2019. She initially served as a 'gopniya sainik' (secret trooper) and was later elevated as a constable, Sahu added.

On Tuesday, residents of 126 villages in the Bastar division rejoiced as polling stations were set up for the first time in their villages since Independence in seven Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected districts, a statement issued by the poll authority said.

Peaceful voting in Khairagarh assembly elections



Khairagarh, Nov 08:

Voters of the area voted enthusiastically for the Khairagarh assembly elections and the voting program was conducted in a peaceful atmosphere in the district. The voting went uninterrupted under the supervision of the observers of the Commission and administrative officials including Collector, SP.

There is news of good voting in Vananchal of the assembly including K h a i r a g a r h , Chhuikhadan, Gandai. Collector and District Election Officer Gopal Verma inspected the booths of urban and rural areas of Khairagarh Assembly and Dongargarh Assembly (partial).

During the inspection, he instructed the presid-



ing and polling officers that the voters should not face any inconvenience at the booth and the process should be conducted smoothly. To motivate first time voters, disabled and young voters of the district to vote, he took selfies and photographs with them. Also to make the polling booth attractive and accessible in the assembly elections, specific booths

of the district were decorated with fountains, rangoli, colorful tents and balloons, attractive entrance gates, beautiful selfie points etc.

Along with this, help was given to the elderly and disabled people to make transportation to the polling stations easier and for this, wheel chairs were arranged in the identified polling stations.

For its operation, 253 Scouts, 70 NSS and 75 disabled associates attended the centers and provided cooperation. Deputy District Election Officer DS Rajput, Joint Collector Abha Tiwari, CMO Khairagarh Pramod Shukla, Dr. Maqsood, Sanjay Dewangan and others were present.

Voter awareness rally and street play organized



Korba, Nov 08:

By students of EVPG College

As per the instructions of Collector and District Election Officer Korba and in coordination with District Sweep Nodal Officer and CEO District Panchayat Mr. Vishwadeep, during the Assembly Elections 2023, all the youth, elderly, women and men of urban and rural areas including men and women of schools and colleges are being made aware to vote cautiously.

To make students aware about voting, 100 percent voters are being made aware through various programs like street plays, rallies, slogan-writing, essays, speeches, mehndi competition, poster making etc. In this series, a voter awareness rally and sweep street play was organized by the students of Government EVPG College Korba in Ward No.

31 Shanti Vihar Kharmora of the city.

In the programme, an attractive street drama was presented by the college students to create awareness about voting. Similarly, today the students of late Pyarelal Kanwar Government College, Bhainsma performed a street play under the sweep program in the local market of Bhainsma and made the voters aware about voting and took the oath of 100 percent voting.

Meeting held in MCMC committee

Korba, Nov 08: Under the necessary guidelines given by the Election Commission of India regarding paid news, a Media Certification and Media Monitoring Committee (MCMC) has been formed in Korba district under the Assembly Elections 2023. Along with this, with the implementation of the code of conduct, a team of more than 50 members is monitoring all the newspapers, web portal news, electronic media news channels, Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram etc. in the district every moment and preparing reports.

In this series, the team is taking cognizance of the cases of creating an atmosphere in favor of a particular candidate and presenting it to the general public through the media and influencing the elections and such cases are being sent to the district level committee. In the meeting of the committee constituted under the chairmanship of Collector and District Election Officer Saurabh Kumar, cases were forwarded to take necessary action on web portal news and paid news published in newspapers.

In this matter, further action will be taken along with issuing a notice to the concerned. Members including Additional Collector Dinesh Kumar Nag, Nodal Officer Sevaram Dewan-Joint Collector were present in the committee meeting. It is noteworthy that observers have also been appointed by the Election Commission of India to conduct transparent and fair elections in the district and along with keeping an eye on all the news in the district, the observers are also observing the work being done by the media authentication and media monitoring unit.

Voters Awareness rally organized



Kharora, Nov 08: A Voting Awareness rally was taken out in Bharat Dewangan Government Excellent Hindi/English Medium School Kharora, and voting awareness oath was administered. Awareness rallies were taken out with slogans like 100% voting, happy voting, happy voting, voting with a smile, go to vote, do your duty. Earlier in the day school, a rangoli competition related to voting awareness was organized, in which 30 to 40 children made rangoli for voting awareness and inspired 100 percent voting. To make this program successful, school Principal Rajni Minj, vice Principal Harish Devangan,

P.Devangan. Shahina Parveen, Domar Singh Yadav, M.K.Sahu, Shweta Sharma, Sangeeta Nayak, Rajni Tripathi, Sunita Singh, Rita Rani Verma, Chameeli Khare, Tanya Bhattacharya, Jayanti Sahu, Neha Rathore, Alka Minz, Jagdev Banjare, Yogendra Tripathi, Gitanjali Pan, Shivangi Nishad, Amar Burman, Nishita Dixit from English Medium School, Parul Rajoria Ankriti Bhide, Aapoorna Ogre, Roopshikha Sahu, Nadis Sahu, Anil Kumar, Pavas Patel, Krutika Verma, Preeti Shukla, Ajay Kurre, Lukeshwar Uike, Pavetri Sahu played an important role.

NP President Rekha Sonkar complains against engineer

Rajim, Nov 08:

Rajim Nagar Panchayat (NP) President Rekha Sonkar has written a complaint to the Collector that an engineer posted in the municipality, named Durgesh Malakar, is not time bound to his duty hours, as he commutes to and fro from Naya Raipur. Sonkar has written in the letter, that the Model Code of Conduct for the Assembly Elections 2023 will be implemented on 9th October 2023 at 12 noon and as per the attached order number 1351 dated 6.10.23 of the Office of Nagar Panchayat Rajim District Gariaband and due to the engineer not being at the headquarters, along with the

election work, the ongoing development work is also being affected.

Signatures of Chairman Omprakash Adil, Chairman Pushpa Goswami, Councilor Purnima Chandrakar, Councilor Mahesh Yadav, Councilor Uttam Nishad, Councilor Tunku Sonkar, were also accommodated in the complaint. According to the copy of the complaint provided, this letter has been sent to the Collector on 30 October 2023 and after this complaint letter, taking action from the office of Collector Gariaband and District Election Officer on November 3, a written official letter was sent to CMO Rajim by the order of the Deputy District Election Officer,



asking in the context of the complaint letter of Nagar Panchayat President Rekha Sonkar.

Further after receiving the official letter from the Collector and District Election Office, Rajim CMO sent a written letter to the Collector and

District Election Officer exactly one day later i.e. on 4th November and informed that Engineer Durgesh Malakar has been instructed earlier also, that he should reside in the headquarters. Despite the clarification notice letter number 118 dated 18.04.2023 and number 1454 dated 3.11.2023 of the Nagar Panchayat Rajim office regarding not residing at the headquarters and remaining absent on his duty, the engineer has not submitted any reply.

Rather, despite being the nodal officer for the Assembly elections 2023, he does not reside in the headquarters and remains absent from his post without competent approval. CMO Rajim has

sent a report to this effect and submitted it to the Collector and District Election Officer for further action. It is known that the Chief Electoral Officer of Chhattisgarh, Reena Baba Saheb Kangale, has sent a letter to all the Collectors and District Election Officers of the state on October 9, 2023, saying that a ban has been imposed on leaving the district till the completion of the Assembly General Elections 2023. In this context, all the returning and assistant returning officers including the Collector and District Election Officers are directed not to leave the district without the express permission of the Chief Electoral Officer's office.

GM honours vigilant station master's alertness

Bilaspur, Nov 08:

SECR prioritizes safe operations

Ensuring safe train operations and passenger convenience remains the paramount focus of the South East Central Railway. The railway employees of this region are unwaveringly committed to these core principles. Recognizing and honouring outstanding railway personnel serves as a catalyst, inspiring greater awareness and efficiency among the railway workforce. In this vein, the General Manager of South East Central Railway, as part of the monthly safety meeting, bestows accolades upon individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to safety. On November 07, Station Master Rakesh Kumar of Paramlakasa was recog-

nized for his remarkable contributions to railway safety.

Station Master Rakesh Kumar's swift and alert response on October 14 at 01.53 pm proved instrumental in averting a potential hazard. While overseeing the passage of a goods train on Line No. 02, he detected an irregular sound on the track, suggesting a possible rail fracture. Acting decisively, Rakesh Kumar dispatched the on-duty traffic assistant, Ravindra Godbole, to inspect the track in the direction of the unusual noise. Godbole confirmed the presence of a rail fracture and promptly relayed the information to Station



Master Ravendra Kumar via walkie-talkie. Ravendra Kumar immediately halted train movement on the affected up line and notified the con-

trol office. The diligent response ensured timely rectification of the rail fracture, safeguarding passenger safety and operational integrity.

General Manager Alok Kumar of South East Central Railway presented Station Master Ravendra Kumar with the General Manager Safety Award for the month of October. This accolade acknowledged Ravendra Kumar's unwavering commitment to duty, caution, and efficiency. The ceremony was attended by principal chief department heads, including the Additional General Manager. General Manager Alok Kumar commended Ravendra Kumar's vigilance and efficiency, extending his inspiration and encouragement to all railway personnel within the South East Central Railway network, recognizing their invaluable contributions to safe and efficient railway operations.

