COMMENT

The illusion of a JP moment: Congress and its Ramlila experiment

Pg 10





RAIPUR REGION

Bijapur celebrates first Rajyotsav as naxal.... Pg 06

SPORT

Sindhu targets World Tour Finals with renewed confidence

Pg 14



&GLITTERS

Ayushmann Khurrana's journey beyond the ordinary

Pg 12



Central Chronicle

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MAJOR OVERHAUL IN AGNIPATH SCHEME

Govt grants 2-year extension

Paves way for permanent recruitment, subject to eligibility and individual consent.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: In a major overhaul of the Agnipath scheme, the government on Wednesday announced that Agniveers set to exit the military at the end of their four-year tenure will be given an additional two-year extension period and subsequently offered permanent recruitment, subject to meeting specific eligibility criteria and individual consent.

The decision was announced by Chief of Defence Staff Gen N S Raja Subramani, shortly after the Union Cabinet approved the changes in the military recruitment scheme as recommended by the three services.



CDS Gen N S Raja Subramani.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said the move is part of "long-term structural reforms" of the defence forces aimed at creating "a younger, fitter, technologically equipped and future-ready military". Under the Agnipath scheme rolled out in June, 2022, soldiers were recruited for a four-year term, with a provision to retaining only 25 per cent of them in regular services. The changes in the scheme were brought in just over three weeks before around 18,000 Agniveers were to exit the armed forces.

"Today is a very significant day for the Indian defence forces and for Agniveers. The Cabinet has created a pathway for all Agniveers to be absorbed into the defence forces," the Chief of Defence Staff said, addressing a press conference alongside Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.

> **Long-term structural reforms.**
>
> **Rajnath Singh,** Defence Minister

At present, over 300,000 soldiers recruited under the Agnipath scheme are operating in the military.

"As per existing provisions, 25 per cent of Agniveers are enrolled into the regular forces based on merit, while the remaining 75 per cent exit as disciplined and motivated youth," Gen Subramani said.

"Under the new changes, this 75 per cent will be offered an additional engagement period of two years. Following the completion of this extended period, those who meet the selection criteria and wish to continue will be enrolled into the Armed Forces," he said.

The Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) described the government's decision as the opening of a "pathway" for all Agniveers, ensuring almost all of them are going to be absorbed into the defence forces.

"Today is a very significant day for the Indian defence forces and for our Agniveers," he said.

Mahadev app co-promoter Ravi Uppal arrested in UAE

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Ravi Uppal, co-promoter of the multi-crore Mahadev online betting app, has been arrested in the UAE, and India is moving to extradite him, officials said on Wednesday.

The development comes after a CBI team brought back Uppal's friend and another Mahadev app promoter, Saurabh Chandrakar, from Oman on November 1 after a court there allowed his extradition to India in a money laundering case being probed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Authorities in Dubai arrested 46-year-old Uppal based on an Interpol Red Notice issued against him by Indian probe agencies, the officials told PTI.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the ED are working to extradite him to India, they said. Uppal was once detained by authorities in the UAE in 2023, but agencies later found that he was in Australia.

Probe agencies have claimed that Uppal obtained a passport from Vanuatu, an archipelagic country located in the South Pacific Ocean, just like Chandrakar.

It charge-sheeted Uppal in October 2023, stating that he "generated and enjoyed proceeds of crime and is involved in their concealment and layering".

It alleged Uppal was "looking after the delivery of the liaisoning money to the bureaucrats and politicians of Chhattisgarh through Chandrabhushan Verma, an assistant sub-inspector of police, and some others".

Both Uppal and Chandrakar hail from Bhilai town in Durg district of Chhattisgarh. A special court in Raipur on Wednesday granted eight-day custody of Chandrakar to the CBI.

NEWSLINE

AGARTALA

BSF jawans injured

At least three BSF personnel, including an assistant commandant, were injured in an attack by a group of villagers over the detention of a person in Tripura's Sepahijala district, prompting Chief Minister Manik Saha to condemn the incident and direct the police to take swift action. Nine people, including three women, were arrested in connection with the incident near Ashabari border outpost under the Kalamchoura Police Station limits on Monday, a senior officer said. "At least three BSF jawans, including an assistant commandant, were injured in the attack by angry villagers after one person was detained on suspicious smuggling activities at Ashabari on Monday. The mob vandalised a BSF vehicle and tried to snatch arms from the border guards," Sepahijala Superintendent of Police Bijoy Debbarma said on Tuesday.

| BLANKET IMMUNITY TO CEC, ECS |

SC notice to Centre, poll body

Press Trust Of India

It listed the matter for hearing on December 18.



NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed to hear pleas of RJD MP Manoj Jha and activist Arun Agrawal challenging the constitutional validity of a law provision granting blanket immunity from prosecution to the Chief Election Commissioner and the Election Commissioners.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana issued notice to the Centre and sought its response in four weeks.

The bench told advocate Fauzia Shakil, appearing for Jha, and advocate Neha Rathi, appearing for Agrawal, that the court is tagging the matter with a petition pending on the similar issue.

It listed the matter for hearing on December 18.

Jha in the plea said it challenges the constitutional validity of Section 16 of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, which bars every court in the country from entertaining or continuing any civil or criminal proceeding against any person who is or was a CEC or EC, for anything done "or purporting" to be done in the discharge of official duty.

Section 16 of the Act reads as "Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, no court shall entertain or continue any civil or criminal proceedings against any person who is or was a Chief Election Commissioner or an Election Commissioner for any act, thing or word, committed, done or spoken by him when, or in the course of acting or purporting to act in the discharge of his official duty or function".

The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) MP said that Section 16 of the Act confers on unelected officials a shield that the Constitution withholds from the President of the republic, from every member of Parliament, and from every judge of this court and of the high courts.

CBI gets 8-day custody of Saurabh Chandrakar

Press Trust Of India



RAIPUR: A special court in Chhattisgarh capital Raipur on Wednesday granted the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) eight-day custody of Saurabh Chandrakar, the alleged kingpin of the Rs 6,000-crore Mahadev online betting app scam. Chandrakar, who was recently extradited from Oman, was sent to a two-day CBI transit remand on Monday as the agency wanted to bring him to Chhattisgarh for production before the trial court in the case.

'Over Rs 965 cr earned through scrap disposal'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Over Rs 965 crore has been earned through scrap disposal during the recently concluded special cleanliness campaign, the Centre said on Wednesday.

During the special campaign 6, 276.8 lakh sq feet of space was freed as against 233.75 lakh square feet in the last campaign, it said. In a series of social media posts, the DARPG said the implementation phase of the campaign (October 2-31) has been successfully completed with remarkable collective efforts and active collaboration from various ministries and departments.

| SILENT CRISIS |

Rural hypertension largely goes undetected

Press Trust Of India

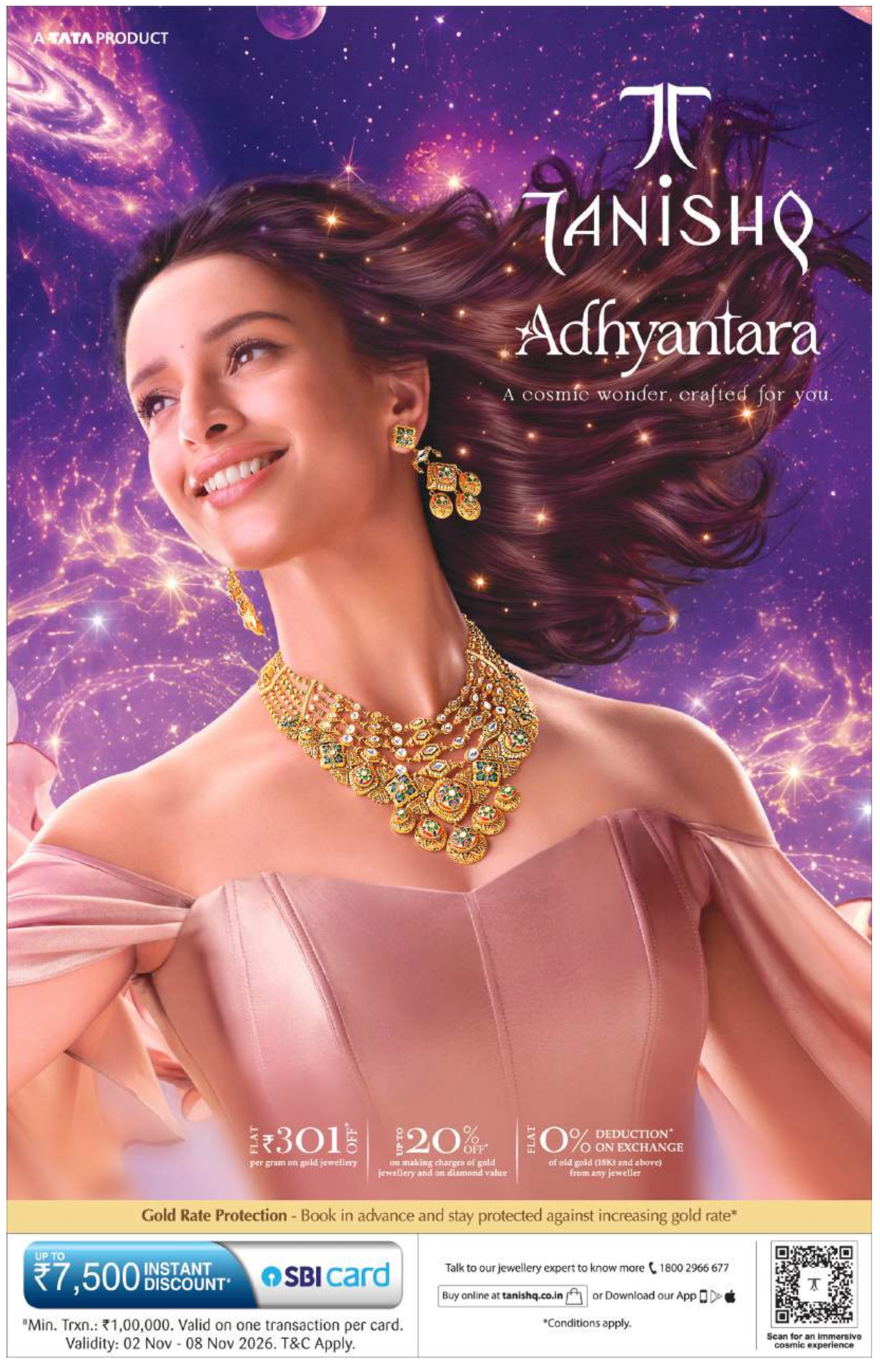


MUMBAI: Nearly one in three adults in a rural Indian population has high blood pressure, but fewer than one in five are aware of their condition, according to a new research. High blood pressure, also known as hypertension, defined as a systolic blood pressure of at least 140 mmHg or a diastolic blood pressure of at least 90 mmHg, is a leading risk factor for cardiovascular disease, including heart attacks and strokes, according to the research. Although effective treatments are available, many people remain undiagnosed or do not achieve adequate blood pressure control, the research titled "Prevalence, diagnosis, treatment and control of hypertension among adults in rural India: results from the ISHA" said. Researchers from the Centre for Cancer Epidemiology at the TMC, in Mumbai analysed data from nearly 40,000 adults aged 30-69 years, who participated in the Indian Study of Healthy Ageing (ISHA) in Barshi, Maharashtra, between 2015 and 2020.

NUMBER

03

- One in three adults in a rural Indian population has high BP.



Raipur



Congress-INDIA alliance's double standards pose democracy's greatest threat.

Vishnu Deo Sai
Chief Minister

Chhattisgarh to become the country's new film hub

State aims to attract filmmakers and boost tourism.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh is taking major steps to emerge as a prominent film shooting destination in the country, with the state government focusing on promoting film production, tourism and employment generation.

A high-level meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Shri Vikassheel was held at Mahanadi Bhawan to explore measures for establishing the state as a preferred destination for filmmakers from across India and abroad.



During the meeting, the Chief Secretary highlighted Chhattisgarh's immense potential for filmmaking, citing its pristine natural beauty, rich cultural heritage and diverse tourist attractions. He directed officials to identify suitable and promising locations across the state and accelerate their development and promotion as film shooting destinations. The meeting also reviewed the existing film policy, with discussions focusing on making it more practical, effective and attractive for filmmakers. The proposed Chitrotpala Film City and its development prospects were also discussed in detail. The government aims to simplify shooting procedures and ensure transparency to encourage more production houses to choose Chhattisgarh.

Vikassheel emphasized that increased film production would give a significant boost to tourism while creating direct and indirect employment opportunities for local artists, technicians, youth and businesses, particularly in the hospitality sector. The meeting also discussed the proposed visit of NIFTEM and the expansion of technical infrastructure and training facilities in food processing. Senior officials, including Rajat Kumar, Amit Kataria, Dr. S. Bharatidasan, Sanjeetha Gupta and Akanksha Shiksha Khalkho, attended the meeting.

FACTFILE

- Film City to unlock tourism, employment opportunities

Those involved in Mahadev Betting Scam will face punishment: Sai

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Wednesday thanked the CBI and central agencies for bringing Saurabh Chandrakar, the main accused in the Mahadev online betting app case, back to India from Oman. He said the CBI's interrogation would help uncover the involvement of others in the alleged betting network and ensure that those found guilty are punished.



Meanwhile, Saurabh Chandrakar was produced before a special CBI court in Raipur on Wednesday. The agency had sought 10 days of police custody for questioning. After hearing arguments from both sides, Special Judge Manoj Kumar Singh Thakur granted eight days of CBI remand. He will be produced before the court again on November 12. The court also permitted the CBI to take Chandrakar to Delhi for interrogation at its headquarters due to security concerns. The questioning will be conducted under CCTV surveillance. He has also been allowed to meet his lawyer in the evening.

Farmers oppose UltraTech mining

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The 117-year-old Pendravan Reservoir in Bangoli village of Tilda tehsil is facing a potential threat following the renewal of permission for UltraTech Cement Company's proposed limestone mining project in its catchment area. The Pendravan Reservoir Bachao Kisan Sangharsh Samiti has strongly opposed the decision, demanding immediate cancellation of the mining permission and the entire project. According to the committee, the reservoir provides irrigation to 2,440 hectares of agricultural land belonging to around 3,440 farmers across 11 villages. It also supports fish farming, groundwater recharge and the water requirements of nearby communities, particularly during summer.



BJP hits back at Congress over welfare spending

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: BJP state spokesperson CA Amit Chimnani alleged that the Congress was unable to digest the BJP government's decision to pay farmers Rs 3,100 per quintal for paddy and provide monthly financial assistance of Rs 1,000 to women under the Mahtari Vandan Yojana. Reacting to the Congress's criticism, Chimnani said that the BJP government had transferred Rs 1.5 lakh crore into farmers' bank accounts in less than three years. Similarly, more than Rs 20,000 crore had been credited to women's accounts under the Mahtari Vandan Yojana without delay. He said over 20 lakh people were being provided houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. The government had also allocated its largest-ever infrastructure budget, including Rs 9,000 crore for road development in a single year. Targeting the Congress, Chimnani alleged that the previous government had accumulated debt through corruption and was now presenting misleading figures to oppose welfare expenditure. Clarifying the state's financial position, he said the government had taken a net loan of only Rs 49,279 crore in the past three years, within the 3 per cent GSDP borrowing limit prescribed under the FRBM Act.



| RAMP MSME CHAUPAL |

RAMP MSME Chaupal connects entrepreneurs with schemes, credit

Central Chronicle News

MSME Chaupal promotes awareness of government support schemes.