Lack of polling booths stalls voting percentage



Bazar Ataraia, Nov 08:

In the nearby Gram Panchayat Bhipuri and Kukurmuda and other villages of the area, even though there were around 1200 voters, voters had to face a lot of problems due to setting up of only one polling station, in the entire region.

According to information, Gram Panchayat Bhipuri is a single village, where there are 1193 voters and in Kukurmuda too, despite having more

voters, voters had to face a lot of difficulties due to there being only one polling booth.

According to information, the total number of voters is 1193 and till 5 pm only 800 voters could cast their votes.

After 5 o'clock, about 250 voters stayed inside the campus, of which around 100 voters were left till the time of writing the news at 6 o'clock in the evening. According to the villagers, there was a demand for one more polling station

but the administration did not pay attention to it. Villagers are facing problems due to administrative negligence and lack of polling booths in other villages. Apart from this, there are many villages in Khairagarh Assembly where polling booth has not been built till date, due to which the villagers have to go to another village to vote, whereas there are many villages where polling booths could not be set up even after having more than 250 voters.

Growing numbers of Palestinians flee on foot

● Israel troops are battling inside Gaza City

Khan Younis, Nov 08 (AP):

Thousands of Palestinians are fleeing south on foot with only what they can carry after running out of food and water in the north, a UN agency said Wednesday, as Israel said its troops were battling Hamas militants deep inside Gaza City.

Over 70 per cent of Gaza's population of 2.3 million have already fled their homes, but the growing numbers making their way south point to an increasingly desperate situation in and around Gaza's largest city, which has come under heavy Israeli bombardment.

The war triggered by Hamas' October 7 assault inside Israel has entered a second month, with an increasingly dire humanitarian situation inside the besieged Palestinian enclave and no end in sight. Israel has said its war to



Palestinians flee Gaza City to the southern Gaza Strip on Salah al-Din street in Bureij.

end Hamas' rule and crush its military capabilities will be long and difficult, and that it will maintain some form of control over the coastal enclave indefinitely.

About 15,000 people fled northern Gaza on Tuesday, triple the number that left Monday, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. They are using Gaza's main north-south highway during a daily four-hour window announced

by Israel. Those fleeing include children, the elderly and people with disabilities, and most walked with minimal belongings, the UN agency said. Some say they had to cross Israeli checkpoints, where they saw people being arrested, while others held their hands in the air and raised white flags while passing Israeli tanks.

Residents reported loud explosions overnight into Wednesday across Gaza City and in its Shati

refugee camp, which houses Palestinian families who fled or were driven out of what is now Israel during the 1948 war surrounding its establishment.

"The bombings were heavy and close," said Mohamed Abed, who lives in Gaza City's Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood. He said residents panicked when they heard the news late Tuesday that Israeli ground forces were fighting deep inside the city.

Hamas denied Israeli

troops had made any significant gains or entered Gaza City. It was not possible to independently confirm claims from either side.

Israel is focusing its operations on Gaza City, which was home to some 650,000 people before the war and where the military says Hamas has its central command and a vast labyrinth of tunnels. Hundreds of thousands have heeded Israeli orders to flee the north in recent weeks, even though Israel also routinely strikes what it says are militant targets in the south, often killing civilians.

Tens of thousands of Palestinians remain in the north, many sheltering at hospitals or UN schools. The north has been without running water for weeks, and the UN agency said the last functioning bakeries shut down on Tuesday for lack of fuel, water and flour. Hospitals running low on supplies are performing surgeries including amputations without anesthesia, it said.

KING & QUEEN MEET CAST MEMBERS



Britain's King Charles III and Queen Camilla meet cast members of the Royal Ballet after their performance of Carlos Acosta's "Don Quixote," at the Royal Opera House in London.

Americans divided over Israel response to Hamas attacks

Washington, Nov 08 (AP):

Americans have become more likely to describe Israel as an ally that shares US interests and values since the war with Hamas began, but they're divided over whether Israel has gone too far in its response to last month's attack, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

The survey, which was conducted from November 2 to 6, also reveals scepticism among Democrats toward Israel, which could present a challenge for President Joe Biden as he tries to balance support for the country's defence

and his party's shifting priorities.

The result is a rather muddled picture that presents few easy options for the White House as it keeps one eye on public opinion with an election year on the horizon.

"It's just so complicated," said Carolyn Reyes, a 36-year-old Democrat in New York. "And I will not even pretend to understand the complicated nature of the relationship between the United States and Israel."

During an August poll, only 32 per cent of Americans described Israel as an ally that shares US interests and values. But that figure increased to 44 per cent in

the latest survey, which was conducted after the October 7 attacks by Hamas that killed 1,400 Israelis.

However, only 36 per cent said it's extremely or very important to provide aid to Israel's military to fight Hamas. And 40 per cent of Americans said Israel's military response in the Gaza Strip has gone too far. The Health Ministry in the Gaza Strip, which is run by Hamas, said 10,000 Palestinians have died from weeks of Israeli bombardment and a recent ground invasion.

Reyes recalled hearing about the death toll on the news and thinking "it seems so high, I thought that can't be right."

2+2 carries promise of deepening a robust India-US partnership: Expert

Washington, Nov 08 (PTI):

The 2+2 ministerial dialogue between India and the US will serve as a platform for reaffirming the unwavering commitment of the two countries to their global partnership and their shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific, according to an expert.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin will be travelling to New Delhi this week for the fifth 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue with their Indian counterparts External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, the state department said earlier this month.

Blinken and Austin will also meet other senior Indian officials to discuss



In this Tuesday, April 12, 2022, file photo, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin (right) at a news conference during the fourth U.S.-India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue at the State Department, in Washington, USA.

both bilateral and global concerns and developments in the Indo-Pacific, it said.

Coming in the backdrop of a complex and ever-evolving global landscape, the dialogue will carry

the promise of deepening a robust partnership between the two nations, particularly in the defence area, said Farwa Aamer, Director of South Asia Initiatives, Asia Society Policy Institute.

"The upcoming fifth US-India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue, set to bring together top officials from both nations in India this week, carries the promise of deepening a robust partnership that has seen

remarkable progress, particularly in the realm of defence cooperation," she said.

The dialogue will serve as a platform for reaffirming the unwavering commitment of the United States and India to their global partnership and their shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific, said Aamer.

The Indo-Pacific is a biogeographic region, comprising the Indian Ocean and the western and central Pacific Ocean, including the South China Sea.

The US, India and several other world powers have been discussing the need to ensure a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of China's rising military manoeuvring in the resource-rich region.

Blinken, senior diplomats seek G7 unity on Israel-Hamas war and other global crises

Tokyo, Nov 08 (AP):

The Group of 7 leading industrial democracies worked to forge a unified stance on the Israel-Hamas war at intensive meetings in Tokyo on Wednesday, with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and other senior diplomats looking to contain a worsening humanitarian crisis and stop a spillover of fighting into the wider Middle East.

The second and final day of the G7 Foreign Minister talks intersects with a flurry of global crises. While the devastating monthlong conflict in Gaza and the hu-



Group of 7 Foreign Ministers meetings at the Iikura Guest House in Tokyo Wednesday, Nov. 8.

manitarian suffering that has followed Israel's response to the deadly Oct. 7 Hamas attack lead the agenda, the envoys are also dealing with Russia's war in

Ukraine, North Korea's nuclear and missile programs and China's growing aggression in territorial disputes with its neighbors.

Blinken, who arrived in

Tokyo after a whirlwind tour of the Middle East, said it's crucial to find a unified stance on the war in Israel, similar to what diplomats have done over Ukraine and other major issues. The ministers are also trying to keep existing differences on Gaza from deepening. "This is a very important moment as well for the G7 to come together in the face of this crisis and to speak, as we do, with one clear voice," Blinken told Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa, shortly after talks Tuesday with Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

Anusha Shah takes over as first Indian-origin president of UK's Institute of Civil Engineers

London, Nov 08 (PTI):

The Institute of Civil Engineers (ICE), an independent professional association for civil engineers and a charitable body in the UK representing 95,000 members, has elected the first Indian-origin president in its 205-year history in Professor Anusha Shah.

As the institution's 159th president, Shah took charge of her new role with a presidential address on the theme of nature-positive civil engineering at ICE's London headquarters on Tuesday evening. Shah specialises in water and environmental engineering, with over 22 years' experience in designing, managing and leading projects and programmes in the UK and internationally.

"My presidential year

will be about how we become a nature and people-positive profession at heart," Shah stated in her speech.

"We have failed to understand the interrelationship between infrastructure and nature. We are implementing nature-based and green solutions globally, but in pockets. It's not the norm yet," she said. According to Professor Shah, in her 40s, construction is responsible for 30 per cent of biodiversity loss around the world, but adopting a nature and people-positive approach will enable engineers to reverse the environmental decline. "Not only will we reach net zero faster, we'll also improve climate resilience and reap multiple benefits for our society and the planet," she noted.

Raging fire destroys massive World War II-era blimp hangar

● In Southern California

Tustin (Calif.), Nov 08 (AP):

A raging fire Tuesday destroyed a massive World War II-era wooden hangar that was built to house military blimps based in Southern California, and authorities said the blaze could burn for days.

The Orange County Fire Authority said in a social media post that allowing the structure to collapse was the only way to fight the inferno, which was reported around 1 a.m. The cause was under investigation.

The agency released video of flames racing along the curved roof, which fell apart in sec-

tions. A huge plume of dark smoke was visible for miles around.

"Due to the dynamic nature of the fire, and the imminent danger of collapse, we have determined the most operationally sound method is to allow the structure to collapse, at which point ground crews can move in closer, and aggressively work to extinguish the fire," the Fire Authority said.

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy said no injuries were reported. The fire smoldered into the evening. The historic hangar was one of two built in 1942 for the U.S. Navy in the city of Tustin,

about 35 miles (56 kilometers) southeast of Los Angeles. At the time, the Navy used lighter-than-air ships for patrol and anti-submarine defense.

According to the city, the hangars are 17 stories high, more than 1,000 feet (305 meters) long and 300 feet (91.4 meters) wide, putting them among the largest wooden structures ever built. The destroyed structure was known as the north hangar.

The Navy installation became a Marine Corps air station in the 1950s and closed in 1999. Fennessy said his agency was in contact with the Navy, which still owns the property.

Hollywood productions have used the hangars for TV shows and movies including "JAG," "The X-Files" and "Pearl Harbor," and they've also appeared in commercials. In 1993, the site was listed by the American Society of Civil Engineers as one of the historic civil engineering landmarks of the 20th century. "With all that in mind, it's a sad day for the city of Tustin and all of Orange County," Fennessy said. "But we are fortunate that no injuries have been reported and we are in a position to extinguish the blaze without putting firefighters at risk, albeit several days."

Biden-Xi meeting in San Francisco still on track

● But no major breakthroughs expected

Washington, Nov 08 (AP):

The anticipated meeting between President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping is on track for next week on the sidelines of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in San Francisco, but the White House is not expecting the face-to-face to result in major changes to the relationship between the two nations, according to a person familiar with the planning.

The White House announced late last month that U.S. and China had come to an agreement in principle for Biden and Xi to speak to each other in person on the sidelines of

the summit the first engagement between the leaders in what's been a tension-filled year between the world's two biggest economic powers. But with Biden set to arrive in San Francisco a week for the summit, exact timing and other logistical details have not yet been formally announced.

The U.S. believes that the two sides will be able to make some modest announcements following their meeting, but the fundamental differences in the relationship will remain unchanged, according to the person, who was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Jude Blanchette, chair of China Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in

Washington, said Biden and Xi were looking "to intentionally keep that bar low."

"What's going on here is an attempt to have a deep conversation where the two sides directly share their concerns, but more importantly that the meeting unlocks, especially in the Chinese system, space for further engagement in constructive work," Blanchette said.

There's been plenty of effort by both sides to lay the groundwork for the expected San Francisco meeting.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen is set to meet Thursday and Friday with Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng in San Francisco before finance ministers of the APEC member nations officially kick off the summit Saturday.

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Precautions to be taken by the students before enrolling in Programmes offered under Open & Distance Learning (ODL) and/or Online Learning mode

UGC has notified UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 on 4th September, 2020 in the Gazette of India. These regulations lay down the minimum standards of instruction for the grant of degrees at the undergraduate and post graduate levels and grant of post graduate diploma of duration of two years.

All stakeholders are hereby requested to confirm the details regarding recognition status of HEIs on UGC DEB website, check the details on the HEIs' website, prohibited programmes, ensuring all activities are within Territorial Jurisdiction for ODL Programmes and prohibition of franchising arrangement before enrolling in ODL and Online programmes.

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Secretary, UGC

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Green Engineering

Building a Sustainable Future

President Droupadi Murmu's recent address to the Military Engineer Services (MES) officers carried a profound message – the urgent need for "green engineering." Her call for environmentally conscious and sustainable construction aligns perfectly with the critical juncture we find ourselves in today. With a population of over 1.4 billion and finite resources, India stands at the precipice of a transformative shift in the real estate sector. As energy consumption projections soar to 4 trillion units, and many cities teeter on the brink of water scarcity, our approach to construction must evolve to combat the looming climate crisis. The concept of 'Green Construction' takes center stage in this imperative transformation. It not only reduces carbon footprints and adverse environmental impacts but also preserves precious resources like water and energy. Simultaneously, it improves indoor air quality through the use of eco-friendly materials, offering a host of societal benefits, including enhanced health and increased work productivity. When we compare green buildings accredited by the Indian Green Building Council to conventional structures, the differences are stark. Green buildings deliver significant water and energy savings, ranging from 20-30% and 40-50%, respectively. Moreover, they reduce construction costs for developers while increasing property values. The key lies in implementing eco-sustainable and resource-efficient design principles across a building's entire lifecycle – from planning and design to construction, maintenance, renovation, and demolition. Unlike their traditional counterparts, green buildings employ eco-friendly, reusable materials to minimize resource waste and environmental harm. Additionally, they utilize energy-efficient equipment and appliances powered by solar or wind energy, thereby reducing daily carbon emissions at an individual level. President Murmu emphasized the critical role of cutting-edge technologies, especially within the field of engineering. The concept of green engineering harmonizes with the government's concerted efforts to drastically reduce carbon emissions. Prime Minister Modi has shown unwavering commitment to eco-friendly approaches, despite initial cost premiums, in pursuit of lasting benefits. A primary focus is on harnessing solar, wind, and geothermal energy to position India as a global leader in environmental sustainability. It's important to recognize that these aspirations are long-term endeavors, requiring significant time investments to build the necessary infrastructure. Our armed forces have historically been at the forefront of addressing national challenges. Military cantonment areas serve as examples of environmentally conscious development, marked by a steadfast commitment to preserving the environment. Military installations prioritize the nurturing and sustenance of lush greenery. Additionally, the armed forces' expanding infrastructural needs make green engineering a compelling imperative, especially in rugged terrain where environmental conditions are demanding. Green engineering practices can revolutionize the environment over the long term, fostering responsible water conservation practices. The President's message resonates with every citizen, extending beyond military circles. Even in personal residences, apartments, or housing colonies, the call for sustainable construction is clear. The repercussions of climate change will inevitably touch every individual, sooner or later. Our current resource consumption patterns are unsustainable, necessitating the adoption of reusable materials, energy-efficient technologies, and water-conservation methods. This collective effort is not just essential; it is imperative for a better standard of living in India's future.

The Century King

Virat Kohli's Majestic Milestone

Rathin Kumar Chanda

In the realm of cricket, where legends are etched into the annals of history with every stroke of the bat, Virat Kohli stands tall as a modern-day colossus. His latest feat, the 49th century in his illustrious career, has not only equaled him with the god of cricket, Sachin Tendulkar, but has also solidified his status as a cricketing deity in his own right. On the hallowed turf of Eden Gardens, Kolkata, amidst the Diwali celebrations in the City of Joy, Kohli's monumental achievement was celebrated like a sacred festival. Kohli, often referred to as the "newsmaker cricketer," has been the heartbeat of the Indian cricket team for years. He's not just a star cricketer; he's the North Star guiding the team's fortunes. His journey, which began as a young cricketer idolizing the legendary Tendulkar, has seen him rise to become a Superstar for India. And on his 35th birthday, he stood shoulder to shoulder with his idol, having achieved a milestone that few could dream of. Kohli is more than just a cricketer; he's the secret energy that fuels Team India. His batting is not just runs on the scoreboard; it's the very essence of India's cricketing spirit. His attitude isn't just confidence; it's the unwavering belief in his abilities. When Kohli strides onto the field, he doesn't just shine; he radiates, illuminating the entire team with his aura. He's the 'majboot jor,' the mighty force that powers the Indian cricket team. In the world of statistics, Kohli's achievement is nothing short of astonishing. He reached his 49th century in just 289 matches and 277 innings, a feat that surpasses Tendulkar, who played 463 matches and 452 innings to reach the same milestone. The likes of Rohit Sharma, Ricky Ponting, and Sanath Jayasuriya were left trailing in his wake. It's worth noting that before this century, Kohli had been dismissed twice in recent matches against New Zealand and Sri Lanka, having scored over eighty runs. Such is the high standard he sets for himself. Kohli's peers and counterparts in the cricketing world have showered him with praise for his extraordinary batting prowess and his consistency in performance. From his early days as a member of the Junior World Cup squad to his current status as the shining star of Team India, his journey has been nothing short of remarkable. He now holds the prestigious title of ICC's number one cricketer and is the second-highest run-scorer in the current World Cup, with a staggering 454 runs to his name. Even when his form briefly deserted him, Kohli's unyielding self-belief never wavered. He embarked on a comeback mission, armed with a renewed batting aptitude and a reservoir of talent that few can match. His willingness to sacrifice his personal milestones for the team's cause, as seen in the last two matches, exemplifies his dedication to the Indian cricketing tradition. Let's delve into the numbers that define the legacy of Virat Kohli. In his 289 one-day international matches, he has amassed a staggering 13,626 runs at an average of 58. In the familiar confines of home, he has accumulated 6,000 runs in 119 matches, including 23 centuries. Two of those centuries were etched in the grandeur of the World Cup stage. In foreign lands, he has played 118 matches, scoring 5,446 runs with 21 centuries to his name. The renowned cricket writer, Necil Card, humorously dubbed the scoreboard an 'Ass' when he observed that in the last 10 overs of an innings, Kohli had scored a mere 26 runs. Such is the relentless pursuit of excellence that defines his character. Kohli's batting performance with the willow is akin to the beauty of the Alps when viewed from an airplane. It provides cricket enthusiasts with a soft breeze of sea-scented nostalgia, a reminder of the breathtaking elegance and power that the game can encapsulate. Kohli's journey continues, and who knows, perhaps the coveted 50th century is just around the corner, waiting to be etched into the tapestry of his cricketing legend. In Virat Kohli, we have not just witnessed a cricketer; we have witnessed a phenomenon, a living testament to the beauty and brilliance of the game.