RAIPUR: An MSME Chaupal was organised in Raipur on November 3 under the Centre's Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) Scheme to connect entrepreneurs with government schemes, financial assistance and market opportunities. The programme aimed to create awareness about central and Chhattisgarh government initiatives for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Abhinav Prakash Satyavanshi, DICCI Chhattisgarh State President, welcomed the participants and moderated the discussions. The expert panel included Anand Vardhan of SPIU Chhattisgarh RAMP, CSIDC; Santosh Rao More, Deputy General Manager, SIDBI; P.K. Nimonkar, former State Head, CITCON; and Yamini Ogare, Assistant Director, Directorate of Industries, Chhattisgarh. The discussions covered five major areas: business establishment and Udyam registration, financial assistance and timely payments, market access, promotion of women entrepreneurs, and environmentally sustainable businesses.



FACTFILE

- Focus on credit, markets and growth.

Experts highlighted the importance of Udyam registration for accessing government incentives and benefits under the state's Industrial Policy. They also explained bank loan procedures, documentation requirements and credit guarantee facilities under CGTMSE. Solutions for delayed payments through TReDS and the MSME Samadhaan Portal were discussed.

| SUBMIT FORM-6 |

Election Commission allows old voters to reapply through Form-6

Central Chronicle News

Election Commission removes confusion over voter registration

RAIPUR: In a major clarification for voters, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has stated that even previously registered voters whose names are missing from the draft electoral roll during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) can submit Form-6 to get their names included in the final voter list. The Commission has assured that no punitive or legal action will be initiated against them merely for submitting the form.

The clarification comes after the Commission observed that several voters were hesitant to fill out Form-6 because its declaration states that the applicant is seeking inclusion in the electoral roll for the first time. They feared that making such a declaration despite having been registered earlier could attract action under Section 31 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. The ECI has clarified that such apprehensions are unfounded and that eligible applicants can submit Form-6 without fear. It also referred to the Delhi High Court's October 14, 2026, order in the case of Nilotpal Dutta and others versus the Election Commission of India, which supported this position. The Commission has directed Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) not to initiate action under Section 31 solely because an applicant's name appeared in an earlier voter list. However, applicants must ensure that their names are not already registered in another parliamentary or assembly constituency and fulfil the prescribed eligibility requirements. The Chief Electoral Officer, Chhattisgarh, has appealed to citizens to check the draft electoral roll and submit Form-6 promptly if their names are missing.



FACTFILE

- No legal action for eligible Form-6 applicants.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

EXCLUSIVE JEWELLERY COLLECTION

Anopchand Tilokchand unveils exclusive Jewellery collection for Dhanteras



RAIPUR: Anopchand Tilokchand Jewellers Pvt. Ltd. has unveiled an exclusive collection of gold, diamond, Polki and bridal jewellery for Dhanteras, combining traditional craftsmanship with contemporary designs. With the festive and wedding seasons approaching, the showroom is witnessing interest in traditional ornaments, lightweight jewellery and premium diamond collections. The collection features pink diamond and yellow sapphire (Pukhraj) necklace sets, diamond-emerald designs, bridal Polki jewellery, bangles, earrings, rings and pendants. Lightweight gold and diamond jewellery have also been introduced to cater to customers looking for everyday wear and gifting options. Chairman Tilokchand Bardia said, "Dhanteras is a significant festival in Indian culture, and purchasing gold and jewellery symbolises family happiness, prosperity and faith in the future. Customer trust is our greatest asset. We have curated a special collection focusing on purity, quality, craftsmanship and designs for different age groups and budgets." Director Nitin Bardia said, "Customers today are exploring traditional gold jewellery, lightweight designs and everyday-wear ornaments. With the wedding season approaching, bridal jewellery is also witnessing strong demand. Our collection caters to different preferences, occasions and budgets." Director Nikesh Bardia said, "Jewellery today reflects personal taste and style. Our exclusive diamond collection offers unique designs, along with customised jewellery services to suit individual preferences and budgets."

FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAMME

Union Bank organises Financial Literacy Programme at Nimora



RAIPUR: The Nimora branch of Union Bank of India organised a special financial inclusion and financial literacy programme to promote banking awareness and expand access to financial services in rural and semi-urban areas. The programme was held under the guidance of Randhir Kumar, Regional Manager, Union Bank of India, Raipur. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) General Manager Manish Parashar attended as the chief guest and highlighted the importance of financial literacy, Re-KYC, Central KYC (CKYC) and secure digital banking. Addressing villagers, Parashar stressed the need for caution while using mobile banking, UPI and internet banking. He advised customers not to share their PINs, OTPs or personal banking details with anyone to prevent financial fraud. He also explained the importance of completing Re-KYC on time and the benefits of CKYC in avoiding repeated documentation across banks and other financial institutions. Regional Manager, Randhir Kumar encouraged farmers, women and small entrepreneurs to avail themselves of banking facilities, including Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and Mudra loans. He also highlighted government social security schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana.

GENERATIONAL BOND

Pranavanand Academy celebrates Diwali with grandparents



RAIPUR: Pranavanand Academy, VIP Road, celebrated a vibrant Diwali festival with grandparents in its pre-primary section on November 3, bringing together children and their elders in a spirit of joy and togetherness. The programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Principal Dr Niti Singh Yaduvanshi, Vice-Principal Mahesh Thakre, Secretary-cum-Rector Dr Arunav Maharaj, Manager Mahadev Mahato, Mentor Sunanda Dhangar and the grandparents. The celebration aimed to familiarise children with Indian culture and family traditions while fostering love and respect for elders. Young students participated enthusiastically in activities alongside their grandparents, including rangoli-making, lighting sparklers and decorating earthen lamps.

NATIONAL STARTUP PITCHING CONTEST

NH Goel World School students win National Startup Pitching contest



RAIPUR: Students of NH Goel World School have brought laurels to Raipur by winning the national-level business pitching competition 'Future Founders Challenge', organised by the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (UPES), Dehradun, under its Runway Incubator initiative. The school's team, 'Aqua Loop', comprising Aditya Saha, Chief Advisor and Chief Technology Officer (CTO), and Manveer Bhasin, Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), emerged as the overall winner among approximately 800 participating teams from across the country. The team was mentored by Sakshi Kahar. After successfully clearing several competitive rounds, Aqua Loop secured a place among the top 30 teams and subsequently the top 10 before claiming the national title. The winning team received a cash prize of Rs 1.5 lakh. Additionally, one of the judges and investors placed a pre-order for 50 units of its product. The team also attracted investor interest and received free membership and registration to the UPES-powered Runway Incubator.

Raipur News

CG to partner with IISc to boost scientific research

CM outlined the government's vision to integrate mineral wealth, industrial base and talented human resources with cutting-edge scientific innovation.

Central Chronicle News



RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Wednesday announced that the Chhattisgarh government is preparing to collaborate with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, to establish the state as a leading national hub for scientific research, advanced education, and healthcare technology. The initiative places particular focus on extending top-tier scientific education and technical training to the youth residing in tribal and remote pockets, including Bastar and Surguja.

Addressing a high-level review meeting held at his official residence with IISc Director Prof. G. Rangarajan, senior scientists, and top administrative officials, CM Sai outlined the government's vision to integrate Chhattisgarh's mineral wealth, industrial base, and talented human resources with cutting-edge scientific innovation. During the session, detailed deliberations took place regarding three major proposed collaborative projects between the state government and IISc: setting up a world-class Material Characterisation and Testing Facility, establishing a dedicated four-year integrated BSc-B.Ed teacher training institute, and adopting a hub-and-network model to leverage the IISc Medical School's expertise for clinical research, affordable healthcare technologies, and digital health.

CM Sai directed departmental secretaries to assess the technical, financial, and institutional feasibility of the proposals and formulate a concrete, time-bound action plan. Emphasising inclusive reach, the Chief Minister said that world-class scientific facilities must not stay confined to metropolitan hubs. Talented youth in Bastar, Surguja, and rural regions must receive direct access to advanced laboratories, internships in emerging sectors such as semiconductors, artificial intelligence (AI), and biotechnology, and mentorship from premier institutions.

KEY PROPOSALS AT A GLANCE:

Material Characterisation & Testing Facility: Proposed cutting-edge testing and R&D centre equipped with advanced microscopy, X-ray analysis, high-temperature testing, nanotechnology, and AI-driven materials research. It aims to support domestic steel, mining, defence, and electronics sectors, featuring residential training capacity for 600 scholars to train 1,800 students over three years.

Designed under the National Education Policy (NEP) with academic guidance from IISc to train high-calibre mathematics and science educators. The campus envisions 14 state-of-the-art laboratories, residential quarters for 600 students, modern digital classrooms, and a 25-member permanent faculty body.

Seva Setu operators trained on new services

RAIPUR: An online training programme was conducted today for Seva Setu operators to familiarise them with four newly introduced services on the Seva Setu Portal. The initiative aims to make government services more accessible, convenient and transparent for citizens through a simplified digital platform. During the training session, operators received detailed guidance on the application procedures for an Economically Weaker Section (EWS) Certificate, Ordinary Gazette Notification for Name Change, Transfer Certificate, and Trade Licence. The session covered the documents required for each service, the correct way to enter applicant details, and the step-by-step process of submitting applications through the online portal.

SAGES recruitment exam answer sheets on Nov 5

Central Chronicle News

Candidates can submit objections until November 8; 28,535 appeared in CBT Examination

RAIPUR: The response sheets for the computer-based test (CBT) conducted for the recruitment of 1,812 contractual positions across 26 subjects in Swami Atmanand Government English Medium Schools (SAGES) in Chhattisgarh will be released on November 5, 2026.

Candidates will be able to submit online objections to the provisional answer key until November 8. According to an official notification issued by the Directorate of Public Instruction, the recruitment examination was conducted in multiple shifts from October 31 to November 4, 2026. A total of 34,604 candidates registered for the examination, of whom 28,535 appeared, recording an overall attendance of 82.46 per cent.

The response sheets for all subjects will be uploaded to the School Education Department's official website, http://eduportal.cg.nic.in, by 12 noon on November 5. Candidates can log in using their respective login IDs to view their responses and compare them with the official answer key.

Candidates who disagree with any answer in the provisional answer key can submit their objections online from 12 noon on November 5 until 12 noon on November 8, 2026, through the School Education Department's official portal.

NEWSLINE

HERITAGE WALK

RMC organises zero-waste heritage walk

RAIPUR: The Raipur Municipal Corporation organised a special heritage walk titled 'Walk with a Cause', combining awareness of the city's rich historical and cultural heritage with the message of cleanliness and environmental protection.

OBITUARY

Ramavatar Agrawal



RAIPUR: Ramavatar Agrawal (Bargarhwale), R/o Nagar Nigam Colony, Samta Colony, Raipur, breathed his last here on Wednesday. He was 82. The final journey will leave from his resdience at 56, Nagar Nigam Colony, Agrasen Chowk, Samta Colony, to Marwari crematorium at 10:30 am on Nov 5.

NIT partners with Bajaj Auto Foundation to set up flagship 'BEST' Centre



Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bajaj Auto Foundation (BAF), the CSR arm of Bajaj Auto Ltd., to establish a state-of-the-art Bajaj Engineering Skills Training (BEST) Centre on the institute's campus. Set up within the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE), this public-private partnership aims to bridge the gap between academic theory and evolving industry demands. Supported by a substantial CSR investment from BAF, the centre will feature industry-grade equipment and advanced laboratory infrastructure, providing engineering graduates with hands-on technical training.

Integrated with the B.Tech ECE curriculum, the facility will specialise in Electronics Manufacturing Services (EMS), focusing on Surface Mount Technology (SMT), printed circuit board (PCB) assembly line management, precision electronics prototyping, and semiconductor packaging processes. The MoU was signed in the presence of Prof. N. V. Ramana Rao, Director, NIT Raipur, alongside Registrar Ashok Kumar Gupta, deans, and senior faculty.

Be visible from office to field: Deputy CM to PWD Engineers



Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Deputy Chief Minister and Public Works Department (PWD) Minister Arun Sao on Wednesday called upon departmental engineers to maintain active presence and oversight from the office desk to the project site. Addressing engineers across the state during the inauguration of 'Nirman Manthan'–a one-day state-level quality control workshop organised by the Public Works Department at Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Auditorium in Raipur–the Deputy Chief Minister termed engineers the prime architects of a 'Viksit Chhattisgarh' (Developed Chhattisgarh).

Highlighting the pivotal role of the department, Sao said that the PWD functions as the primary growth engine of the state. He noted that over the past 26 years since the formation of Chhattisgarh, the department has led infrastructure transformation.



Terms and Conditions applied. *Approval of the loan is at the sole discretion of the financiers, and additional documentation may be required. *The interest rates, loan amount, down payment, tenure options, and EMI are based on the financier's assessment of the applicant's credit profile. *Some of the mentioned components of the scheme cannot be clubbed together. *The offers/features may be modified or withdrawn at any time without prior intimation. *Offer valid until 30th Nov 2026. #Up to 10% Instant Cashback (₹2000 - ₹10000) is available on all HMSI models for EMI transactions made using IDFC Bank Credit Cards (Tenure 6 months to 24 months). #The offer is valid on credit card transactions processed through Pine Labs machines only and is applicable for one transaction per card/order during the offer period. #The Instant Cashback offer is valid until 30th Nov 2026. Product shown in the picture may vary from actual product available in the market. Accessories shown in the picture are not part of standard equipment.

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**CHARAMA:** Neeraj Honda - 9425230052; **CHUIKHADAN:** Shri Radhey Honda - 9691692500; **DALLIRAJHARA:** Shri Subh Honda - 9406082344; Shri Subh Honda (Balod) - 9425564232; **DHAMTARI:** ShriShyam Honda - 9827900750; **DHARSIVA:** R S.Honda - 9669880000; **DONGARGARH:** Gagan Honda - 9425560030; **DURG:** Shree Sairam Honda - 8458882333; Dharamsheela Honda (Dhamdha) - 9303035678; Shree Honda (Patan) - 9203304122; Tanay Honda (Jamul) - 9201837830; Umang Honda (Kumhari) - 8817327307; **FINGESHWAR:** Bangani Honda - 9425402966; **GIDHORI:** Subhkamana Auto - 9575569608; **GUNDERDEHI:** Sapan Honda - 7354340000; **GURUR:** Baba Honda - 9827936712; Shri Ji Honda - 7000167266; **NARAYANPUR:** Shri Ji Honda - 9406341563; **JAGDALPUR:** Waheguru Honda - 8435090005; **KONDAGAON:** Danteshwari Honda - 9294566660; **SUKMA:** Akash Honda - 9424287457; **PHARASGAON:** Shri Deo Honda - 9993861735; **KANKER:** Shivnath Honda - 7970005301; **KASDOL:** Laxmi Honda - 8871233553; **BHATGAON:** Kiran Honda - 9039006983; 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**SARAIPALI:** Pukraj Honda - 8889798000; **BILASPUR:** Dream Honda - 9926802408; Maosaji Honda - 7024149681; **AKALTARA:** Bhagwati Honda - 9827527016; **AMBIKAPUR:** Mahamaya Honda - 7489027000; Jaswani Honda - 8358065000; **BAIKUNTHPUR:** Pramila Honda - 7000405012; **BARADWAR:** Ganpati Honda - 7974875687; **BILHA:** Sai Honda - 9179256022; **KAWARDHA:** Pratha Honda - 7400550099; **DHARAMJAIGARH:** Harsh Honda - 9424180180; **JANJGIR CHAMPA:** Gattani Honda - 7694011206; Shubh Honda (Baloda) - 8574921111; **JASHPUR:** Deo Narayan Honda - 9425251702; **KHARSIA:** Balaji Honda - 8269515770; **KORBA:** Vishal Honda - 9479025937; **PALI:** Jai Mahamaya Honda - 7828132008; **KATHGORA:** Mahadev Honda - 7709859173; Krishna Korba Honda - 7747015377; JP Honda (Hardi Bazar) - 9826129114; Bharat Honda (Gevra Basti) - 09301001739; **KOTA:** Prakash Honda - 9826417995; **KUNKURI:** Mansharam Honda - 8103798783; **LAILUNGA:** Atul Honda - 9424188280; **LORMI:** Mansi Honda - 9685010000; **MANENDRAGARH:** Harsh Honda - 9993883343; 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**GAURELLA:** Shyam Honda - 7024806222; **AHIWARA:** Kabiram Honda - 8319225193; Shree Sairam Honda (Risali) - 8823050333; **DANTEWADA:** Ansh Honda - 7000396031; **NEHRU NAGAR:** Aan Honda - 8518020999; **MUNGELI:** S. Mansi Honda - 9131402454; **BATAULI:** Ankan Honda - 9203617070; **CHOWKI:** Manraj Honda - 9424153947.

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Bilaspur



The commendable initiatives of co-op societies should be studied and understood, and then adapted to suit local needs.

Sanjay Agrawal
Collector Bilaspur

'Achievements of schemes should be in outcomes'

In-charge Secretary holds meeting with officials, issues several directives

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: Manoj Pingua, Additional Chief Secretary of the Forest and Climate Change Department and the district's In-charge Secretary, conducted an in-depth review of various government welfare schemes and development projects during a district-level review meeting held today at the 'Manthan' conference hall of the District Office. He emphasized to the officials that the success of these schemes should not be limited to mere statistics; rather, their positive impact must be visible on the ground.

The true essence of good governance lies in ensuring that the actual benefits of these schemes reach ordinary citizens, bringing about positive changes in their lives. He urged all departments to work with better coordination and a result-oriented approach to strive for excellence across various sectors in the district.

It is our collective responsibility to live up to the public's expectations. During the meeting, Collector Sanjay Agarwal provided an update on the progress of key schemes, innovative initiatives, and development projects currently underway in the district.



FASTFACTS

- Ensure the benefits of good governance reach the last person; officials must meet public expectations: Pingua
- Preparations for paddy procurement also reviewed

The review meeting began with an assessment of preparations for paddy procurement. Pingua noted that the state government will commence paddy procurement on November 15. He directed that all necessary preparations be completed at the procurement centers well in advance. Information regarding procurement criteria should be widely disseminated through public announcements and wall writings. Preparations must be finalized in accordance with the established checklist. Special care should be taken to ensure that farmers arriving to sell their paddy face no difficulties; adequate arrangements for shade, drinking water, and seating must be provided. He inquired about the status of farmer registration, the formation of cooperative societies, and the overall procurement system. He further instructed that all essential arrangements related to paddy procurement be firmly in place to ensure that farmers do not encounter any inconvenience. While reviewing rural development schemes, the Secretary-in-charge inquired about the number of houses completed against those sanctioned under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

The Secretary-in-charge directed that a survey of the damage caused by the recent storm be conducted promptly, and that relief be provided to the affected farmers based on their eligibility. During the meeting, the CEO of the Zila Panchayat, Sandeep Agrawal, stated that Bilaspur district has made remarkable progress in housing surveys. For the 2024-26 period, the district ranks second at the state level in terms of housing completion, with 56,284 houses finished. Furthermore, the district holds the top position at the state level for conducting surveys of the highest number of beneficiaries under the 'Awas Plus 2.0' initiative.

Addl sleeper coach in Bilaspur-Bhopal Exp

BILASPUR: To improve passenger convenience and provide confirmed berths to more travellers, the South East Central Railway has announced an additional sleeper coach in the Bilaspur-Bhopal-Bilaspur Express. The additional coach will be attached to Train No. 18236 Bilaspur-Bhopal Express from November 4 to November 25, 2026. Similarly, Train No. 18235 Bhopal-Bilaspur Express will have the additional sleeper coach from November 6 to November 27, 2026.

Interview for Asst Grade-3 on Nov 12

BILASPUR: An interview for the recruitment to one contractual post of Assistant Grade-3 at Bilasa Devi Kevat Airport, Bilaspur, will be held on November 12, 2026. Call letters have been issued to 10 candidates for the interview. Information regarding the interview has been uploaded to the district administration's website. Candidates are advised to appear for the interview on the scheduled date, in accordance with the information provided on the website and the call letters they have received.

Union Minister Sahu interacts with Indian diaspora in Spain



Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu met with representatives of the Indian diaspora in the Catalonia region of Spain, engaging in extensive discussions on strengthening bilateral relations, cultural heritage, and economic collaboration between the two nations. During the interaction, the Indian community which numbers around 35,000 in Catalonia extended an invitation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit Spain, proposing a large-scale 'Hola Modi' community gathering modeled after the 'Howdy Modi' event held in the United States. Members of the diaspora hailing from states including Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu remain actively engaged in business, technology, and professional sectors while continuing to preserve traditional festivals such as Durga Puja, Diwali, Ganeshotsav, and Onam abroad. Highlighting that the year 2026 marks the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Spain established in 1956, Minister Sahu commended the diaspora as cultural ambassadors whose professional contributions strengthen bilateral ties across defense, trade, renewable energy, public transit, urban development, and digital technology. The delegation also submitted five primary demands to the minister, seeking administrative support for building a temple in Barcelona, launching direct flight services between India and Barcelona, and establishing a Vivekananda Center to promote Indian philosophy, yoga, and spiritual heritage.

FASTFACTS

- Minister Sahu commended the diaspora as cultural ambassadors whose professional contributions strengthen bilateral ties across defense, trade

NEWSLINE

THEFT

Jewellery and cash stolen

BILASPUR: Thieves allegedly broke into a locked house in Maitripuram Colony, located in the Shubham Vihar area of Mangla, and stole gold and silver jewellery along with cash. The house was vacant as its tenant, a Railway Protection Force (RPF) employee, had travelled to Kharagpur in West Bengal for duty.

According to Civil Lines police, complainant Krishna Kumar Sahu (35), originally from Karwa village in Tengmarda under Kota police station limits, lives with his family in a rented house owned by Anupama Kumar in Maitripuram Colony. He is posted at the Railway Protection Force post in Uslapur. Sahu left for Kharagpur on October 14 for official duty. When he returned on November 3, after nearly 20 days, he found the front lock of the house intact but discovered that the lock on a room had been broken. Household belongings were scattered inside, and jewellery and cash were missing. Following his complaint, Civil Lines police registered a case against an unidentified accused and began an investigation. Police station in-charge Ravishankar Tiwari confirmed the incident.

ASSAULTED

Youth assaulted

BILASPUR: A youth was allegedly assaulted in Devnagar under the Kon i police station area after some people suspected him of performing tantric rituals at a cremation ground. The incident left him injured, and he was admitted to the Chhattisgarh Institute of Medical Sciences (CIMS) for treatment. According to police, the youth had visited the cremation ground near his house with an acquaintance. Some people present there reportedly found his activities suspicious and, suspecting that he was performing tantric rituals, assaulted him.

After receiving information about the incident, Kon i police reached the spot and shifted the injured youth to CIMS. Police have registered a case under Crime No. 601/2026 under Sections 296, 115(2), 351(3) and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

KILLED

JCB operator killed

BILASPUR: A JCB operator died on the spot while his nephew sustained severe injuries when a speeding unidentified trailer rammed their motorcycle from behind near Gatori village along the Sendri-Gatori route within Koni police station limits late in the evening.

The victims, identified as Shekhar Markam and his nephew Ranjit Armo, both residents of Jevra Nayapara in Patharia block, were returning home aboard a CD Deluxe motorcycle after settling accounting work related to JCB operations in Pausari village.

Scooter-borne man snatches gold chain from woman

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: A scooter-borne man allegedly snatched a gold chain from a woman who was walking outside her home on Monday night and fled. Police reached the spot after receiving information and have registered a case. An investigation is underway.

According to Sarkanda police, Suman Singh, a resident of Sampada Campus, works at SECL. Around 9 pm on Monday, after having dinner, she was walking inside the campus. She usually went for walks with her neighbours but was alone that night. During this time, a young man on a scooter approached her and asked where Basant lived. Before she could respond, he suddenly grabbed the chain around her neck and snatched it. The chain reportedly weighed around two tolas.

When Suman Singh resisted, the accused allegedly assaulted her. She sustained injuries to her neck and other parts of her body during the struggle. The man then fled on his scooter. Sarkanda police station in-charge Pradeep Arya reached the spot with a team and inspected the scene. Police questioned the victim and are examining CCTV footage from the campus and nearby roads. The footage reportedly shows a suspicious man and his scooter. Police are trying to identify and arrest the accused based on the footage.

Robbers and pickpockets become active during festival season, allegedly conducting reconnaissance before targeting victims. Pickpockets also take advantage of crowded markets to commit thefts and escape. Although chain-snatching and robbery incidents had declined in the city in recent days, the latest incident has raised concerns about criminals targeting women walking alone in isolated areas.

Two nabbed for supplying illegal liquor

BILASPUR: Bilha police have arrested two men for allegedly transporting and selling illicit liquor under Operation Prahar. Police seized 12.10 litres of country-made liquor, Rs 4,020 in cash believed to be proceeds from sales, and the motorcycle used for transportation. The seized liquor is valued at Rs 6,200. Bilha police station in-charge Ajay Sahu said action against illegal liquor traders is being carried out on the directions of SSP Rajnesh Singh. On November 3, police received a tip-off that two men were selling liquor from a motorcycle near the Ameri-Akbari gas godown. Acting on the information, police surrounded the area and caught the suspects. The accused were identified as Ramkumar Patwa (40) and Durgesh Kumar (25), both residents of Pausari village under Bilha police station limits. During the search, police recovered 40 pouches of country-made plain liquor.

| PROUD MOMENT |

SECR exhibition wins second prize at Chhattisgarh Rajyotsav

Central Chronicle News

CPRO Sheikh Sami ur Rahman received the award from CM.



BILASPUR: The South East Central Railway (SECR) exhibition themed 'Hamar Railway, Hamar Chhattisgarh' won the second prize in the Public and Private Sector Undertakings category at Chhattisgarh Rajyotsav-2026. SECR Chief Public Relations Officer Sheikh Sami ur Rahman received the award from Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai at the concluding ceremony.

Held from November 1 to 3 at the Rajyotsav Ground in Atal Nagar, Nava Raipur, the exhibition emerged as a major attraction, showcasing the railway's achievements, infrastructure projects, technological advancements and passenger amenities. The exhibition featured illuminated panels highlighting new railway lines, completed and ongoing infrastructure projects, expansion of rail connectivity to remote areas of Chhattisgarh and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in railway operations.

A model showcasing the redevelopment of Raipur Railway Station was among the major attractions, offering visitors a glimpse of its proposed modern appearance and upgraded passenger facilities through a walk-through film. The engine simulator provided visitors, particularly children and youngsters, an opportunity to experience virtual train operations and understand the technology used in loco pilot training. A dedicated Virtual Reality (VR) gaming zone also drew considerable interest. A railway quiz based on the history, achievements and functioning of Indian Railways witnessed enthusiastic participation from children and young people, with prizes awarded to outstanding performers. Visitors also enjoyed taking photographs against backdrops of redeveloped railway stations and receiving instant prints. A 3D anamorphic digital screen at the entrance showcased railway achievements through advanced visual technology. A special film highlighting the railway's development journey and a giant cut-out of the Vande Bharat train further enhanced the exhibition's appeal. The exhibition brought together information on railway development, modern technology, future projects and passenger services on a single platform. Its second-prize recognition acknowledges SECR's efforts to connect with the public through informative, interactive and technology-driven initiatives.

| DIWALI FIRE HAZARD SURGE |

Bilaspur fire dept struggles with aging fleet

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: As Bilaspur prepares for Diwali celebrations, serious concerns have emerged regarding the Fire Department's operational readiness to tackle potential fire outbreaks across the city. Amid heightened risks from extensive firecracker use, temporary decorative lighting, and electrical short circuits, the city's emergency infrastructure remains severely constrained by dilapidated fire tenders and staff shortages across congested commercial hubs and residential areas. Dense market corridors and narrow lanes across the city present significant logistical hurdles for emergency responders, elevating the risk of property damage in the event of simultaneous fire incidents. Local traders and residents have expressed anxiety that the department's limited fleet and constrained manpower could delay critical response times if multiple blazes erupt during peak festive hours. Addressing the resource deficit, Fire Officer D.S. Nath confirmed that the department currently operates a fleet of five fire tenders, with single vehicles stationed in satellite locations including Kota, Ratanpur, and Malhar to cover peripheral zones.



He added that the procurement of new high-capacity fire tenders capable of carrying 5,000 liters of water is currently underway, which will significantly bolster the city's emergency firefighting capabilities once delivered.

Grandson arrested for allegedly killing 65-yr-old

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: A shocking murder has been reported from Satnami Para in Loharsi village under Pachpedi police station limits, where a man allegedly killed his 65-year-old grandmother by repeatedly striking her on the head with a wooden club-like implement. Police have arrested the accused grandson. According to police, the deceased, Narbad Bai Kosle, wife of late Tirith Ram Kosle, lived in Loharsi village. On November 2, at around 10:22 pm, her brother Bhagwat Mahilange received a call from his nephew Sajan Kosle. Sajan informed him that his son, Mrityunjay Kosle, alias Babbu Kosle, had called and confessed to killing his grandmother. During the phone call, the accused reportedly said he was angry because his grandmother repeatedly stopped him from going outside. In a fit of anger, he allegedly attacked her head with a wooden khura, killing her.

N-E-W-S



"Quockerwodger-A political puppet; a person who is controlled by someone else and acts on their instructions."

Shashi Tharoor
Congress Leader

ITI students provide free repair services for gadgets

After the devastating effects of cyclone Arnab in Odisha's Ganjam district, students from five ITIs have stepped forward to provide repair services.

Press Trust Of India



BERHAMPUR: Around 40 students from five government-run Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and a state-run engineering school have joined the post-cyclone restoration efforts in Odisha's Ganjam district by providing free repair services. Their primary focus is Aska, the worst-affected town following cyclone Arnab and subsequent flooding.

The students, pursuing electrical, electronics and plumbing trades at ITIs in Berhampur, Sheragada, Purushottampur, Hinjilicut and Chhatrapur, along with UCP Engineering School, have been working since Monday. Divided into six teams, they are repairing damaged electrical appliances, motor pumps, air conditioners and water supply systems in households and government establishments. They have already restored damaged electrical equipment at Aska Sub-Divisional Hospital, which was submerged in floodwaters. On Tuesday, the teams extended their services to several households, undertaking electrical and plumbing repairs. According to District Skill Development and Employment Officer Arpita Priyadarshibi, the initiative aims to help affected families restore essential services and return to normal life. The work is being conducted under the supervision of the district administration, with an individual supervisor assigned to each team.

HIGHLIGHT

- The students of electrical, electronics and plumbing trades will continue restoration work in Ganjam district.

'Businessman wore Meta AI glasses during meeting too'

Central Chronicle News



Thiruvananthapuram: Keralam Chief Minister V D Satheesan on Wednesday confirmed that a businessman, who allegedly wore Meta AI smart glasses during a meeting with Karnataka Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, had also met him wearing the same device.

Speaking at a press conference, Satheesan said he had received photographs of their meeting but declined to reveal further details as the Karnataka Police were investigating the matter.

He questioned why the businessman allegedly wore the smart glasses only while meeting the two Congress Chief Ministers and not during meetings with BJP leaders and other ministers. Referring to two photographs, Satheesan pointed out the apparent difference and said the investigation should be allowed to proceed. He also ruled out a separate probe by the Keralam government.

FASTFACTS

- He stated that the same businessman didn't wear the smart glasses while meeting BJP leaders.

NEWSLINE

JAIPUR

NIA rushes to Raj after track-damaging explosion

An explosion on a railway track in Rajasthan's Sri Ganganagar district damaged two concrete blocks supporting the track, prompting authorities to cancel four train services on the Suratgarh-Anupgarh route on Wednesday.