GUWAHATI HALF MARATHON



Actor and UN Environment Programme Goodwill Ambassador Gul Panag participates in a promotional run for the Guwahati Half Marathon, at Khanapara in Guwahati, Wednesday, Nov. 8.

Telangana: KCR Faltering at Hat-trick Win

DR. DUGGARAJU SRINIVASA RAO



Telangana, carved out of Andhra Pradesh in 2014, is going for its third poll, and TRS, the party founded for attaining statehood, now christened as BRS, and its founder KCR, are striving for a hat-trick victory in the election to be held on 30th November. KCR, who ruled the state since its creation, instead of running a positive campaign based on the track record of state development, has unfortunately chosen to run a negative campaign with an admixture of anti-Andhra and pro-Telangana sentiment. As he set the negative tone of the campaign in the state, the other two contenders for power, Congress and BJP, are also towing the same negative way by reminding KCR of his unfulfilled promises. This negative campaign is likely to split the vote among the parties, and one major view prevailing in the political arena is a hung assembly, though the experts believe KR is scraping through with difficulty.

KCR is an unchallenged leader of that state with two successive massive victories in the Telangana assembly elections in 2014 and 2018. Not satisfied with the number of MLAs he gained in the elections, KCR chose to encourage defections from Congress, Left parties, and TDP with the sole intention of eliminating the opposition to strengthen his dictatorial and family-centric rule. Telangana people who had immense faith in his leadership until 2018 have started

slowly drifting away from the rhetoric of anti-Andhra speeches. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP won four seats, and Congress won 3 seats, leaving only 9 seats for BRS. The interesting aspect of the 2019 Lok Sabha election results is that the BJP, which could win only one MLA seat in 2018, could win 4 Lok Sabha seats, including the Nizamabad seat held by KCR's daughter Kavita, while the Congress state president Revanth Reddy, who lost the 2018 assembly election, could get elected to the Lok Sabha in 2019. That the loss of sheen and face for KCR within a year of his second electoral victory was further confirmed by his party's loss to BJP candidates in the two by-elections and the saffron party's gain in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections. Since 2019, the opposition was running political programs to unseat KCR and deny him the hat-trick victory.

Both BJP and Congress tried to occupy the role of challenger to KCR rule, and initially, it was BJP which stole the thunder. But the positions got changed once Congress edged out BJP from its gateway to the south, Karnataka. The loss to Congress in Karnataka made the BJP reset its objective of winning Telangana to that of denying victory to Congress in another state before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, even if it means allowing KCR to

score a hat-trick of victories. Despite passive cooperation from BJP, the BRS supremo KCR is lacking confidence in the campaign.

Blame falls on BRS supreme leader KCR started his election strategies in a defensive way, by re-nominating all the sitting MLAs despite their non-performance and corrupt practices which he himself publicly aimed several times. The consolidation of corrupt leaders in the constituencies is denting the party image and encouraging dissent activity in each constituency. Despite the assurances that those who are not given a ticket for the current elections will be given nominated positions, the leaders are not changing their mood of dissidence. KCR himself choosing to contest from two constituencies showed the nervousness in him. If a CM of nine years is not confident of his return from the constituency he was holding, one can imagine the position of his ministerial colleagues. The opposition parties are cashing in on KCR's nervousness by fielding very strong leaders in those two constituencies. Friend-turned-foe Etala Rajender is challenging KCR on his sitting Gajwel as a BJP candidate while PCC president Revanth Reddy is fighting KCR on Kamareddy, the constituency KCR chose as the second option.

The biggest criticism against KCR, which is being made by the opposition, is his false promises and those promises which remained unfulfilled. KCR, while fighting for the separate state, promised to make a Dalit candidate as CM for the new state, but after obtaining the majority on that plank, totally ignored the Dalit MLAs and established a family rule. With his son and nephew holding the key portfolios and his daughter Kavita, first an MP and now MLC, forming the coterie. Telangana was given as a surplus budget state, but after nine years of ruling of

KCR, over 5 Lakh crore loan burden is staring at the state. Some of the developmental projects for which the money is allegedly borrowed turned out to be money-making activity for party leaders. One of the prestigious irrigation projects has developed cracks and sunken piers, confirming the faulty and hurriedly done work by not-so-qualified civil construction companies. KCR and his brand of sentimental politics are now being challenged by both Congress and BJP.

For a change, the Congress is giving a unified fight despite many leaders leaving the party on the state leadership issue. The current Telangana state Congress party president Revanth Reddy has both BJP and TDP political backgrounds, and his elevation to the chief post is not liked by the Congress leaders. But the betting on Revanth Reddy by the high command forced the leadership to fall in line, and this time around the Congress campaign is more organized and focused as they realized that this is the last chance for them to unseat KCR, and if they lose this election, that will be the end of the party as KCR is capable of poaching all Congress MLAs, as he has done in 2018.

BJP self-goaled by replacing the aggressive party President Sanjay with a passive non-serious Kishen Reddy, a union minister. The day Kishen Reddy took over the party state leadership, the steam has gone out of BJP's campaign. Their own earlier estimation of 40 seats win has come down to 10, but still, BJP is betting on a hung assembly and hoping for its role in ministry formation.

As the campaign is yet to peak, any result, including the improbable hung, is also talked about. But the main issue is how KCR is going to perform, and any decline in the number for his party is a setback to BRS and to the plan of KCR of anointing his son on the CM chair in a victorious mood.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

10 crore people left behind

Economists and food rights activists pointed out that more than 10 crore deserving Indians would not get the benefit of the five-year extension of the free rations programme for the poor because of government's failure to conduct the long-due population census. These 10 crore people will also be deprived of getting other welfare benefits as well. This is horrific as poor people are burdened with rising inflation, nagging unemployment and negative growth in real wages as per the Economic Survey of 2022-23.

Sujit De, Kolkata

Raise Awareness

Despite existing laws against child marriage, it remains a grave issue in our nation. Raising awareness and sensitizing society is crucial to combat this problem. Besides enforcing legal measures, educating and engaging with parents to shift their patriarchal mindset is equally vital. It's imperative to eliminate the perception of girls as burdens and ensure their well-being.

Shiv Kumar Mishra, Raipur

Extended Foodgrain Scheme

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the extension of the Union government's program to provide 5 kg of free foodgrains to 80 crore Indians for another five years. While the initiative aids those in need, some argue for a shift towards schemes promoting self-reliance over prolonged dependency on government foodgrains. It's a critical discussion on how best to support citizens while empowering them to be self-sufficient.

Hassan Khan, Mumbai

Cricket Triumph

India's triumphant Cricket World Cup campaign marches on, showcasing its prowess against top global teams. Whether chasing modest or formidable targets, the Indian team's victories propel it towards the finals. To secure a golden era for Indian cricket, this winning streak must persist. While hard work drives success, a touch of luck is equally vital. India's journey remains unforgettable, and as they approach the finals, the nation eagerly anticipates a historic achievement.

N. Ashraf, Mumbai

Mad Max Miracle: A Cricketing Masterpiece for the Ages

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee

Cricket enthusiasts around the world witnessed an extraordinary and historic moment on the cricket field when Glenn Maxwell, with unwavering determination and sheer brilliance, resurrected Australia from the brink of defeat against Afghanistan during the ICC Cricket World Cup. As someone who has followed the sport for over seven decades, I can confidently assert that Maxwell's double century in that match stands as the greatest innings of cricket I have ever had the privilege of witnessing.

In an era where the explosive nature of T20 cricket often overshadows the nuances of one-day internationals, Maxwell's performance serves as a powerful reminder that the 50-over format can produce moments of unparalleled drama and brilliance.

Even as a seasoned cricket enthusiast, I found myself awestruck by Maxwell's herculean efforts that day.

Afghanistan, a team that had captured the hearts of many cricket fans, had Australia firmly in their grip when Maxwell walked in to bat. The scoreboard read 91 for 7, and the odds of a miraculous comeback seemed almost nonexistent. Yet, Maxwell had other plans. What unfolded next was nothing short of a cinematic masterpiece.

Maxwell's innings was a tale of gladiatorial spirit, heroism, and defiance. He battled with the determination of a warrior; wounded and in pain, carrying the weight of his team's seemingly impossible task. It was as though he had embraced the role of a lone ranger, willing to fight against all odds.

As he relentlessly punished the Afghan bowlers, it felt surreal—almost as if we were

watching a scripted movie rather than a live cricket match. His ability to shift the momentum of the game single-handedly was a testament to his extraordinary talent and unwavering resolve.

What made Maxwell's innings even more remarkable was the physical toll it took on him. By the time he had crossed the 120-run mark, his body was battered, and cramps were setting in. The oppressive Mumbai humidity only added to his discomfort. He had already spent 50 overs on the field, bowled for a significant portion of that time, and still came out to bat in the ninth over of Australia's innings.

In the face of exhaustion and physical agony, Maxwell refused to yield. He continued to unleash a relentless assault on the Afghan bowlers, striking boundaries with an almost supernatural ease. His legs were seizing up, and his

swings were laboured, but his resolve remained unshaken.