The blast occurred around 9.45 pm on Tuesday near 50 GB village, approximately 45 minutes after a passenger train had passed through the area, police said.

The explosion created a crater nearly two feet deep and damaged two concrete blocks beneath the railway track. Villagers living around 200 metres from the site heard the loud explosion and rushed to the spot.

JALAUN

Driver killed as truck plunges into Expressway gap

A truck carrying bricks caught fire after plunging into the gap between two carriageways of the Bundelkhand Expressway in Uttar Pradesh early Wednesday, killing the driver. Another person travelling in the vehicle is suspected to be trapped under the debris, police said. The accident occurred around 5 am near kilometre stone 209 on the carriageway connecting Auraiya to Etawah. According to preliminary information, the truck lost control.

| GUWAHATI HOTEL FIRING CASE |

Prime accused in Guwahati hotel firing killed in police firing

Press Trust Of India



GUWAHATI: The prime accused in the Guwahati hotel firing incident, which claimed five lives, was killed in police firing in Assam's Sivasagar district early Wednesday while allegedly attempting to escape from custody, a senior police officer said. The deceased, identified as Ghanakanta Gogoi (34), was being taken to Sivasagar in connection with a separate bank fraud case when the incident occurred at Gaurisagar around 3.10 am, Senior Superintendent of Police Papori Chetia said. According to police, Gogoi attempted to snatch the service weapon of the investigating officer when he stepped out of the police vehicle. A scuffle followed, leaving the officer seriously injured. To protect the officer, a personal security officer attached to the Sivasagar Sadar Police Station fired at Gogoi. He sustained a bullet injury near his heart and was declared dead at a hospital.

12 arrested for theft in 15 jewellery shops

BHUBANESWAR: Odisha Police has busted an alleged burglary racket with the arrest of 12 persons and the recovery of around 500 grams of gold and 11 kg of silver ornaments, a senior police officer said on Wednesday. The accused, comprising eight persons from Khurda, three from Ganjam and one from Puri district, were arrested on Tuesday and subsequently forwarded to court. investigation into a jewellery shop burglary in the Banapur police station area of Khurda district.

| RESCUE OPERATIONS STRANDED |

Rescue operations called off at Odisha landslide at Gidipabali

Press Trust Of India



Bhubaneswar/Phulbani: The multi-agency search and rescue operation at landslide-hit Gidipabali village in south Odisha's Kandhamal district was temporarily suspended on Wednesday due to bad weather and difficult terrain. Meanwhile, families of 10 missing persons have requested the administration to help them perform the final rituals, a senior official said. Kandhamal District Collector Vedbhusan said the decision was taken after experts assessed that the missing persons, if buried under the debris, could be trapped beneath nearly 30 feet of rocks and soil. Successive landslides have made the operation extremely dangerous, while further controlled blasting could trigger fresh landslides and endanger rescue personnel. The collector, along with Ganjam District Collector V Keerthi Vasan, met the affected families at a shelter camp and discussed the situation. He said the administration would make one final attempt to resume the search once weather conditions remain favourable for a couple of days.

NEW DELHI

Two arrested for extorting Rs 26,000

Delhi Police have arrested two men, including the owner of a cafe in northwest Delhi's Hudson Lane, for allegedly extorting around Rs 26,000 from a customer who was lured there on the pretext of a blind date through a dating application. According to police, the complainant, a resident of West Champaran in Bihar, came in contact with a woman identifying herself as Sanya on November 1. She invited him for a blind date and asked him to meet near GTB Nagar Metro Station before taking him to a cafe in Hudson Lane. At the cafe, the woman allegedly ordered several food items and alcoholic drinks, including whisky.

| PSC CHAIRMAN REMOVAL CASE |

Kerala CM hits out at former -Governor over recommendation for removal of PSC chairman

Press Trust Of India



Thiruvananthapuram: Keralam Chief Minister V D Satheesan on Wednesday criticised former Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar for recommending the removal of Kerala Public Service Commission (PSC) Chairman M R Baiju without consulting the state government. Addressing a press conference after a Cabinet meeting chaired by him, Satheesan said the Governor was expected to discuss the matter with the government before forwarding such a recommendation to President Droupadi Murmu. "The Governor cannot express such views on his own. Under the Constitution, the Governor should communicate the considered opinion of the government," Satheesan said.

He maintained that Arlekar's recommendation could not be used to divert attention from alleged irregularities in the conduct of PSC examinations.

Dense fog envelops national capital



Commuters move on a road amid low visibility in the Jahangirpuri-Bhalswa area, New Delhi.

| KHARGE CHALLENGES CENTRAL GOVT |

Kharge backs Rahul Gandhi, challenges PM Modi over vote chori allegations



NEW DELHI: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday challenged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to an open debate over allegations of "vote chori", asking him to answer questions being raised by the opposition and the public. In a post on X, Kharge said Modi had failed to respond to allegations raised by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and should accept his challenge for a debate on several issues, including alleged foreign connections and the government's handling of national interests.Kharge also questioned Union Home Minister Amit Shah's claim that three crore voters were illegal immigrants, asking why such people were allowed to enter the country during his tenure.

Kerala orders vigilance probe into Rs 2 cr bribery allegations against CEC



Thiruvananthapuram: Keralam Home Minister Ramesh Chennithala has directed the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau (VACB) to conduct a preliminary inquiry into fresh bribery allegations against Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar relating to a road construction project undertaken nearly two decades ago, an official source said on Wednesday. The complaint was filed by Sajan, a former contractor from Chadayamangalam in Kollam district. He alleged that Kumar, who was serving as the state's Public Works Department (PWD) Secretary at the time, had demanded a bribe of Rs 2 crore to release payments for completed work under the Kerala State Transport Project (KSTP). According to the complaint, Kumar allegedly withheld cheques worth around Rs 17 crore despite the bills being approved by engineers. The delay reportedly caused financial difficulties for Malaysian company PATI-BEL, its contractors and workers.

| YADAV SLAMS DHIRENDRA SHASTRI |

Akhilesh seeks entry ban on Dhirendra Shastri in UP

Press Trust Of India



LUCKNOW: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday criticised religious preacher Dhirendra Shastri over his alleged controversial remarks about Lord Krishna and Lord Ram, demanding restrictions on his entry into Uttar Pradesh. The former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister said Shastri's comments had hurt the religious sentiments of both the Yaduvanshi and Raghuvanshi communities.

In a post on X, Yadav, without directly naming the preacher, said he would neither be welcomed in Braj nor Awadh. He suggested putting up a notice at the Uttar Pradesh-Madhya Pradesh border declaring that those making objectionable remarks about religious figures would not be allowed to enter the state. Yadav also questioned the practice of involving religious deities in political and personal disputes. He warned that if such statements were not addressed, similar remarks targeting other communities could follow.

> "Now he will neither be allowed to enter Braj nor Awadh. Neither a true Raghuvanshi nor a true Yaduvanshi will welcome him"
>
> **Akhilesh Yadav**
> Samajwadi Party President

'17-year-old's murder was pre-planned; girl was aware of plot'

Thiruvananthapuram: The murder of 17-year-old Abhiram, whose body was found stuffed inside a sack and dumped in an isolated plot at Pangappara near Sreekaryam in Thiruvananthapuram, was a pre-planned crime, police said on Wednesday. Thiruvananthapuram City Police Commissioner Arul B Krishna said preliminary investigations revealed that a girl accused in the case allegedly knew about the murder plan two to three days before the incident. Police are investigating whether she actively participated in the crime and helped destroy evidence.

According to the police, the main accused, a juvenile and senior to the victim at school.

MADURAI

HC directs removal of Periyar statue

The Madras High Court has directed the Thanjavur District Collector to remove the statue of social reformer E V Ramasamy, popularly known as Periyar, from temple land and relocate it to a suitable alternative site within four weeks.

A Division Bench comprising Justices P Velmurugan and K K Ramakrishnan passed the order while hearing a writ petition seeking the removal of the statue installed on the premises of Arulmigu Brahmasirakandeeswarar Temple at Kandiyur in Thanjavur district.

Whatever decisions you make in life, be prepared for all their aspects and consequences.
OP Choudhary
FM Ch'garh



Bilaspur Region

Korba celebrates Rajyotsav with cultural grandeur

Vibrant Rajyotsav celebrations were held under Chief Guest Minister Lakhanlal Dewangan.

Central Chronicle News

KORBA: A grand district-level Rajyotsav 2026 celebration marking the 26th anniversary of Chhattisgarh's formation was organized at Dr. BhimraoAmbedkar Open Auditorium in Korba. Cabinet Minister LakhanlalDewangan attended as the chief guest and inaugurated the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Dewangan highlighted Chhattisgarh's remarkable development journey and paid tribute to former Prime Minister Bharat



RatnaAtalBihari Vajpayee for his significant contribution to the formation of the state.

He said that under Prime Minister Narendra-Modi and Chief Minister Vishnu DeoSai, Chhattisgarh is progressing rapidly. He highlighted welfare initiatives under 'Modi's Guarantee', including 18 lakh houses under PM AwasYojana, paddy procurement at Rs 3,100 per quintal, Mahtari Vandan Yojana and tendu leaf collection at Rs 5,500 per standard bag.

He also emphasized the effective utilization of District Mineral Foundation funds for improving education, healthcare and infrastructure in Korba. Katghora MLA Premchand Patel highlighted the state's agricultural prosperity, mineral resources and rich cultural heritage.

Collector KunalDudawat presented the district's development report, highlighting women's empowerment and youth opportunities. He informed that around 2.9 lakh women receive financial assistance under MahtariVandanYojana, while 1.5 lakh women are associated with Self-Help Groups. More than 60,000 women have become Lakhpati Didis, and 10 have received training under the Drone Didi scheme. He also highlighted the proposed Rs 25 crore Science Centre, which will provide modern learning facilities to students.

During the celebration, Minister Dewangan and other dignitaries visited departmental exhibitions showcasing government schemes and development initiatives.

HIGHLIGHT

- The district showcased culture and development during the celebrations.

Diwali food safety inspections intensified in dist

Central Chronicle News

MCB: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has intensified its inspection drive across the district ahead of Diwali to ensure the availability of safe and quality food products. Under the directives of Controller Deepak Agrawal and the guidance of Collector Santan Devi Jangde and the Chief Medical and Health Officer, teams are conducting regular inspections of sweet shops, hotels and food establishments.

On November 2, inspections were carried out at various sweet shops and production units in Manendragarh. Shopkeepers were instructed to maintain hygiene, obtain valid purchase invoices for externally sourced khoya and avoid procuring substandard sweets. During the inspection, khoya samples were collected from Hazari Hotel, while a sample of mixed gravy masala was taken from Paradise Food Point following a complaint.

FASTFACTS

- Ahead of Diwali, the FDA is inspecting various sweet shops & restaurants to check for adulterated items.
- Samples of various food items are being sent for testing in labs to check for their purity.

AWARDED

Koriya doctor wins gold medal in Radiology

BAIKUNTHPUR: Koriya district has earned recognition through the remarkable academic achievement of Dr. Rishabh Agrawal, son of Sanjay Agrawal, Director of Maa Vaishnav Associates Pvt. Ltd. An outstanding student since childhood, Dr. Rishabh completed his early education at St. Joseph's School, Baikunthpur, before joining Sainik School, Rewa.

He later studied at DPS Raipur and DPS Risali, Bhilai, securing the top position in Classes 11 and 12. He subsequently pursued his MBBS at the prestigious Pravara Institute of Medical Sciences.

DOUBLE DRIVES

SYS leads green cleanliness drive

MUNGELI: The Sarv Yadav Samaj of Mungeli district organized a cleanliness drive and tree plantation programme at Krishna Kunj, near the Tehsil office in Mungeli, on the first Sunday of the month, coinciding with Chhattisgarh State Foundation Day. The initiative aimed to promote environmental conservation, greenery and public cleanliness.

Demonstrating their commitment to nature, community members planted Ashoka, Karanj and Banyan trees, along with flowering plants such as Hibiscus and Jasmine. The programme witnessed active participation from community representatives and members.

| MUNGELI CELEBRATES RAJYOTSAV |

Dist celebrates Rajyotsav with women's empowerment

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: A grand district-level Rajyotsav celebration marking the 26th anniversary of Chhattisgarh's formation was organized at Veer ShaheedDhananjay Singh Rajput Stadium in Mungeli.

Mungeli MLA PunnulalMohale inaugurated the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp and paying tribute to Chhattisgarh Mahtari and Goddess Saraswati. Addressing the gathering, MLA Mohale



highlighted the state's development over 26 years and acknowledged former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's contribution to its formation.

He highlighted welfare initiatives, including paddy procurement at Rs 3,100 per quintal, MahtariVandanYojana and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

Collector AmritVikasTopno emphasized transparent implementation of government schemes and coordinated efforts to maintain peace and accelerate development.

Rajyotsav sees Rs.47 lakh aid distributed

KORBA: During the Chhattisgarh State Foundation Day (Rajyotsav) celebrations, Industries and Labour Minister LakhanLal Dewangan distributed financial assistance cheques worth Rs 47 lakh to 207 beneficiaries under various Labour Department welfare schemes.

Under the initiative, Rs 31 lakh was provided to 155 beneficiaries of the Asangathit KarmakarMahtari Jatan Yojana, while Rs 7 lakh was distributed among seven beneficiaries under the Asangathit Karmakar Mrityuevam Divyang Sahayata Yojana.

| TIME-BOUND MEETING HELD BY COLLECTOR |

'Ensure redressal of grievances'

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: Collector Amrit Vikas Topno has directed officials to ensure that public grievances receive genuine solutions through visible ground-level action rather than remaining confined to files and paperwork.

He issued these instructions during a time-limit review meeting held at Maniyari Hall in the MungeliCollectorate. Reviewing complaints received through Jan-Darshan and the CM Helpline, the Collector instructed officials to investigate issues seri-



ously and ensure timely resolution. He directed the Revenue Department to clear pending cases related to land demarcation, mutation and partition within prescribed deadlines, warning that negligence would invite action. He also reviewed the implementation of the PM KisanSammanNidhi scheme, caste certificate applications, Digital Crop Survey and Paddy Khasra Polygon generation. Officials were instructed to complete all assigned tasks accurately and transparently.

Emphasizing construction quality and timely completion of development projects, he called for regular monitoring and better interdepartmental coordination. Senior district officials, including DFO Tanmay Kaushik, Zila Panchayat CEO Gokul Rawate and Additional Collector Anjor Singh Paikra, attended the meeting.

APPROVED

Rs.20.3 crore sanctioned for seven roads

MUNGELI: The Public Works Department has sanctioned Rs 20.30 crore for the construction of seven roads in Mungeli district, following the approval of Deputy Chief Minister and PWD Minister Arun Sao. The projects aim to improve road connectivity and make transportation safer and more convenient for residents.The approved works include a 1.10-km road from Navrangpur main road to D-3 Head-pool (Rs 1.21 crore), a 2.40-km Rehunta-Lakhasar road (Rs 3.07 crore), a 1-km Dindori Gauthan-Surajpura border road (Rs 2.31 crore), and a 0.75-km road connecting the district main road to Sukli Basti (Rs 1.34 crore).

| SCIENCE FAIR HELD AT TAKHATPUR |

Young innovators shine at science fair

Central Chronicle News

TAKHATPUR: A Western India Science Fair and State-Level Child Scientist Exhibition were organized at Swami Atmanand Government English Medium School (SAGES), Takhatpur, showcasing the scientific talent and creativity of students from various schools.

Addressing the event, Jitendra Shukla encouraged students to explore emerging fields such as Artificial Intelligence, green energy, and



environmental conservation, emphasizing practical learning and innovation. Principal D. Kunjam highlighted the importance of such exhibitions in developing scientific awareness, confidence, and competitive spirit. Students secured prizes in various categories, including Indigenous Agricultural Practices, Rural Transformation, Health and Hygiene, Artificial Intelligence, Green Energy, and Disaster Management.

Chandrabhushan and Avinash Banjare, Aarti Manikpuri, Jaideep Patel, ChanchalSahu, Seema Sarkar, Prerana Sahu, and Aadya Vishwakarma were among the first-prize winners. Teachers and students were congratulated for their achievements.

| MCB HOLDS RAJYOTSAV CELEBRATIONS |

Manendragarh celebrates 26th State Foundation Day with zeal

Central Chronicle News

MCB: Manendragarh celebrated the 26th Chhattisgarh State Foundation Day with great enthusiasm at the Swami Atmanand School grounds under the theme 'Empowered Women, Aspiring Youth'.

Bharatpur-Sonhat MLA Renuka Singh inaugurated the district-level Rajyotsav by lighting a ceremonial lamp



and paying tribute to Chhattisgarh Mahtari. Addressing the gathering, she highlighted the state's remarkable development over 26 years and praised welfare initiatives, including Mahtari Vandan Yojana, Krishak Unnati Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

She also discussed upcoming railway, road and housing projects.

Collector Santan Devi Jangde highlighted the district's progress in education, healthcare, agriculture, tourism and infrastructure since its formation in 2022.

Ch'garh celebrates Rajyotsav with youth empowerment

JANJGIR-CHAMPA: Janjgir celebrated Chhattisgarh's State Foundation Day with a grand district-level Rajyotsav at the Government High School grounds under the theme 'Empowered Women, Youth Aspirations'.

Former Assembly Speaker and Bilha MLA Shri DharamlalKaushik attended as chief guest and paid tribute to former Prime Minister Bharat



RatnaAtalBihari Vajpayee for his visionary role in the state's formation on November 1, 2000. Highlighting Chhattisgarh's 26-year development journey, he praised progress in agriculture, infrastructure, industries and public welfare. He highlighted schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Mahtari Vandan Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana and Ayushman Bharat, along with paddy procurement at Rs 3,100 per quintal.

He urged citizens to work collectively towards a developed Chhattisgarh and India by 2047. Various government departments showcased welfare schemes and development initiatives through exhibition stalls.

Minister Jaiswal stresses upon continuous healthcare upgradation

MANENDRAGARH: Health Minister and Manendragarh MLA Shyam Bihari Jaiswal has taken an initiative to strengthen healthcare facilities by providing a modern, high-resolution sonography machine to the 220-bed Civil Hospital in Manendragarh. The advanced equipment will improve diagnostic services, particularly for pregnant women, enabling doctors to monitor fetal development, assess maternal health, and identify potential pregnancy-related complications in time. The initiative aims to benefit patients, especially women from rural and remote areas, by ensuring access to better medical facilities.



The district's competent authority has also issued a registration certificate under the PCPNDT Act, authorizing non-invasive ultrasonography services at the hospital.

EXAMINATIONS

Janman mag helps exam aspirants'

MUNGELI: The monthly magazine 'Janman', published by the PR Dept, is proving to be a valuable resource for youth preparing for competitive examinations. With the objective of promoting awareness about government schemes, policies, development initiatives, and current affairs, copies of the magazine were distributed among students at the CM's Skill Training Centre. The magazine presents information about various state govt welfare schemes, policy decisions, and development projects in simple and accessible language.

| YOUTH DIALOGUE HELD IN JASHPUR |

Over 200 youths pledge democratic participation

Central Chronicle News

JASHPUR: A 'Viksit Bharat Yuva Samvad' programme was organized on Tuesday at Government R.B.R. N.E.S. Post-Graduate College, Jashpur, to encourage youth participation in democracy, responsible citizenship and nation-building. Organized by 'Mera Yuva Bharat' under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, the event witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 200 students and young citizens. Jashpur MLA RaimuniBhagat attended as the chief guest.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Bhagat described youth power as the nation's greatest



strength and emphasized their crucial role in achieving the vision of 'Viksit Bharat'. She urged young people to understand their duties alongside their rights, remain vigilant against fake news and verify information before accepting it. She also encouraged students to exercise their voting rights responsibly and contribute to nation-building through education, awareness and social participation.

The programme is part of a nationwide campaign being conducted from October 26 to November 5, 2026, across 500 universities and educational institutions.

Its objective is to strengthen democratic awareness and provide young people with opportunities to discuss important national issues.

Dr. Mimansha Patel awarded PhD

BILASPUR: Dr Mimansha Patel, daughter of Dr G. D. Patel, has been awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Oral Pathology and Microbiology at the convocation ceremony of Adani Institute of Higher Education and Research (Deemed to be University), Wardha, Maharashtra, formerly known as Datta Meghe Institute of Higher Education and Research. Dr Patel is currently serving as Professor and Head of the Department of Oral Pathology and Microbiology at Triveni Institute of Dental Sciences, Hospital and Research Centre, Bodri, Bilaspur.



Fun&Focus

IT'S QUIZ TIME

EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE ◆ SHARPEN YOUR GK ◆ STAY CURIOUS ALWAYS

QUIZ ◆ LEARN ◆ THINK ◆ KNOW ◆ GROW

1. In which city was the first High Court of British India established in 1862?



2. The title song of the movie Skyfall, sung by Adele, won an Oscar for the best original song. Of the many versions of this song, a popular YouTube video has the title "Skyfall in a saree." Identify the artist featuring in this video.



3. The official slogan of the 20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya, Japan 2026, was "Imagine One Asia". What is the slogan of the 21st Asian Games, Doha, Qatar?



4. HMT is best known for its watches. But on April 10, 1976, it entered a very different field by setting up a division that became an important supplier to India's strategic sectors. What did it begin manufacturing?



5. Euro Airport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg has a rather unusual distinction. What makes this airport unique?



6. From which animal character that appears in Champak magazine does Virat Kohli get his nickname?



7. Corona or no corona, which country is known as the 'Face Mask Capital of Asia'?



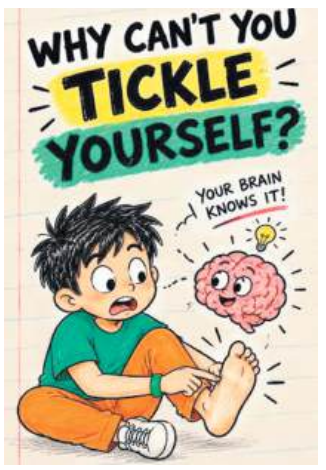
Answers-

(1) Calcutta (Now Kolkata) (2) Usha Uthup (3) "The Games We Live For", or "Games of a Lifetime" (4) Nuclear components. It now earns most of its revenues supplying sectors including Defence, Aerospace, Railways, Atomic Energy and Nuclear Power (5) It serves three countries: France, Switzerland and Germany, through a single terminal. Located in France, it has a special arrangement that allows access from both France and Switzerland (6) Cheeku, the rabbit (7) Taiwan

RamaQuiz

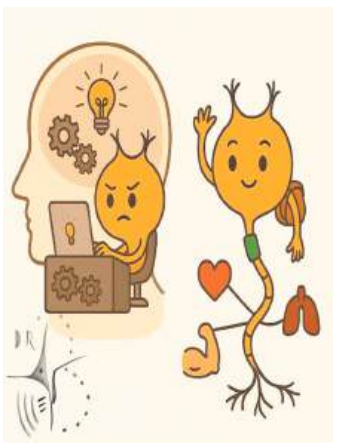
SCIENCE WATCH

'The 'Un-tickleable Brain'



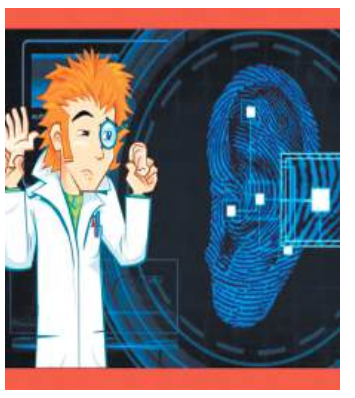
You cannot tickle yourself! Your brain always predicts the movement before you do it, which completely ruins the surprise.

'Super-Speed' travelling nerves



Messages travel from your brain to the rest of your body at an amazing 170 miles per hour (273 km/h)! That is faster than a sports car!

'Rice Grain' and tiny ear bone

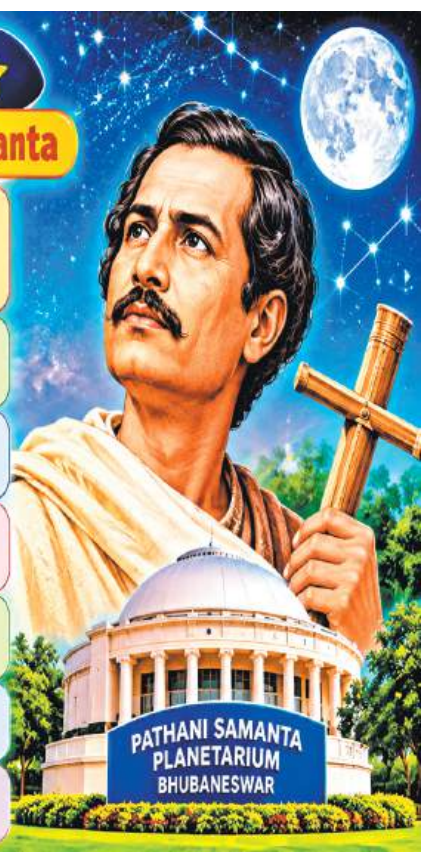


The smallest bone in your whole body is inside your ear. Called the stapes (or stirrup), it is only about 3 millimeters long—smaller than a single grain of rice!

THE LEGEND

Naked-eye astronomer - Pathani Samanta

1. Mahamahopadhyaya Chandrasekhara Singha Harichandana Mahapatra Samanta born on December 13, 1835, in Khandapada, Odisha, was a famous Indian astronomer who studied the night sky using only his eyes—without ever using a telescope.
2. When he was just four years old, he spotted the bright planet Venus in the daytime sky—which his father thought was a bad omen at the time!
3. He built his own scientific measuring instruments—like a T-shaped wooden rod called a mana yantra—out of simple everyday items like bamboo and wood.
4. He was the only ancient/traditional Indian astronomer to independently discover three special hidden wobbles (irregularities) of the moon that European scientists were studying at the same time
5. He famously proved the almanac wrong, when in 1868, when a solar eclipse happened, regular calendar predictions were off by quite a bit, but Pathani Samanta's math predicted the exact right time.
6. Because of his amazing talent, the King of Puri gave him the title Harichandan Mahapatra, and the British government honored him with the title Mahamahopadhyaya in 1893.
7. A planetarium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha—the Pathani Samanta Planetarium—and even an asteroid in outer space (Asteroid 3000 "Samanta") are named in his honour.

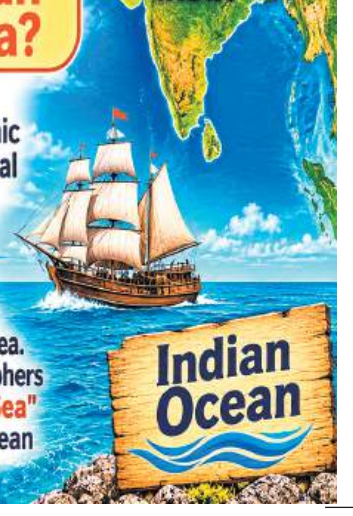


TELL ME WHY?

Why is Indian Ocean named after India?

The Indian Ocean is named after India because of its central geographic position, long coastline, and historical dominance over ancient maritime trade routes in the region.

India possesses one of the longest coastlines along the Indian Ocean rim, anchoring the northern boundary of the sea. Ancient Greek, Roman, and Arab geographers referred to these waters as the "Indian Sea" or Al Bahar Al-Hindi long before European exploration.



NOVEMBER 05-THE DAY IN HISTORY

1. November 5 marks several major milestones in Indian history, spanning from the 1556 – Second Battle of Panipat and the in 2013, India successfully launched its first interplanetary probe, Mangalyaan, via the PSLV-C25 rocket from Sriharikota.
2. The day saw the births of Chittaranjan Das (C.R. Das), prominent freedom fighter and Virat Kohli, the iconic Indian cricketer and former national team captain.
3. Same day also saw the death of Bhupen Hazarika, the iconic singer, composer, lyricist, and filmmaker from Assam who won the Dadasaheb Phalke Award and Bharat Ratna in 2011.
4. On November 5, 1994, at 45 years old, George Foreman knocked out Michael Moorer to become the oldest heavyweight boxing champion in history.



Dr. Bhupen Hazarika

Daily Horoscope

Aries

Smile as it is best antidote for all your problems. Today you can easily raise capital- collect outstanding debts- or ask for funds to work on new projects. Great day when you would receive all the attention you want- you would have many things lined up and you would have problems in deciding which ones to follow.

Taurus

Evening with friends will be pleasant but take care as excessive eating could upset your next morning. Control your tendency to live for the day and to spend too much time and money on entertainment. Safeguard your interest when dealing with friends- business associates and relatives- as they might not be considerate to your needs.

Gemini

Your impulsive nature may cause you serious health problems. You may get into a fight with your spouse today over money-related matters. However, you will fix everything with your calm attitude. Your extravagant lifestyle could cause tensions at home so avoid late nights and spending too much on others.

Cancer

If possible try to avoid long journey as you are too weak to travel and this could put further weaken you. Someone with big plans and ideas will catch your attention- Verify the credibility and authenticity of the person before making any investments. Social events will be perfect opportunity to improve your rapport with influential and important people.

Leo

Chances of your recovering from physical illness are high which will enable you to participate in sports competition. Today you can invest your money in religious activities, and most likely to incur mental peace and stability. You will have difficulty in getting your point across to people who matter the most in your life.

Virgo

Your lack of will power may make you a victim of emotional and mental attitude. Those who had spent their money in betting or gambling are likely to suffer losses today. Therefore, you are advised to stay away from betting. You will make new friends if you get involved in group activities. You will refresh the old beautiful days of courtship in your married life.

Libra

Participating in sports and other outdoor activities will help you gather your lost energy. New sources of income will generate through people you know. Do not let your friends take advantage of your generous behaviour. Show your love by placing flower at your window. Take care of what happens around you.

Scorpio

Your tremendous intellectual potential will help you to fight the disability. Only by keeping positive thoughts you can fight this problem. You should look twice at investment schemes that are presented to you today. You might not agree to everything your family member's say- but you should try to learn from their experience.

Sagittarius

Your jealous behaviour may make you sad and depressed. But it is a self-inflicted injury so there is no need to lament about this. Motive yourself to get rid this by sharing other's joy and unhappiness. Those who are married may have to spend a lot of money on the education of their children today. Illness of infant would keep you engaged. You need to give immediate attention.

Capricorn

Today you will be full of energy-Whatever you do- you will be able to do it in half the time you generally take. Money position improves as delayed payments are recovered. Appreciate your wife's achievement and rejoice her success and good fortune. Be generous and sincere in your appreciation. It is not right to show off your love in every situation.

Aquarius

Sound health will enable you to participate in sports competition. Some natives of this zodiac sign may have to spend money on any land-related issue today. Evening with friends will be pleasurable. Romance comes your way as friendship turns deeper. Your partners will be supportive to your new ideas and plans. Good day for some recreation and entertainment.

Pisces

Suffering from a body pains is high on the card. Try to avoid any physical exertion that would put more stress on your body. Remember to take sufficient rest. Put your extra money in a safe place that will promise you returns in times to come. Try not to offend others and adapt to your family needs. Personal relationships are sensitive and vulnerable.