The partnership between Maxwell and Pat Cummins, who played a pivotal role in keeping the innings together, demonstrated not only Maxwell's brilliance but also Cummins' discipline and selflessness. In a situation where Maxwell could have easily attempted to single-handedly carry his team to victory, Cummins' steadfast support ensured that they remained on course for an astonishing comeback.

In my many years as a sports enthusiast, I have witnessed superstars from various disciplines rise to the occasion and single-handedly secure victories for their teams. However, Maxwell's monumental performance against Afghanistan stands apart from all others. It left fans and cricketers alike in a state of awe and admiration.

As Maxwell relentlessly

plundered runs, hearts may have broken for Afghanistan, but the cricketing world collectively stood in ovation for the Australian's historic achievement. His performance transcended boundaries and united fans in their appreciation of sporting excellence.

The ICC Cricket World Cup has witnessed its fair share of iconic moments over the years, but Maxwell's epic innings will undoubtedly be etched in the annals of cricket history as one of the greatest individual displays ever witnessed on the field.

Glenn Maxwell's monumental innings serves as a timeless reminder of the beauty and drama that the 50-over format can produce. It exemplifies the resilience, passion, and indomitable spirit that define the essence of cricket—an artistry that transcends generations and leaves an indelible mark on the hearts of cricket fans worldwide.

BRIEF

Dumping issue



New Delhi: The government is looking into issues surrounding dumping of certain categories of steel products into the Indian market, Steel Secretary Nagendra Nath Sinha said on Tuesday. The statement comes amid the industry raising concerns over the rise in steel imports. In October India remained the net importer of steel. The Ministry of Finance is looking at dumping issues of certain categories of steel products and will take a final call on the anti-dumping duty, Sinha told reporters at the '4th ISA Steel Conclave' event here.

Coal blocks put on sale through transparent mechanism, says govt

New Delhi, Nov 08:

The coal ministry on Wednesday clarified that post-cancellation of 204 blocks in the year 2014, the mines are being put on auction via a "transparent" mechanism. The clarification comes a day after Congress alleged that the Narendra Modi government reversed the long-standing policy of competitive auction for coal block allocation and gave away lucrative fields to the Adani Group. "Ministry of Coal has clarified that after cancellation of 204 coal mines in 2014, coal mines are being auctioned through a transparent mechanism and for various end uses power and non-regulated sectors," the ministry said in a release. The coal ministry further said that no correlation has been established between Cavill Mining Pvt Ltd and Adani Group. "Also, as per the provisions of the tender document, the affiliate shall mean, a person who,

directly or indirectly controls such bidder; is Controlled by such Bidder; is Controlled by the same person, who directly or indirectly, controls such Bidder; or is an associate company of such Bidder," it said. In this case, it cannot be established that Cavill Mining Pvt Ltd is an affiliate of Adani Group. "Furthermore, in case a misrepresentation has been found at any stage of the auction process, the Ministry of Coal has a right to take appropriate actions as per clause 5.12 of the tender document," the coal ministry said. Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said that the group has been allotted coal blocks even when it has been the sole bidder or when a related party has acted as a second bidder. This, he claimed, is in violation of the spirit of the Supreme Court orders on coal block auctions. The opposition party also demanded the constitution of a joint parliamen-

tary committee (JPC) to unravel the truth. The coal ministry said that "the auction of coal blocks to the private and public sector is conducted as per CMSP and MMDR Acts on a transparent, open and accessible process." The Centre has followed the spirit of the Supreme Court order on coal auctions. The coal sector was freed from distortions, vested interests and sectoral allocations and brought everyone to a level playing field for efficient, fair and fast allocation of coal blocks to achieve Atmanirbharata in coal production in the country. Since the first auction of commercial mining in 2020, a total of 91 coal mines have been successfully auctioned during a short period of three years in seven tranches under the commercial coal mining. Out of these 91 coal mines, nine coal mines have received all the permissions and five coal mines have started production.

Gautam Adani meets Vietnamese tycoon

New Delhi, Nov 08: Billionaire Gautam Adani on Wednesday met Vietnamese tycoon Pham Nhat Vuong as his ports-to-edible oil group looks to expand presence in the South East Asian nation. Adani met the head of Vingroup, Vietnam's largest conglomerate with interests in real estate, retail and healthcare among others, at his office in Ahmedabad. "Was an absolute pleasure to meet with Vingroup Chairman Pham Nhat Vuong and engage in discussions about potential opportunities between India and Vietnam," Adani said in a post on X, formerly known as Twitter.

Adani Group has already invested in two renewable energy projects in Vietnam, including a wind power project with a capacity of 27.3 MW in Phuoc Minh Commune, Thuan Nam district of Ninh Thuan Province, and a 50 MW solar power project also in Ninh Thuan province. "Truly inspired by the remarkable entrepreneurial journey of this visionary leader, from an instant noodle business to spearheading the production of a comprehensive range of EVs and cutting-edge battery solutions for the global shift towards green mobility.

Looking at liberalising some restrictions on SEZ units: Goyal



New Delhi, Nov 08:

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday said the government is looking at easing certain restrictions for units in the special economic zones (SEZ) to promote the sector's growth. SEZs in India are treated as foreign territories for trade and customs duties, with restrictions on duty-free domestic sales. "We are looking at ways and means to liberalise some of these restrictions on SEZ units. It's under consideration...We are dis-

cussing it with all the stakeholders and hopefully that itself will give a significant boost to the SEZ units," Goyal said here at an industry chamber function. Regarding the industry's demand to extend benefits of the Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) Scheme to SEZs, he said the ministry will go about it "cautiously". "At some point in time we will consider it once we are very confident that it will not lead to WTO non-compliance," he added. In these zones, the largest

areas of exports are petroleum products and software. Companies in SEZs are urging the government to permit them to sell their products in domestic tariff areas or domestic markets without paying the import duties that currently apply, similar to duty-free FTA imports. SEZs have emerged as an important contributor to India's exports. Total exports from SEZs stood at USD 155.8 billion in 2022-23. These included USD 61.6 billion in merchandise and USD 94.2 billion in services exports.

Lending rates

Mumbai: Largest private sector lender HDFC Bank on Tuesday raised its lending rates by a marginal 0.05 per cent across select loan tenors. The city-headquartered lender's asset liability committee, which met on Tuesday, decided to hike the marginal cost of funding based lending rates by 0.05 per cent, officials said. The hike comes even as there has been no rate action by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in five consecutive policy reviews. The bank has reported a narrowing of net interest margins after merging its housing finance subsidiary parent HDFC Ltd into itself. Banks also have an external benchmark-linked loan product, which reprices basis the movement in the benchmark like the RBI's repo rate calls.

India's economy has track record of strong growth: S&P



New Delhi, Nov 08:

S&P Global Ratings on Wednesday said India's economy has a track record of strong growth and retained its 6 per cent growth forecast for current fiscal year. In Asia-Pacific Credit Outlook 2024 titled 'Slowing Dragons, Roaring Tigers', S&P said gradual capital deepening, favourable demographics, and improving productivity are essen-

tial growth factors. "India's economy has a track record of strong growth. We expect this momentum to continue and forecast growth of 6 per cent for FY 2024, then 6.9 per cent for FY 2025 and FY 2026," S&P said. It said India's economic growth shines brightly. However, its yields remain higher, as they have been historically, which puts additional pressure on the cost of funding India's large debt stock. While growth supports market confidence and revenue generation, rates dynamics will be an additional determinant of India's debt trajectory over the next few years, the US-based rating agency said.

MFIs need to focus on data privacy and cyber security: SBI MD

New Delhi, Nov 08:

State Bank of India (SBI) managing director Alok Kumar Choudhary on Wednesday said there is a need for micro finance institutions (MFIs) to pay attention to data privacy and cyber security as they deal with data of a large number of customers.

Speaking at a conference organised by Sa-Dhan, he said, MFIs should also focus on capacity building to deal with the challenges of the future. "The second thing which is very important is the integration with the evolving regulation particularly when you have data privacy law. The enormous amount of data which has been handled by



all the MFIs, this particular aspect (data privacy) requires attention and some kind of action plan needs to be in place," he said. Financial institutions need to focus on improving ease of transaction through digital means, he said, adding, the need of the customers in the changing time has to be addressed as per their convenience and ease. "For

this segment of (bottom of the pyramid) customers, we need to understand what they want and ease with which their desire can be fulfilled," he said. SBI has a significant credit line to MFIs as well as to NBFs that are trying to foster financial inclusion. Talking about participation of SBI in the government's financial inclusion drive, Choudhary said, the bank alone has opened 36 per cent of the total account opened under PM Jan Dhan Yojana. More than 50 crore bank accounts have been opened under the PM Jan Dhan Yojana in the last nine years and the deposit balance swelled to over Rs 2.03 lakh crore.

HPCL to stop buying diesel from other companies next year

New Delhi, Nov 08: Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) will stop buying diesel from companies like Reliance Industries Ltd and Nayara Energy once it completes expansion of its Visakhapatnam refinery in Andhra Pradesh and builds a new one in Rajasthan next financial year, company officials said. HPCL owns almost a quarter of petrol pumps in the country but does not have commensurate oil refining capacity to produce petrol and diesel. So to make up for this, it buys products from refiners such as Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL), Reliance Industries' Jamanagar units in Gujarat and Nayara's Vadinar refinery. An investor call post announcing second quarter earnings,

HPCL chairman Pushp Kumar Joshi says the firm's focus on capital spending in the last five years in "strengthening quality and capacity" of assets has "started yielding results now". The company has already expanded its Mumbai refinery capacity to 9.5 million tonnes per annum from 7.5 million tonnes and would complete the expansion of Visakhapatnam unit to 15 million tonnes next year, he said. Besides, it is building a new 9 million tonnes a year oil refinery and petrochemical complex at Barmer in Rajasthan at a cost of Rs 73,000 crore. Together with capacity addition, the company has forayed into new areas like petrochemicals, natural gas and bio-fuels business "to provide stability to our balance sheet", he said.

Stock markets edge higher in volatile trade amid weak global cues

Mumbai, Nov 08:



Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty edged higher on Wednesday after a volatile trade amid weak cues from Asian and European markets along with unabated foreign fund outflows.

The 30-share BSE Sensex advanced by 33.21 points or 0.05 per cent to settle at 64,975.61. During the day, it hit a high of 65,124 and a low of 64,851.06. The broader Nifty went up by 36.80 points or 0.19 per cent to close at 21,453.50 with 29 of its components closing in green and the rest 21 in

red. Among the Sensex firms, Asian Paints, Titan, Larsen & Toubro, JSW Steel, ITC, Hindustan Unilever, Maruti and Reliance Industries were

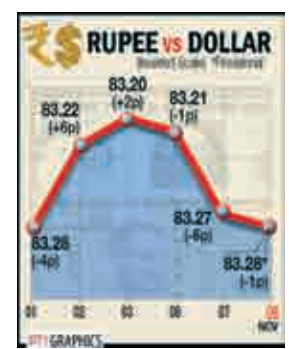
the major gainers. ICICI Bank, NTPC, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel and Bajaj Finance were among the laggards. "The domestic market traded range-

bound with a positive bias. And further confidence may be derived from the global market cues post the FED chair speech. Oil prices continued to fall, which will provide respite to the domestic economy and navigate a downward trajectory to inflation & fiscal," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. "Markets remained range-bound and ended marginally in the green.

After the flat start, Nifty oscillated in a narrow range till the end and finally settled at 21,453.50 levels," said Ajit Mishra, SVP - Technical Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

Rupee falls 1 paise to close at 83.28 against US dollar

Mumbai, Nov 08:



The rupee consolidated in a narrow range and settled lower by 1 paise at 83.28 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday, tracking a strong American currency overseas. Forex traders said a muted trend in domestic equities also weighed on the local unit while a correction in oil prices provided support to the currency. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.25 and touched a low of 83.29 against the greenback. It finally settled at 83.28 (provisional) against the dollar, registering a fall of 1 paise from its previous close. On Tuesday, the

rupee had settled lower at 83.27 against the US dollar. "Decline in oil prices is positive for the domestic currency; however, a firmer dollar index is helping the pair trade with a slight gain," said Praveen Singh, Associate VP, Fundamental Currencies

and Commodities, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. Singh further noted that traders will be paying close attention to Jerome Powell's speech. Bank of England Governor Andrew Bailey's speech will also be in focus. "Geopolitical tensions continue to simmer due to the Middle East war; however, the war is being seen as largely contained. Overall, the USD-INR pair is still seen range-bound between Rs 82.80 and Rs 83," Singh said. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.24 per cent higher at 105.79.

Huge potential



Milan: Royal Enfield is taking a slew of measures including accessing ways to enhance connection with the communities as it sees huge potential for growth in the market, according to a top company executive. The Chennai-headquartered firm, a part of Eicher Motors, currently sells bikes all across the continent and has a market share of around 8.5 per cent in the middle-weight motorcycle segment.

Adani Green Energy aims to increase operational RE portfolio to 11 GW in FY24: CEO Amit Singh



New Delhi, Nov 08:

Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) has a planned capex of Rs 14,000 crore and aims to achieve operational capacity of 11 GW in FY24, its CEO Amit Singh said. The company

has an operating renewable energy (RE) portfolio of 8.4 GW across solar, wind and hybrid capacity, the company official said in an investor presentation. "With plans to deliver 2.8-3 GW capacity in FY24, the company's operating portfolio will increase to 11 GW. In FY24, the company has indicated a capex of Rs 14,000 crore," Singh said. A large part of the capacity addition will come in Khavda in Gujarat where the company has deployed a workforce of more than 5,000 people. The company plans to add 5 GW of RE portfolio every year from FY25 onwards, he added.

Govt asks social media firms to identify, remove misinformation, deepfakes within 36 hrs

New Delhi, Nov 08:

The Centre has issued an advisory to major social media companies to identify misinformation, deepfakes and other content that violates rules and remove those within 36 hours after being reported to them, an official statement said on Tuesday. The development comes after a deepfake video of actress Rashmika Mandanna was found circulating on social media platforms earning criticism from several politicians and celebrities. Netizens claimed the video has been morphed and the actual video is of an Indian-origin person living in the UK. "The Centre today issued an advisory to the significant social media intermediaries to ensure that due diligence is exercised and rea-

sonable efforts are made to identify misinformation and deepfakes, and in particular, information that violates the provisions of rules and regulations and/or user agreements," the Ministry of Electronics and IT (Meity) said in a statement. Meity in the advisory has directed that social media companies expeditiously take action against the content that is in violation of the rules and regulations well within the timeframes stipulated under the IT Rules 2021, and users are caused not to host such information, content, deepfakes. "Remove any such content when reported within 36 hours of such reporting and ensure expeditious action, well within the timeframes stipulated under the IT Rules 2021, and disable access to the content

or information," the statement said. In case of impersonation in an electronic form, including artificially morphed images of an individual, social media companies have been advised to take action within 24 hours from the receipt of a complaint in relation to any content. "The intermediaries were reminded that any failure to act as per the relevant provisions of the IT Act and Rules would attract Rule 7 of the IT Rules, 2021 and could render the organisation liable to losing the protection available under Section 79(1) of the Information Technology Act, 2000," the statement said. Minister of Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar in the statement said that deepfakes are a major violation and harm women in particular.

Aim to digitise 65,000 cooperative societies by March 2024: Nabard Chairman



New Delhi, Nov 08: Nabard Chairman Shaji K V on Wednesday said the government aims to computerise about 65,000 cooperative societies by March 2024 in order to improve transparency and efficiency of such cooperatives. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) has been designated as project manager

for computerisation of cooperative societies under the guidance and directions of the National Level Monitoring and Implementation Committee and Ministry of Cooperation. "Close to 10,000 cooperative societies have already been digitised. We are targeting 65,000 societies to be digitised by March 2024," he said at a conference organised by Sa Dhan. Observing that cooperatives have created lot of inefficiencies over the years, he said, "we are trying to clean up by improving transparency and making them important value chain players through computerisation of these entities." Nabard is also building a data warehouse for cooperatives and the rural sector, he said, adding, it should be in place in about six months.

EVM and VVPAT commissioning begins

Observer ensures adherence to election commission guidelines

Central Chronicle News

Korba, Nov 08: In a significant step towards ensuring a smooth and transparent electoral process, the commissioning of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) and Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) machines for the upcoming Assembly Elections 2023 has commenced with great enthusiasm.

Under the watchful eyes of Collector and District Election Officer Saurabh Kumar, along with representatives of political parties, the commissioning process kicked off in the secure premises of IT College Korba, located in Jhagraha. Today marked the commissioning of



EVM machines for the Korba and Katghora assembly constituencies.

Observer K.C. Jamatiya meticulously inspected the commissioning work

being carried out at IT College Korba. He offered valuable guidance to all officers present, emphasizing the importance of adhering to the strict

guidelines set forth by the Election Commission while maintaining the utmost confidentiality.

In addition to the assembly-wise commissioning of these crucial machines for the upcoming voting scheduled for November 17, the sealing process is also proceeding swiftly. This task is entrusted to well-trained officers and dedicated employees who are committed to ensuring a fair and secure electoral process.

Today's commissioning efforts focused on the Korba and Katghora assembly constituencies, while the remaining Rampur and Pali Tanakhar assembly machines will undergo commissioning on November 08. The event witnessed the presence of Deputy District Election Officer Seema Patre, the concerned Returning Officer, and representatives of various political parties.

ABC Public School teachers awarded best teacher title

Central Chronicle News

Kharora, Nov 08: In a proud moment for ABC Public School, two of its educators, Babita Sahu and Anuradha Sahu, were celebrated and awarded the prestigious title of "Best Teacher" at the recent Principal Teacher Meet 2023 organized by "Parul University" on October 31.

The event brought together principals and teachers from various schools, who were recognized and celebrated for their outstanding contributions to education. This gathering also provided an opportunity for educators to receive training on "Redefining Critical Components of School Excellence 2.0."



Public School extended heartfelt congratulations to Parul University for successfully hosting this significant event, highlighting the commitment of ABC Public School to excellence in education.