VERBAL ANALOGIES

A Verbal analogy is a comparison showing that the relationship betweenone pair of words is the same as the relationship between another pair of words

1. Novice : Expert :: Amateur : _____
2. Precipitation : Rain :: Condensation : _____
3. Scale : Weight :: Ruler : _____
4. Optimist : Positive :: Pessimist : _____

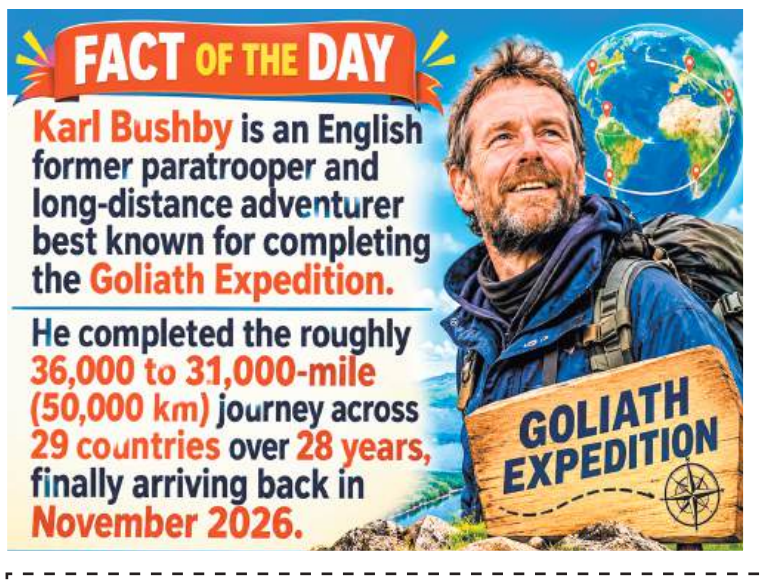


ANSWER - 1 - Professional, 2 - Dew, 3 - Length, 4 - Negative

FACT OF THE DAY

Karl Bushby is an English former paratrooper and long-distance adventurer best known for completing the Goliath Expedition.

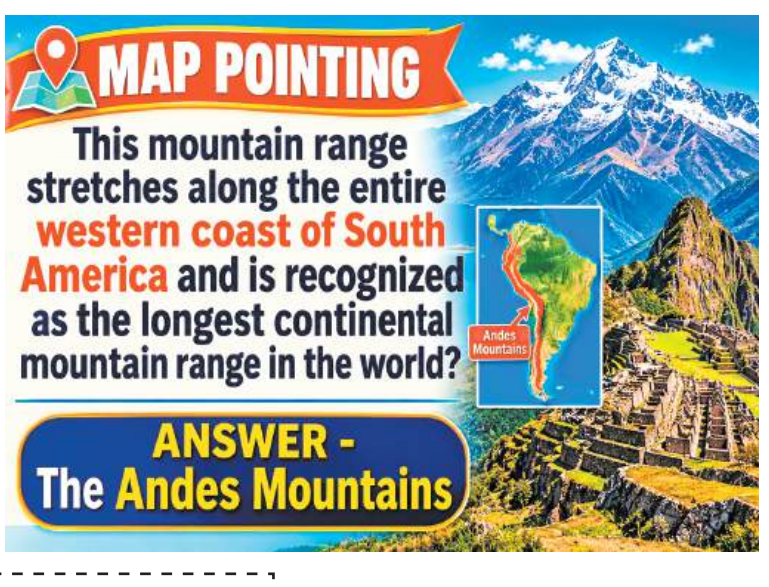
He completed the roughly 36,000 to 31,000-mile (50,000 km) journey across 29 countries over 28 years, finally arriving back in November 2026.



MAP POINTING

This mountain range stretches along the entire western coast of South America and is recognized as the longest continental mountain range in the world?

ANSWER - The Andes Mountains



WORD OF THE DAY

Fleeting

Meaning - Lasting for a very short time

Part of Speech: Adjective

Example - Happiness is not found in fleeting moments, but in steady and meaningful habits.

Synonyms - Brief, short-lived

Antonyms - Permanent, endless



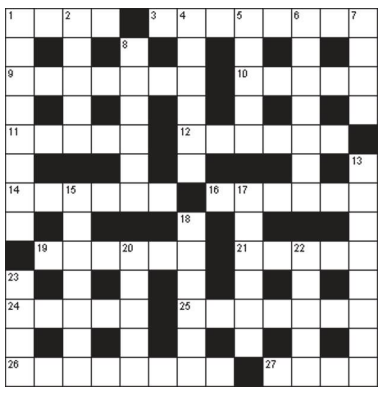
CROSSWORD -273

Across

1 Japanese wrestling (4)
3 Put together (8)
9 Whole number (7)
10 Expertise (5)
11 Electronic sound reproduction (5)
12 A light amusing play or film (6)
14 Fate (6)
16 Talking bird (6)
19 Disagree (6)
21 Cook's garment (5)
24 Bury (5)
25 One of Shakespeare's plays (7)
26 Opposite (8)
27 Way out (4)

Down

1 Asian country (3,5)
2 Not loud (5)
4 Rigorous (6)
5 Derby venue (5)
6 Constructor (7)
7 Fish that may be jellied (4)
8 Cold-shoulder (6)
13 Be highly noticeable (5,3)
15 English cheese (7)
17 Geronimo's people (6)
18 Archer's missiles (6)
20 Smithy (5)
22 Unwind (5)
23 Bluish-white metal (4)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION- 272

1 P	U	2 P	P	3 E	T	* S		5 B	A	6 R	G	7 E
E		A		P		A		R		E		A
8 C	O	R	G	I		9 B	L	O	O	M	E	R
K		E		C		O		A		A		L
10 I	N	D	O	U	B	T		11 D	I	R	T	Y
S				R		S				K		
12 H	E	13 B	R	E	W		14 O	15 U	T	S	E	16 T
		R				17 A		N				R
18 S	P	I	E	19 S		20 B	R	A	M	21 B	L	E
O		G		I		A		R		U		B
22 F	R	A	N	T	I	C		23 M	O	R	A	L
I		N		E		U		E		S		E
24 A	I	D	E	D		25 S	E	D	A	T	E	D

SUDOKU- 273

	2			9	4	5		
6							3	2
	5			8				4
		6	5					
	3		8		2		6	
					6	1		
1				7			2	
7	6							9
		5	4	6			1	

SUDOKU SOLUTION- 272

5	8	7	1	9	2	6	4	3
2	6	3	4	5	8	7	9	1
1	4	9	6	3	7	2	8	5
3	9	2	8	4	5	1	7	6
6	7	4	2	1	9	5	3	8
8	5	1	7	6	3	9	2	4
9	1	6	3	2	4	8	5	7
4	2	8	5	7	1	3	6	9
7	3	5	9	8	6	4	1	2

DAILY WORD SEARCH

- Annex
- Duplex
- Matrix
- Apex
- Equinox
- Minx
- Beeswax
- Flax
- Onyx
- Borax
- Flux
- Oryx
- Calyx
- Helix
- Reflex
- Cashbox
- Hoax
- Sphinx
- Climax
- Icebox
- Syntax
- Cortex
- Jukebox
- Telex
- Crux
- Latex
- Xerox
- Detox
- Lynx

X	E	L	F	E	R	L	Y	X	H	P	H	M	R
X	A	T	N	Y	S	X	E	H	O	X	A	E	O
H	F	O	R	D	E	T	O	X	E	T	X	N	X
X	E	L	E	T	R	E	X	B	R	L	Y	X	O
E	H	O	A	O	A	N	Q	I	E	X	I	E	B
D	X	R	C	X	I	X	X	U	Y	C	C	X	H
X	U	N	A	M	C	X	X	X	I	L	I	N	S
X	E	P	I	A	A	U	O	B	A	N	Y	O	A
U	E	T	L	H	X	R	B	E	X	R	O	N	C
L	S	Y	A	E	P	C	E	E	A	X	O	X	X
F	X	I	R	L	X	S	K	S	M	E	P	B	X
X	A	O	H	B	O	R	U	W	I	N	X	N	E
X	X	X	Y	R	O	F	J	A	L	N	X	X	P
B	E	E	S	A	N	X	E	X	C	A	O	N	A

Business



Indian highways, expressways still lack perfect signage.

Nitin Gadkari
Union Road Transport Minister

New GLC Electric launched in India



Mercedes-Benz has launched the new GLC Electric in India. The electric SUV is locally manufactured at the company's Chakan plant near Pune.

India on track to achieve 500 GW RE target by 2030: Pralhad Joshi

India remains on track to achieve 500 GW renewable energy capacity by 2030, with another 300 GW planned beyond the target year.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: New & Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi on Wednesday said that India is on track to achieve the 500 GW renewable energy target by 2030, and another 300 GW will be added after that, as mandated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Earlier on Monday, Modi, in his inaugural speech at the Bharat Renewable Energy Summit 2026, had said, "Now, in the coming 10-11 years, our effort will be to add 500 GW of new non-fossil capacity. This target is somewhat difficult, but I have faith in the capabilities of our country. And therefore, I say - we will do it." This is significant given India's ambitious target of 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030, and the nation has already achieved 310 GW of RE capacity. Talking to PTI in an interview, Joshi said, "We are going to achieve 500 GW (by 2030); that is already there. And Prime Minister has given an additional target of 300GW, additionally after 2030, so that also we will plan."



NUMBER

300

- India targets additional 300 GW renewable energy capacity after 2030.

He further stated that there is no question about achieving the target but about the transmission lines for the newly added RE capacity. "For that, the Cabinet has given its approval for Green Energy Corridor, which will add to our capacity in coordination with the state and the power ministry," he said. About the target, he said, "We are on track; I do not see any problem." Talking about the challenges regarding the faster adoption of renewable energy, Joshi said, "Transmission is taking time, the transmission line takes more than 3 years, 4 years, 5 years up to that is the problem we are trying to (tackle that)."

SEBI eases Digital KYC norms for foreign investors

Agencies

SEBI simplifies onboarding to attract overseas investors.



MUMBAI: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has eased Know Your Customer (KYC) requirements for overseas investors, allowing eligible individuals to complete the onboarding process digitally without being physically present in India. The revised framework will come into effect on December 3. The relaxation applies to persons resident outside India (PROIs), including Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) and foreign nationals residing in countries compliant with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards. Investors from FATF non-compliant jurisdictions will continue to follow the existing KYC procedures.

Under the new framework, SEBI-regulated intermediaries can accept KYC details and supporting documents through digital channels. The regulator has also introduced greater portability of KYC records, enabling investors to use previously verified information across different intermediaries.

Intermediaries can rely on KYC verification already completed by another SEBI-registered intermediary or a financial sector regulator.

| TARGETING SIGNIFICANT GROWTH |

Tata-Iveco targets strong growth over next five years

Press Trust Of India

Tata-Iveco alliance aims to expand global commercial vehicle operations.

NEW DELHI: Tata Motors and Italian commercial vehicle manufacturer Iveco Group are targeting significant growth in volumes, revenues and margins over the next five years, Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran said.

The partnership aims to establish a global commercial vehicle powerhouse by combining the strengths of both companies. Addressing a joint global press conference at Iveco's headquarters in Turin, Italy, Chandrasekaran said the combined entity would leverage complementary geographical presence, product portfolios and technological capabilities to accelerate growth. The companies have a presence in more than 130 countries, with combined revenues of around 21 billion euros, or approximately Rs 2.28 lakh crore. Tata Motors has acquired over 89 per cent stake in Iveco, making the Italian manufacturer its indirect subsidiary. The combined business currently produces nearly 6 lakh vehicles annually and generates revenue of around USD 24 billion. Chandrasekaran said both companies were profitable and cash-generating, with considerable opportunities across India, Europe, Latin America, Asia and Africa.

He said the alliance would cover trucks, buses, specialised vehicles for mining and construction, engines and digital businesses. The combined entity is already the world's fourth-largest commercial vehicle manufacturer, employing over 70,000 people and operating through approximately 9,300 sales and service outlets. Tata Motors Managing Director and CEO Girish Wagh said the partnership would expand global distribution and customer reach. The companies will explore opportunities to deploy Iveco subsidiary FPT Industrial's powertrain technologies across industrial applications in India and other markets.



HIGHLIGHT

- Combined entity eyes higher volumes and revenues.

| DHANTERAS SALES |

Gold price correction raises Dhanteras buying hopes

Press Trust Of India

Gold price correction boosts festive buying sentiment ahead.



MUMBAI: A correction in gold prices has lifted jewellers' expectations for Dhanteras sales, with improved consumer sentiment likely to drive purchases of lightweight jewellery, coins and small-ticket items.

However, industry experts expect sales volumes to remain largely flat compared to last year. Dhanteras, falling on November 6 this year, is expected to benefit from its early timing, as salaried consumers will have their monthly earnings in hand. All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC) Chairman Rajesh Rokde said sales volumes may remain unchanged, while sales value could increase by 20-30 per cent. Gold prices have corrected nearly 12 per cent in recent months, falling from Rs 1,62,900 per 10 grams on May 29 to Rs 1,42,000 on October 31.

The metal was trading at Rs 1,46,600 per 10 grams on Wednesday. World Gold Council Regional CEO, India, Sachin Jain said the price correction could encourage wedding-related purchases, with consumers advancing buying plans and exploring premium jewellery as well as investment options such as coins and bars.

GJC Vice Chairman Avinash Gupta expects demand to grow 15-20 per cent in value terms, while lightweight and 18-karat jewellery are likely to gain popularity. Silver jewellery is also attracting younger buyers due to its affordability.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

HOW THE MARKETS BEHAVE TODAY?

Festive cheer on D-Street: Sensex rallies for 5th day on foreign fund inflows



MUMBAI: Stock markets rallied for the fifth straight day on Wednesday, with the benchmark Sensex climbing nearly 384 points to close above 77,000 on buying in blue-chip financial, FMCG and auto shares amid foreign fund inflows and easing crude oil prices. The 30-share BSE Sensex rose 383.55 points, or 0.50 per cent, to settle at 77,301.40, its highest close in more than two months.

During the day, it surged 478.19 points, or 0.62 per cent, to 77,396.04. In the five-day rally through Wednesday, Sensex soared by over 4,000 points or 5 per cent. The 50-share NSE Nifty was up 149.75 points, or 0.63 per cent, to end at 23,960.60. In the 30 Sensex firms, Bharat Electronics, Titan, InterGlobe Aviation, Bajaj Finance, ITC and Adani Ports were the biggest winners. Tata Consultancy Services, HCL Tech, Infosys and Eternal were among the laggards. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, declined 0.73 per cent to USD 102.8 per barrel.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 6,836.81 crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data. In a stinging rebuke to President Donald Trump, American voters on Tuesday gave the opposition Democratic Party control of the US Congress and flipped key gubernatorial posts in widely watched elections that will have consequences far beyond America. Trump's Republican Party faced stunning defeats in its strongholds such as Texas, Georgia and Iowa, where it lost the governors' posts to the Democrats.

Q2 RESULTS

GSPL Transmission reports 8.5% revenue growth in Q2 FY27

GANDHINAGAR: GSPL Transmission Limited reported an 8.5 per cent year-on-year growth in standalone revenue for the second quarter of FY27, supported by higher natural gas transportation volumes across its high-pressure (HP), low-pressure (LP) and HAPI networks. Announcing its unaudited financial results for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2026, the company highlighted its focus on operational efficiency and expansion of natural gas transmission infrastructure.

During Q2 FY27, transportation volumes increased 9 per cent in the HP Grid, 31 per cent in the LP Grid and 17 per cent in the HAPI Grid compared to the corresponding quarter last year.

Capital expenditure of approximately Rs 300 crore was incurred during the first half of FY27. Chairman Manoj Kumar Das said higher transportation volumes across networks supported revenue growth while maintaining operational resilience. CEO Prakash Karnik said the company, India's second-largest natural gas transmission network, operates across 26 districts of Gujarat.