The Director of ABC

SAGEMS conducts Vigilance Awareness Quiz

Principal emphasizes honesty and integrity in education



Central Chronicle News

Kharora, Nov 08: Swami Atmanand Excellent Hindi/English Medium Bharat Dewangan Government Higher Secondary School in Kharora demonstrated its commitment to integrity and anti-corruption efforts as they participated in a Vigilance Awareness Quiz Competition for 5th class students organized

by the 38th Corps of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, under the capable leadership of Fighter Siddharth Kumar. The event began with an enlightening session where teachers and students were briefed on the significance of Vigilance Awareness Week. Everyone present took the Vigilance Awareness Pledge, underscoring their dedication to honesty and

integrity. Rajni Minj, Principal of the school, addressed the teachers and students, emphasizing the importance of Vigilance Awareness Week, celebrated from October 30 to November 05. She highlighted the objective of the week, which is to combat corruption with unwavering integrity and remain devoted to the nation's progress. Recognizing corruption

as a significant hindrance to India's economic, political, and social advancement, she stressed the importance of collective efforts by the government, citizens, and the private sector to eradicate it. The Principal urged every citizen to be vigilant, uphold the highest standards of honesty, and raise their voice against corruption, thereby contributing to the nation's betterment.

Collector sends off polling teams with confidence

- Instructions for impartial and confidential voting issued
- Special provisions for elderly and disabled voters

Central Chronicle News

Korea, Nov 08: Collector and District Election Officer Vinay Kumar Langesh personally saw off polling teams departing from the Collectorate premises along Route 16 to ensure a fair and confidential voting process. He imparted valuable instructions, emphasizing impartiality, confidentiality, and caution in conducting the electoral process.

Collector Langesh expressed his confidence in the polling teams and encouraged them to uphold the principles of fairness and confidentiality throughout the voting process. He reminded them to implement the knowledge gained during their training and assured them that assistance would be readily available should they encounter any challenges.



Notably, special arrangements have been made for voters aged 80 years and above, as well as those with disabilities exceeding 40 percent. These individuals will have the option to vote through postal ballots. Across 16 designated

routes in Koriya district, dedicated polling teams consisting of two polling officers, one policeman, one videographer, one micro observer, and one BLO (Booth Level Officer) will be present at 88 polling stations to facilitate their voting process.

counter any challenges.

Bazaar Ataria overcomes challenges for peaceful voting

- Shop closures raise concerns
- Media reporting persists despite entry hurdles at polling booth

Central Chronicle News

Bazar-Ataria, Nov 08: The administration's decision to temporarily close shops around the polling station during the assembly elections sparked some initial concerns. However, despite a few hiccups, a sense of peaceful voting prevailed throughout the day.

From 8 am, police personnel took the initiative

to close several shops in the vicinity of the polling station. Despite requests from traders, the shops remained shuttered for a few hours due to the strict enforcement by police personnel. However, the bustling market Ataria, which coincidentally had a market day today, witnessed a swift reopening of all the shops after just two hours.

Shopkeepers in the area expressed their concerns, stating that instead of ensuring a peaceful voting environment, some of the on-duty security personnel inadvertently created discomfort. Nevertheless, many traders chose to reopen their shops, leading

to an increase in the market's vibrancy as the day progressed.

In a separate development, it was reported that authorized media representatives, sanctioned by the Election Commission of India, faced difficulties when attempting to enter the polling booth. Despite having formal authorization letters issued by the Election Commission for entry into the polling stations, they were denied access by security personnel. As a result, media personnel resorted to reporting from outside the polling booth, ensuring that the public remained informed about the electoral proceedings.

Remarkable voter turnout in Dongargaon's election

Women, youth and elders unite in voting enthusiasm

Central Chronicle News

Dongargaon, Nov 08: The assembly elections in Dongargaon witnessed an extraordinary display of enthusiasm among voters, with a special focus on women, youth, and dedicated elders.

At the polling booths, new voters received a traditional Tilak blessing before casting their ballots, while elderly citizens also turned out in impressive numbers.

Notably, some remarkable stories of determination emerged on this important day. Kabir Ahmed Khan, a resilient 102-year-old, along with 82-year-old Satyanarayan Jha and 75-year-old



Khorbaharen Meshram from Mahroom village, were admitted to Raipur Hospital due to health issues. Despite their challenges, they rented an

auto-rickshaw to ensure their voices were heard in the village. Women took the lead in voter participation, outnumbering men, continuing a

trend from previous elections. This high level of female voter engagement contributed to a significant voter turnout. Despite a minor setback

with EVMs breaking down at some polling booths, the technical team swiftly resolved the issue, and voting resumed within an hour.

Sua dance enlivens Ch'garh's rich cultural heritage

Central Chronicle News

Arang, Nov 08: The captivating tradition of Sua dance continues to thrive, deeply ingrained in the cultural tapestry of Chhattisgarh. In the lead-up to Diwali, the region comes alive with the rhythmic steps and melodious tunes of Sua dance, a beloved art form cherished by both girls and women.

As the festival of lights approaches, groups of girls and women gather, spreading the joy of Sua dance from house to house and street to street. This traditional dance involves singing songs carrying religious and social messages while dancing in a circle, accompanied by rhythmic clapping.

The songs are sung by some girls, with the others joining in the dance. After the Sua dance, a girl begs for



food and money for Sua. On receiving food and money, she bestows blessings. Experts say that there is no written evidence as to how long the tradition of Sua dance has been going on. Sua is a herbivorous bird that can make human sounds. Some people say that earlier the girls would have been expressing their feelings in front of the Sua bird, which would later have taken the form of song and later dance. Sua dance is performed in a group and does not require

any kind of musical instruments. This heartfelt tradition has transcended generations, with Sua dance now deeply rooted in Chhattisgarh's culture. It traditionally graces occasions such as Diwali, Teeja, Chherchera, and Sharad Purnima, but its popularity has expanded to include various celebrations. Notably, Sua dance competitions have become a vibrant part of every village's cultural calendar, adding new dimensions to this cherished heritage.

District adopts controlled timing for firecracker celebrations

Central Chronicle News

Mungeli, Nov 08: In an effort to promote eco-friendly celebrations and reduce air pollution, the Housing and Environment Department has issued specific guidelines for the timing of firecracker use during festivals in the district. These measures aim to ensure that festivities are enjoyed responsibly, adhering to designated timeframes.

As per the department's order, firecrackers are permitted only between 8 pm to 10 pm on the night of Diwali. Similarly, during Chhath Puja, firecrackers can be ignited from 6 am to 8 am,

during Jawaharlal Guru festival from 8 pm to 10 pm, and on New Year and Christmas, firecrackers are allowed from 11.55 pm to 12.30 am. These restrictions are designed to curtail the excessive use of firecrackers, which contributes to increased air pollution levels.

The Supreme Court has consistently issued guidelines to mitigate pollution during festivals. These guidelines encourage the use of "green" firecrackers, low-noise variants, and prohibit the use of firecrackers containing harmful substances such as Lithium, Arsenic, Antimony, Lead, and Mercury.

Cong legal team energizes election campaign

- In Pithora
- Intensive rally and outreach efforts in local wards

Central Chronicle News

Pithora, Nov 08: The Chhattisgarh State Congress Committee Law Department stepped up its election campaign efforts in the Raipur South Legislative Assembly with a dynamic field entry. Led by Vice President Nandkumar Patel, a member of the Farmers Welfare Board and a seasoned advocate, the state-level team made a significant impact.

Under the guidance of local councillor Devendra Yadav, State Secretary and advocate Lalit Kumar Soni, State Vice President Mirza Hafiz Baig, and State President Dr. Deva



Dewangan, the law department organized a spirited rally involving around two hundred dedicated workers. They also engaged in extensive public relations activities within the wards of the Raipur South Assembly

constituency. The presence and enthusiasm of the Congress legal team added vigour to the election campaign, signaling their commitment to promoting their party's vision and engaging with the local community.

England beat Netherlands by 160 runs for consolation win

India's optional nets: Batsmen get a taste of Bumrah's craftiness

Pune, Nov 08 (PTI):

England secured only their second win of the World Cup, beating the Netherlands by 160 runs here on Wednesday. Opting to bat, England posted 339 for 9 and then returned to bowl out the Dutch for 179 runs in 37.2 overs to keep their Championships Trophy qualification hopes alive. England batting finally fired as Ben Stokes slammed a 84-ball 108 and Dawid Malan (87) and Chris Woakes (51) made fifties. In reply, Teja Nidamanuru (41 not out) was the top scorer, while Wesley Barresi (37), Sybrand Engelbrecht (33), Scott Edwards (38) failed to capitalise on the starts. Spin duo of Adil Rashid (3/54) and Moeen Ali (3/42) took three wickets each for the defending champions. Stokes (108 off 83) initially provided the stability in the middle before opening up towards the end, while Malan (87 off 74) got England off to a flier with his breezy knock



England's Ben Stokes celebrates after scoring a century.

during which he hit 10 fours and two sixes. Stokes struck six fours and as many hits over the fence. Chris Woakes too

was dismissed in the seventh over. However, Malan continued his aggressive approach, hitting boundaries at will. He reached his fifty in just 37 balls. Malan and Joe Root added to the total cautiously, with Malan hitting the first six of the innings. England suffered a setback with the wickets of Root and Malan falling in consecutive overs, and Harry Brook's dismissal further slowed their progress. England's captain, Jos Buttler, also failed to make a significant impact and was caught at mid-off. Netherlands' spinners managed to pull things back in the middle overs, reducing England to 192 for six by the 36th over after the dismissal of Moeen Ali. However, Stokes and Chris Woakes had a remarkable partnership, adding 129 runs for the seventh wicket. This partnership helped England cross the 300-run mark, finishing their innings at 339 for nine.

Ishan Kishan slumped to the field with a painful grunt as Jasprit Bumrah's slightly short of length delivery thudded onto his stomach. It took him a few minutes to recover and resume the training here on Wednesday. Shubman Gill was at his best, while clobbering pacers Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur and Prasidh Krishna into the stands. But the Indian opener had to restrain himself once Bumrah tested his skills with an assortment of slower balls and in the channel outside the off-stump. It was an optional net session alright, but the pacer did not drop his intensity even for a moment. The whole 20 minutes Bumrah spent bowling at nets offered a good peek into his operating philosophy in this World Cup. It is not eye-catching like Mohammed Shami, who has hogged all the limelight over the last fortnight owing to his 16-wicket burst over four matches. Shami is an apex predator, zooming in on the stumps and hunting for wickets all the time. Perhaps, no other contemporary bowler hit



India's captain Rohit Sharma bats during a practice session.

the timber as often as him. But Bumrah has a totally different philosophy, something that will thrill the connoisseurs more. He likes to build up pressure with dot balls and draw batsmen into mistakes. Check this piece of statistics. Bumrah has an economy of 3.65 across eight matches and it is the best among bowlers who have played at least two games in this World Cup. In this showpiece, the average run-rate in the first Power Play (1-10 overs) hovers around six, but Bumrah's economy stands at a thrifty

2.9 during this phase. It is like a python grip. He just doesn't give any breathing space to the batters just as he had restricted a free-flowing Gill on this day at nets. Perhaps, being the leader of the pack prompts Bumrah not to chase wickets but him building pressure at one end allows the likes of Shami or Kuldeep Yadav to feed on that. It is not that Bumrah is incapable of moments of magic. He can bring out that dreaded yorker at will, like the one crashed on to the base of Bangladesh batter Mahmudullah's stumps like a heat-seeking missile. Pakistan batter Mohammad Rizwan might never forget how a slow ball deceived him and disturbed the stumps. However, Bumrah has not been in pursuit for such moments, as he has a more lofty, selfless job to do, and if he has been a footballer then the pacer would have been happy providing endless assists. Netherlands is a cozy middle-of-the-road destination for him, but if his purposefulness at nets is of any indication then the Dutch might experience that vice-like Bumrah grip.

Prannoy in no mood to rush back from back injury

As toughest job of Olympic qualification awaits

Mumbai, Nov 08 (PTI):

Recovering from a back injury, star Indian shuttler HS Prannoy says he doesn't want to force his way back as he knows the "toughest" job of sealing an Olympic berth awaits him next year. The world No. 8 feels Olympic qualification system in badminton is a "big issue" as players can't pick and choose tournaments, making the next few months crucial as they try to get into the "safe zone" in terms of ranking by end of April. Prannoy, who ended



India's 41-year wait for a medal in the Asian Games with a men's singles bronze, has been managing a back injury which troubled him in Hangzhou. "(It has been) better I would say. (It is) just taking a little more time than usual just to be on the safe side, looking at

the number of tournaments which you have to play from next year," Prannoy told PTI in an interview. "(I am) just taking it a little slowly, not rushing up on the injury side. I would say it is pretty better than how it was during the Asian Games, I have started training also. I will have to look how things pan up in the next few tournaments." Prannoy is scheduled to participate in the Japan Open Super 500 and China Open Super 750 tournaments this month. The Olympic qualification period started on May 1, 2023 and will conclude on April 28 next year with players inside the top 16 making the cut.

Gill and Siraj attain top spots in ICC ODI rankings

Dubai, Nov 08 (PTI):

India opener Shubman Gill and pacer Mohammed Siraj on Wednesday grabbed the top positions in the batting and bowling charts respectively in the ICC ODI rankings. While Gill replaced Pakistan skipper Babar Azam from the top of the batters' chart, Siraj displaced South Africa spinner Keshav Maharaj in the bowlers' list. Gill displaced Babar on the back of his solid start to India's campaign at the ongoing World Cup and in the process became just the fourth player from his country behind Sachin Tendulkar, Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Virat Kohli to hold the No.1 ODI batter ranking. The right-hander has contributed scores of 92 against Sri Lanka and 23 against South Africa over the last week, and



amassed a total of 219 runs from six innings at the ongoing tournament. Babar has totalled 282 runs from eight knocks at the World Cup and dropped six rating points below Gill into second place as his reign of more than two years as the No.1 ranked ODI batter in the world came to an end. Among other Indian batters, Virat Kohli has risen to fourth place following his sensational run in the World Cup, while skipper Rohit Sharma is placed sixth.

Arun Vijay Mutgi wins PokerBaazi tournament

Mumbai, Nov 08: PokerBaazi, India's biggest online Poker platform, announced the conclusion of one of India's most celebrated Poker tournaments, the Greatest of All Tournaments (G.O.A.T.).

Over a period of 12 days, almost 17,000 entries battled out and showcased their skills with Arun Vijay Mutgi, an IT consultant from Bengaluru, emerging as the champion and claiming the title of G.O.A.T. The second edition of tournament witnessed players competing for prize money using their skills to win. Witnessing duels between the exceptional and celebrated players from the Indian poker realm, the final table saw a thrilling 9-hour showdown, with Arun Vijay Mutgi securing the top spot by winning Rs 1.5 crore along with Sreekanth KN from Kerala claiming the second spot by



winning Rs 1.5 crore as well. Arun Vijay Mutgi, overjoyed with his performance, shared "I have been playing poker for a decade and over the course of time, I have realized and understood that one needs to continuously focus on bettering skills as well as continuously evaluating every play. This, I believe, significantly contributed towards my growth in Poker and ultimately helped me win the title. I am elated to have shared the stage with such respected poker players and thankful for PokerBaazi for providing platforms like The Greatest of All Tournaments that gives opportunities to budding player like me to also showcase my talent on such a scale."

Glenn Maxwell: Amateur golfer who has always been a freak

New Delhi, Nov 08 (PTI):

Glenn Maxwell has been one hell of a freak. Whether it's his breath-taking shots that leaves everyone in awe or the bizarre accidents he has met with -- snapping his knee at a house warming party and more recently, falling off a golf cart that forced him to miss a World Cup game.

Before one found a grinning Maxwell on the ground against Afghanistan, he laid on the lawn of his friend's home for over an hour, last year. Many didn't know what was in store for him. He heard his left knee snap while playfully chasing a friend, who was also his ex-teacher. The moment he slipped and his entire body weight fell on his left leg, he knew that he had done some serious damage to his left leg.

He simply couldn't get up in fear as other friends got a makeshift tent and covered him from the rain. He was taken to the hospital and diagnosed with a broken fibula which kept him out of a Test series in India earlier this year. Nearing 35, his Test career seemed over but there was something that was still left. "I think now I can ... make sure that for the back end of my career, I'm fit, strong, healthy and hopefully in a better state for next year's World Cup and all tournaments going forward," Maxwell had



said on "Unplayable" podcast. He did recover in time to play the IPL. He had a middling season with 400 runs in 14 games, including five fifties at a strike-rate of 183 plus. Like his reverse sweeps for six off express pace, Maxwell's injuries are also freak. Last week, he suffered from concussion while sitting on the back of a golf car in Ahmedabad after a round on the greens. But as luck would go, he slipped and fell, leaving a bruise on his head and was left out of the England game due to concussion protocols. However, it is Maxwell's passion for golf and tennis, which many believe has led to a fabulous hand-eye co-ordination, that allowed him to even play without any footwork on a

memorable Tuesday night. "Maxwell has a (golf) swing of 400 metres," former Pakistan skipper Misbah ul Haq said on A Sports. Maxwell was also a decent tennis player in his teens and hence the free swing of arms that was visible against a shell shocked Afghanistan was training of years. Those who play golf and practice swing know that all it needs is arm extension and a swivel of hips with no feet movement when one is hitting long. Those hours at the golf course did Maxwell a world of good when he couldn't move his leg due to cramps as he created a stable base and just with minimal hip movement and maximum arm speed (something that tennis

players develop), hit those 10 towering sixes. But even before Maxwell became an international superstar and months before he made his Australia debut in 2012, he was picked by Delhi Daredevils. He played only two games that year and the world hadn't really warmed up to him. What worked for Maxwell There are two things that worked to his advantage -- the over-pitched deliveries by the Afghans, which were bowled on the stumps and was in his hitting arc. The second was about trajectory and Shoaib Malik, who is certainly one of the best yet under-rated analysts in world cricket, made an interesting observation.

"Most of the Afghanistan spinners have a lower and flatter trajectory with a pace that batters can work on. Had a Mitchell Santner or a Keshav Maharaj would have been bowling in that situation, they would have tossed it up and taken the pace off deliveries. "The slower the delivery is, more power you need to generate and also reach those balls to hit big. There Maxwell had that advantage," Malik said on A Sports. For the pacers, none of the bowlers would try what Dwayne Bravo used to successfully do in IPL and even would stop a marauder like Maxwell in his tracks -- coming round the wicket and bowling wide yorkers, which would have been extremely painful for Maxwell to reach. For Maxwell, nothing has come easy. He has spoken about how he battled depression in 2018 when felt that he could no longer bottle things up within himself and had to seek professional help. The Maxwell in the past couple of years have shed his inhibitions, is in a happy space after marriage to longtime partner Vini Raman and the fatherhood makes him look at life beyond cricket. What he achieved on Tuesday, was another freak show -- it happened 40 years ago in an ODI and it might another 40 years to match that "superhuman" effort.

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