BULLION MARKET

Gold climbs Rs 4,800 to Rs 1.46 lakh/10 gm; silver surges



NEW DELHI: Precious metals roared back in the national capital, with gold prices rising from Rs 4,800 to Rs 1.46 lakh per 10 grams on Wednesday as renewed festive buying and a sharp global rebound lifted bullion rates. The yellow metal of 99.9 per cent purity climbed Rs 4,800 to Rs 1,46,600 per 10 grams, inclusive of all taxes, from Tuesday's closing level of Rs 1,41,800 per 10 grams, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

Silver also strongly joined the rally, surging by Rs 9,000 to Rs 1.93 lakh per kilogram, inclusive of all taxes, from Rs 1.84 lakh per kg in the preceding session. "Gold prices advanced on Wednesday, supported by a strong recovery in international markets and improving festive demand in the domestic market," said Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities. According to Rajeev Sharan, Head of Research, Brickwork Ratings, the timing of the recovery could offer some respite to buyers preparing for the festive season.

INDIA SERVICES PMI BUSINESS ACTIVITY INDEX

India's services sector activity hits 4-month high in Oct as business conditions improve cautiously



NEW DELHI: India's services sector activity recorded the strongest pace of expansion in four months in October as demand buoyancy fuelled growth in business activity and new orders amid easing cost pressures, a monthly survey said on Wednesday. Companies were cautiously optimistic about the outlook, and they lifted jobs to the least extent in four months. The latest expansion in international sales was the weakest in almost four years.

The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Services PMI Business Activity Index rose from 55.2 in September to 55.8 in October, indicating the strongest pace of growth for four months. In the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) parlance, a print above 50 means expansion, while a score below 50 denotes contraction. "India's services PMI rose to 55.8 in October, a four-month high, as business conditions improved cautiously. Although overall demand remained fairly strong, new export orders recorded the slowest pace of expansion since February 2023," Pranjul Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC, said.

Survey participants identified new business growth as the main driver behind the rise in output, the survey said, adding that favourable demand conditions, new client wins and successful advertising boosted new order intakes. On the prices front, there was a substantial decline in cost pressures. "Input and output prices continued to rise, but at a slower pace than in the previous month, signalling some relief from inflation pressures," Bhandari said.

Employment growth also slowed to its weakest pace since June, suggesting that some service sector businesses have sufficient capacity to meet current staffing requirements, she said. Companies were, however, cautiously optimistic about the outlook, and they lifted jobs to the least extent in four months. Meanwhile, India's composite PMI increased to 56.2 in October, from 55.9 in September, marking the fastest rise in aggregate output in four months and reflecting healthy business activity.

Nation News

'Debates must take place in Parliament'

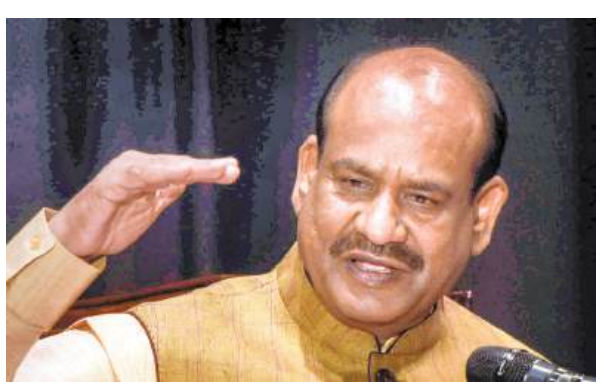
Agreements and disagreements are part of democracy.

Press Trust Of India

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Ahead of the Winter session, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Wednesday said agreements and disagreements are part of the democratic process but fruitful debates must take place in Parliament. Birla said all debates and discussions must take place without any disruptions in Parliament. "There should be fruitful debates. Agreements and disagreements are part of democracy. Only meaningful discussions can resolve all disagreements," he told reporters here on the sidelines of the Conference of Chairpersons of the Public Accounts Committees of Parliament and State and Union Territory Legislatures.

The Winter session of Parliament is likely to begin either this month-end or early next month. Asked about the possibility of the issue of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls figuring in the parliamentary debate, Birla said it is the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) which will decide the issues to be discussed in the House.

When asked whether he has received any notice for the impeachment of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, the speaker replied in negative. With the opposition continuing their protests against the SIR and sought resignation of CEC Kumar, the Winter session is expected to be stormy. Earlier, addressing the valedictory session of the two-day conference, Birla said it is essential to ensure that allocated government funds are utilised properly and that increased budgetary allocations translate into the desired outcomes.



LS Speaker Om Birla.

He said it is evident that investments are increasing across sectors such as education, healthcare, infrastructure, social welfare and rural development. Consequently, the speaker said, the size of public expenditure and budgetary allocations is also increasing. "The success of any scheme depends on continuous monitoring by legislative committees to ensure that the budget allocated for a particular purpose is actually utilised for that purpose," he said.

Birla said whether it concerns infrastructure quality, timely completion of projects or ensuring that the benefits of social welfare schemes reach eligible beneficiaries at the right time, all these aspects require proper evaluation. "In a democracy, when we come together for deliberations, there is an exchange of experiences, working methodologies and best practices among the committees of the Centre and the states," he said.

Strengthen Parliamentary audit scrutiny and follow-up mechanisms

HIGHLIGHT

- Delegates adopt collective conference resolution.
- Public Funds for Transparent, Accountable Welfare.

"One of our major concerns has been the need to improve parliamentary scrutiny and follow-up mechanisms after the completion of audits," he said. The speaker and chairpersons and members of the committees from various states have also highlighted a serious concern: audit reports often remain pending for a prolonged period without appropriate action. "We must establish accountability in this regard. The Executive is responsible for implementing programmes, while the legislature is responsible for reviewing and monitoring their implementation. This is our collective responsibility and resolve," he said.

A collective resolution was also adopted at the conference with the cooperation and participation of all delegates. Birla said the resolution adopted will serve as a guiding framework for the PACs to strengthen financial discipline, transparency and accountability. "Our collective commitment is to ensure that every rupee of public money is managed and utilised in a transparent and accountable manner for public welfare," he said.

Historic milestones

BENGALURU: Amazon announced multiple milestones in the ongoing Amazon Great Indian Festival 2026. The shopping event has broken previous records across customer savings, shopping volume, seller success and delivery speed – attracting over 393 crore customer visits already. The Amazon Great Indian Festival 2026 has delivered historic savings for millions of customers, enabling over INR 2,800 crore in savings through deals, instant bank discounts, cashback, Amazon Pay rewards,- free Prime deliveries and more, setting a new benchmark for customer value during the festive shopping event. 1 in every 3 units bought during the event was rewarded with cashback.

More customers chose Prime this festive season, with the Amazon Great Indian Festival 2026 recording the highest-ever Prime sign-ups for any shopping event on Amazon.in.Prime members continued to get the best of Amazon, saving over 10X more year-over-year through Prime-only offers. Prime members also experienced the fastest deliveries ever, with a 3.6X increase in same-day deliveries – including deliveries within minutes and hours. "It has been humbling to see customers across the country choose Amazon.in to fulfill their festive aspirations and upgrade across product categories - from smartphones and smartwatches to ethnic wear, festive décor, beauty products, everyday essentials and more.

850 fast track special courts

Press Trust Of India

Special courts to deal with child abuse and rape cases.

FASTFACTS

- Scheme currently covers 29 states and Union territories.
- Courts have disposed of over 4.02 lakh cases.

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved continuation of a central scheme to strengthen fast track special courts to deal with child abuse and rape cases and increase their number from 779 to 850.

Launched on October 2, 2019, following a Supreme Court directive, the scheme currently covers 29 states and Union territories. Since the inception of the scheme, these special courts have disposed of over 4.02 lakh cases related to rape and offences under the POCSO Act, 2012.

The scheme has now been extended for a period of five years till March 2031. Briefing reporters on the decisions taken by the Cabinet, Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the government is committed to firmly dealing with cases of atrocities against women and children.

He said the decision is part of efforts to fully utilise and implement prevailing laws and draft new legislations to deal with such cases. "The scheme will be implemented with a total outlay of Rs 3,788.04 crore to ensure speedy trial of rape and child sexual abuse cases. Each court will be staffed with a dedicated judicial officer, a special public prosecutor, and six support personnel to enhance efficiency in case disposal," an official statement said.

"As part of the expansion, the number of FTSCs (fast track special courts) will increase from 779 to 850 across participating states and Union territories. The Centre will contribute Rs 2,353.15 crore through the Nirbhaya Fund, while states and UTs will provide Rs 1,434.89 crore. The Department of Justice in the Union law ministry will oversee implementation in collaboration with state governments and UT administrations, with additional districts to be included based on the pendency of rape and POCSO cases," it added.

The scheme also focuses on creating a victim-friendly judicial environment through vulnerable witness deposition centres and child-friendly court facilities, helping survivors testify with dignity and minimal trauma. The Department of Justice will continue to monitor court performance through an online dashboard, regular progress reviews, and consultations with high courts and state governments.

NEWSLINE

GORAKHPUR

'Rahul 'part-time' politician'



BJP national president Nitin Nabin on Wednesday accused opposition parties of making excuses for their electoral defeats and took jibes at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, saying "today's youth have rejected such princes". Addressing an NDA rally during the party's 'Loktantra Bachao, Arajakta Hatao' campaign in Gorakhpur, Nabin said the two "princes" of Uttar Pradesh -- Gandhi and Akhilesh Yadav -- had a record of misdeeds that people in the state and the country remembered. Further attacking Gandhi, Nabin said he was a "part-time politician" who remained politically active only during elections, unlike BJP workers who continued public service throughout the year. Referring to the opposition's November 1 rally at Ramlila Maidan in Delhi, he claimed that it failed to draw even 10 per cent of the crowd its organisers had projected. In contrast, he said, the BJP and its NDA allies were holding large marches in districts and towns across the country, which, according to him, reflected the alliance's strength and public support.

Court verdict

KOLKATA: The Calcutta High Court on Wednesday restrained the West Bengal government from issuing any notification for the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) elections till November 6, while reserving its order on a petition challenging the delimitation of wards that increased their number from 144 to 209.

A vacation bench comprising Justices Sabyasachi Bhattacharya and Arjun Roy passed the interim order after hearing arguments on a plea challenging the legality of the notification issued for the delimitation exercise ahead of the proposed civic polls. The court said the matter could not be finally decided on Wednesday and directed the state government not to issue any election notification based on the impugned delimitation notification in the meantime.

The matter will be heard again on November 6, when the court is likely to pronounce its order.

Senior advocate Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharya, appearing for the petitioner, argued that the delimitation notification was issued in September when there was no elected KMC council in existence, and the civic body's former chairperson, Smita Pandey, had been appointed as its administrator following the dissolution of the corporation on June 8.

Bhattacharya contended that the administrator had been entrusted only with administrative responsibilities and could not exercise the powers of an elected corporation, particularly those involving legislative or policy decisions.

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd

Corporate office: office Nos. 501 & 503, 5th Floor, Lightbridge, Saki Vihar Road, Andheri East, Mumbai Suburban (Dist.), M.H. 400072

Bilaspur Branch: 1St Floor Krishna Sonchatra Compund Near Rnt Squire Tarbahar Road Bilaspur-495004,(CG).

Janjgir-Champa Branch: Shop no.G-03,Krishna Plaza, Ground Floor, Near Tulsibhavan Link Road, Janjgir,Dist Janjgir-Champa, Chattisgarh-495668

Raipur - Sundar Nagar Branch: 1A & 1B, 2nd Floor, Shyam Plaza, Pandari, Raipur-492004, Chattisgarh

DEMAND NOTICE

UNDER SECTION 13(2) of THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION of FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT of SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH RULE 3 (1) of THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

The undersigned is the Authorised officer of **Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.(AHFL)** under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised officer has issued Demand Notices under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s)to pay to AHFL, within **60 days** from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to AHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrower & Guarantor	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Description of secured assets (immovable property)
1	(Loan Code No. 01010000062 / Bilaspur Branch) Late. Krishna Kumar Diwakar (Represented though the legal heir) (Borrower) Sanju Divakar (Co-Borrower)	09-10-2026 & ₹ 5,00,800/-	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing, Mouja Gram Khairtal Khasra Number 90/5 (Part)P.H. No. 29, Rnm & Tehsil Navagarh Distt Janjgir Champa Chhattisgarh 495557. **Boundaries** : East: Rest Land of Seller, West: House of Sammelal Diwakar, North: Land of Lalan Dewangan, South: Janjgir To Kera Road
2	(Loan Code No. 01010000401 & 38610000015 / Bilaspur & Janjgir-Champa Branch) Omprakash Sharma (Borrower) Kiran Sharma (Co-Borrower)	09-10-2026 & ₹ 16,63,330/-	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing, Village Barpali Champa,Khasra No. 174/4 (Area 2583 Sqft) P.H. No.o 05/32 Rnm & Tehsil Champa Distt. Janjgir Champa Chhattisgarh 495671. **Boundaries** : East: Kiran Sharma Land, West: Road, North: Gopal Agrwal Land, South: House of Sita
3	(Loan Code No. 01010000245 / Bilaspur Branch) Late. Anilkumar Bhargav (Represented though the legal heir) (Borrower) Seema Bhargav (Co-Borrower)	09-10-2026 & ₹ 6,29,419/-	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing, Village Thangana Khasra No. 1039/2 P.H. No. 23, Rnm & Teh. Dhabhra Distt. Janjgir Champa Now Sakti Chhattisgarh 495688. **Boundaries** : East: Canal, West: Land of Premendra Kumar, North: Rest Land, South: Land of Bharthri
4	(Loan Code No. 36410000283 / Raipur - Sundar Nagar Branch) Ajay Kurre (Borrower) Mayavati W/o Ajay (Co-Borrower)	09-10-2026 & ₹ 7,55,314/-	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing, Mouja Khasra 80/4 Chind P.H. No.o 15 Rim Chind Tehsil Sarangarh Distt. Sarangarh Bilaigarh Chhattisgarh 496445. **Boundaries** : East: House of Devkumar, West: Land of Siyaram, North: Land of Makhan, South: National Highway Saranggarh To Bilaspur
5	(Loan Code No. 01010000487 / Bilaspur Branch) Pushpendra Kumar Sahu (Borrower) Jayanti Sahu (Co-Borrower) Keshaw Prasad Sahu (Guarantor)	09-10-2026 & ₹ 19,08,953/-	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing, Village Parsahdhi Khasra No 1182/3, 1182/4 & 1182/1, P.H. No. 14 Rnm & Tehsil Jaijaipur & Distt Shakti Chhattisgarh 495690. **Boundaries** : East: Land of Khikram & Pilaram, West: Land of Santosh Ghindole, North: Road, South: Land of Ishwar/Figeshwar
6	(Loan Code No. 01010000485 / Bilaspur Branch) Satyendra Kumar Mahipal (Borrower) Anita Mahipal (Co-Borrower)	09-10-2026 & ₹ 1,23,239/-	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing, Mouza Nawapara Khasra No123/2 & 123/4 P.H. No.o 07, Rnm Gidahuri, Tehsil Tundra Distt Balodabazar Bhatapara Chhattisgarh 493344. **Boundaries** : East: Land of Hemkumar, West: Gali, North: Open Plot of Kunjram, South: House of Hemkumar
7	(Loan Code No. 01010000832 / Bilaspur Branch) Rajkumar Kewat (Borrower) Sushil Bai Kaiwart (Co-Borrower) Rajendra Kumar Kaiwart (Guarantor)	09-10-2026 & ₹ 9,41,697/-	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing, Mouza Khjuri (Khjurinavagaon) , Khasra No 372/1/Ta Area 2841 Sq Ft, P.H. No.o 48, Rnm Pendari, The. Sakri, Distt. Bilaspur Chhattisgarh 495001. **Boundaries** : East: Property of Gaytri, West: Property of Bhuvneshwar, North: Property of Khelawan, South: Road

If the said Borrowers shall fo AHFL as aforesaid, AHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of AHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Place : Chattisgarh
Date : 05-11-2026

Sd/- Authorised officer
For : Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK
Asset Recovery Management Branch, Bilaspur (C.G.)

E-AUCTION ON 26.11.2026
Time: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

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)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/ symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

SL No.	"Name of the Account, Name & Address of Borrower/ Guarantors A/c,Name of Bank Branch"	"Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/ Owner's Name (mortgagers of property(ies)"	Date of Demand Notice U/s13(2) of SARFAESI ACT-2002/ Outstanding Amount as on + Intertest w.e.f Nature of Possession/Date as per SARFAESI Act, 2002	Reserve Price (Rs. In Lakh) / EMD (Rs. In Lakh) / Bid Increase Amount (Rs. In Lakh)
1	**Borrower- M/s Dadi Pilashan Paddy Processing Mill, Prop- Smt. Mamta Gupta** W/o Rajkumar Gupta, **Guarantor/ Morgagor- 1) Late Rajkumar Gupta** S/o Netram Gupta, Through Legal Heirs **Aman Mittal, Arti Agrawal, Sapna Kedia & Anuradha Sharma, 2) Smt. Suman Bondia** W/o Sh. Sajan Bondia. **Branch Office- ARMB, Bilaspur (820700)**	**Property 1)** Open Plot situated at Baikunthpur, Raigarh, PH No- 13, Kh No- 161/205/3/2 (Part of 161/205/3) Distt.- Raigarh (C.G.) Deed no. - 2675, Dt- 16/12/2011, Area- 9200 sqft- 900 sqft. (Left for Road) = 8300 sqft. in the name of Mamta Gupta W/o Rajkumar Gupta. Boundaries- North: Land of Kartik, South: Govt. Land, East: House of Sainath & Shriwas, West: Rest land of seller; Geographic Co-ordinates: 21.903972, 83.384750 **Property 2)** Open Plot Situated at Baikunthpur, Raigarh, PH No- 13, Kh No. 161/205/3/3 (Part of 161/ 205/3) Deed no. -2659, Dt 16/12/2011, Area- 8600 sqft Owner-Suman Bondia . Boundaries: North-Agriculture land of kartik, South-House of Durga devi, East: Land of Durga devi,Dinesh kumar, West: Land of Santoshi & Brijlal , Geographic Co-ordinates: 21.903972, 83.384750. **Property 3)** Diverted Land & Building situated at Village Barpali, PH No- 13, Khasra No.- 409 & 410, Total Area- 50960.52 sqft., RIC Sariya, Tehsil- Baramkela, Dist.- Raigarh, in the name of M/s Dadi Pilashan Paddy Processing Mill, Prop- Mrs. Mamta Gupta. Boundaries: North- Land of Rajaram, South- Land of Shravan Kumar, East- Road, West: Village, Geographic Co-ordinates- 21.612268, 83.324124	**1) 08.06.2023 2) Rs. 41390662.24**/- as on **30.04.2023**+ intt. thereon 3) **Physical as on 06.09.2023** (For Property No. 1 & 2) & **Symbolic as on 06.09.2023** (For Property No. 3)	For Property 1: **Rs. 70.55 Lakh** / **Rs. 7.06 Lakh** / **Rs. 0.20 Lakh**; For Property 2: **Rs. 73.10 Lakh** / **Rs. 7.31 Lakh** / **Rs. 0.20 Lakh**; For Property 3: **Rs. 199.63 Lakh** / **Rs. 20.00 Lakh** / **Rs. 1.00 Lakh**
2	**Borrower- M/s Jai Mata Di Rice Products, Proprietor: Sh. Yogeshwar Kumar Sahu, Guarantor: Sh. Jaduram Sahu , Branch Office- ARMB, Bilaspur (820700)**	**Land and Rice Mill Building** at Khasra No. 1659/1(area 0.24 acres), 1655/3 (area 0.25 acres) and 1655/5 (area 0.20 acres) **Total area- 0.69 acres**, Owner- Sh. Jaduram Sahu and Sh. Yogeshwar Kumar Sahu Situated at **Vill- Pisaud,** Tahsil-Janjgir, Dist- Janjgir Champa. Boundaries: As per Sale deed of Khasra 1659/1, 1655/3 & 1655/5 .Geographic Coordinates - Longitude: 82.634248, Latitude : 21.986735	**1) 07.07.2016 2) Rs. 96,99,169**/- as on 30-06-2016 + intt. thereon 3) **Symbolic as on 14-10-2016**	**Rs. 50.91 Lakh** / **Rs. 5.10 Lakh** / **Rs. 0.20 Lakh**
3	**Borrower- M/s Jai Maa Annapurna Rice Mill, Proprietor: Sh. Inderman Lal Sahu, Guarantor: Sh. Kishan Lal Sahu, Branch Office- ARMB, Bilaspur (820700)**	**Land and Rice Mill building** at Khasra No. 1654/1(Area 0.35 acres) & 1654/2 (Area 0.25 acres) **Total Area 0.60 Acres,** PH No. 43, Owner- Sh. Inderman Lal Sahu and Sh. Kishan Lal Sahu, Situated at **Village- Pisaud,** Tahsil-Janjgir, Dist- Janjgir Champa. Boundaries: North: Plot of Mathura, South: Plot of Sahettar, East: Plot of Sughari, West: Govt land and Road, Geographic Coordinates : Longitude: 82.634753, Latitude : 21.986474	**1) 07.07.2016 2) Rs. 65,66,000**/- as on 30-06-2016 + intt. thereon 3) **Symbolic as on 14-10-2016**	**Rs. 56.45 Lakh** / **Rs. 5.65 Lakh** / **Rs. 0.20 Lakh**
4	**Borrower:- Mrs. Ganga Bai Chandra** W/o Ram Dau Chandra, **Co Borrower :- Mr. Ram Dau Chandra** S/o Mr. Tirith Ram Chandra **Branch- ARMB, Bilaspur (820700)**	Kh. No. 317/2 situated at Basti Road, Near Samlai Chowk, **Village Kirari,** PH. No. 10, RIC & Tehsil- Malkharoda, Dist.- Sakti, **Area- 0.22 acre,** Owner:- Mrs. Ganga Bai Chandra. Boundaries: North-Land of Ram Dau and Shyamdau, South– Approach road, East – House of Gangadhar, West- House of Milapram	**1) 11.03.2026 2) Rs. 20,30,312.00**/- as on **28.02.2026**+ intt. thereon 3) **Symbolic as on 25.06.2026**	**Rs. 84.19 Lakh** / **Rs. 8.42 Lakh** / **Rs. 0.30 Lakh**
5	**Borrower/Mortgagor- Richa Rathore** W/o Abhishek Sahu, **Branch Office- ARMB, Bilaspur (820700)**	Em Of Diverted Land & Building Kh No. 3960/16, **Area- 3052 Sqft** Situated At **Janjgir.** Near Kali Mandir. Tah- Janjgir, Dist- Janjgir-Champa In The Name of Mrs Richa Rathore W/o Abhishek Sahu. Boundaries:-East: Land of Shiv Kumar Tiwari, West: Road, North: Road, South: Seller's Land	1) **31-07-2024** 2) **Rs 55,88,370.00** as on 30-07-2024+ intt. thereon 3) **Symbolic as on 04-12-24**	**Rs. 52.60 Lakh** / **Rs. 5.26 Lakh** / **Rs. 0.20 Lakh**
6	**Borrower: SHRI FLY ASH BRICKS MAHUDA. Prop :- Sadhana Singh** W/o Om Sharan Singh, **SURBHI ENTERPRISES, Prop :- Sadhana Singh** W/o Om Sharan Singh, **SURBHI BIO FERTILIZER, Prop :- Sadhana Singh** W/o Om Sharan Singh, **Mortgagor:-Sadhana Singh** W/o Om Sharan Singh, **Prop- Shri FLY ASH BRICKS, Guarantor:- Shri Om Sharan Singh** S/o Sh Jagdish Singh. **Branch Office- ARMB, Bilaspur (820700)**	**EM of commercial diverted Land** at KH No. 644, Total Area 2.30 acres situated at village Mahuda, Champa Road, District Janjgir –Champa (C.G) in name of Sadhna singh W/o Om Sharan Singh (Properitor of Shri FLY ASH BRICKS), Boundaries as per deed: North- Plot of Rohan, Girdhari, somaru, South- Kurda village boundary, East- plot of somaru, ramlal, West- road	**For Shri Fly Ash Bricks** 1) **22-11-2019** 2) **Rs 2656017.77** as on 16-04-2018+ intt. thereon 3) **Symbolic as on 06-02-20**	**Rs. 89.24 Lakh** / **Rs. 8.92 Lakh** / **Rs. 0.20 Lakh**
			For Surbhi Enterprise 1) **22-11-2019**, 2) **Rs 2830745.00** as on 12-10-2018+ intt. thereon 3) **Symbolic as on 06-02-20**	
			For Surbhi Bio Fertilizer 1) **22-11-2019**, 2) **Rs 3760624.00** as on 16-04-2018+ intt. thereon 3) **Symbolic as on 06-02-20**	

Date and Time of Earnest Money Deposit: 25.11.2026 Upto 11:59 PM

For any queries Contact: ARMB, Bilaspur:- Tel. No. - 07752-310118 & Authorised Officer - 7976331048

NOTES: 1) Please ensure scrutiny of documents of the related property before depositing the EMD.
2) All Government pending dues (property, water, electricity etc.) related to all above IPs from all related Govt. offices shall be borne by the purchaser.

Important Note : 1. The auction sale will be "online through e-auction" portal **https://baanknet.com**, 2. The intending Bidders / Purchasers are requested to register on portal **(https://baanknet.com)** using their mobile number and email-id. Further, they are requested to upload requisite KYC documents. Once the KYC documents are verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days), the intending Bidders/ Purchasers has to transfer the EMD amount using online mode in his Global EMD Wallet on or before **25/11/2026** and time 11.59 PM in the portal. The registration, verification of KYC documents and transfer of EMD in wallet must be completed well in advance, before auction date. TERMS AND 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 herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. 3. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website **https://baanknet.com** on **E-Auction Date 26/11/2026** For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer **https://baanknet.com** & **www.pnbindia.in**

Note:- Interested Bidders need to create their user id and password by own and it will take minimum time of 2 days therefore it is requested to the bidder to kindly create his/her user id before the last date.

Date: 05.11.2026, Place: Bilaspur

Authorized Officer, Punjab National Bank, Secured Creditor

Central Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 14 No. 218

Comment

QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

"Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached. Strength, courage, and determination lead to lasting success."

[Swami Vivekananda]

| OUR VIEW |

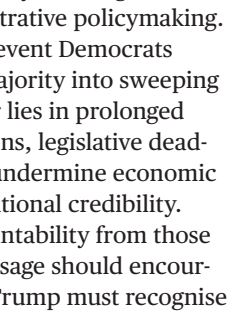
Democratic triumph signals trouble for Trump

The American electorate has delivered a powerful warning to Donald Trump, dramatically altering Washington's political landscape. The Democratic sweep of both chambers of Congress represents more than an electoral setback for the Republicans. It signals growing public dissatisfaction with the administration's economic policies, confrontational politics and controversial foreign policy decisions. For Trump, the consequences could be profound. Having enjoyed Republican support in Congress during the first half of his second presidency, he now faces the prospect of governing under relentless opposition scrutiny. His ambitious legislative agenda could encounter formidable obstacles, while his administration's decisions may face increasingly aggressive investigations. Economic frustration appears central to the political backlash. Rising household expenses, escalating fuel prices and the financial consequences of the conflict with Iran have intensified public anxiety. Americans increasingly expect their government to address everyday economic hardships rather than pursue policies that deepen uncertainty. Democratic control of Congress would fundamentally reshape the balance of power. Opposition lawmakers could challenge taxation proposals, restrict government expenditure and demand greater accountability. Senate control would also complicate presidential appointments, potentially limiting Trump's influence over federal institutions and the judiciary. More troubling for the White House is the possibility of congressional investigations. Democratic lawmakers could examine controversial business dealings, administrative decisions and allegations involving individuals close to the President. Such scrutiny could consume political energy and further damage public confidence. Impeachment could also return to the national debate. However, initiating proceedings and removing a president are entirely different constitutional exercises. Without substantial Republican support in the Senate, securing a conviction would remain extremely difficult. Nevertheless, Trump would retain considerable executive authority, particularly in foreign affairs, immigration enforcement and administrative policymaking. Presidential veto powers could also prevent Democrats from translating their congressional majority into sweeping legislative changes. The greater danger lies in prolonged political paralysis. Budget confrontations, legislative deadlocks and institutional hostility could undermine economic stability and weaken America's international credibility. Ultimately, democracy demands accountability from those exercising power. The electorate's message should encourage reflection rather than retaliation. Trump must recognise that political leadership requires compromise, economic sensitivity and respect for constitutional institutions. Whether he chooses confrontation or cooperation will determine not merely his remaining presidency, but also the direction of American democracy.

| GUEST VIEW |

Change Of Government, But Governance Remains Unchanged

The people of Odisha voted for change, ending the Biju Janata Dal's long rule and giving the BJP a clear mandate to govern. However, growing public dissatisfaction raises an important question: Has anything really changed? While the ruling party has changed, the bureaucracy and administrative functioning largely remain the same. Unless the BJP introduces meaningful reforms and improves governance, it could face serious challenges in the next Assembly elections. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's political appeal may work nationally, but state elections demand visible achievements and effective local leadership. The BJD government under Naveen Patnaik left a lasting impression through projects such as the Biju Expressway, roadside amenity centres, street lighting, LAccMI bus services connecting villages and blocks, and the empowerment of self-help groups. Meanwhile, farmers continue to face difficulties selling paddy at government mandis. With another kharif procurement season approaching, unresolved issues involving rice millers could worsen their problems. The government must also prioritise longstanding interstate disputes, particularly the Kotia border issue and Mahanadi water-sharing concerns. The BJP's much-publicised double-engine government should translate political promises into practical solutions. Ultimately, voters expect better governance, not merely a change of political leadership.



Sunil Pradhan

The illusion of a JP moment: Congress and its Ramlila experiment

The JP Movement led by Jayaprakash Narayan challenged Indira Gandhi's authoritarianism between 1974 and 1977. Its call for Sampoorna Kranti, or Total Revolution, united opposition parties and contributed to her defeat. The movement declared that electoral victory did not confer unlimited authority. It reminded the government that democratic legitimacy must be sustained through accountability, transparency and public participation.

The movement began in December 1973 with student protests in parts of Gujarat. It gained national attention when mounting pressure forced Chief Minister Chimanbhai Patel to resign in February 1974. Protests subsequently spread across states and culminated in JP's massive Ramlila Maidan rally on 25 June 1975.

Indira Gandhi's rule witnessed ruthless atrocities and crackdowns often compared with colonial-era repression. Public indignation was ultimately reflected in the massive electoral defeat inflicted on her in the March 1977 general election.

The INDIA bloc sought a similar protest against the Narendra Modi government. It argued that street mobilization could bring regime change, drawing inspiration from countries where mass demonstrations had toppled governments. The street protests in Paris, France, were cited as an early catalyst.

The same parties that once celebrated democracy now portray India as a country where democracy is supposedly dying under Modi. They trace this decline to 2014, when voters made a different choice. Modi's opponents expected the political outsider, unfamiliar with India's dynastic traditions, to fade away. Instead, he remained in power through three successive electoral victories.

More than a decade out of power has weakened the Congress, exposing stagnation among its leaders and cadres. The electoral opportunities it has lost, in the states and nationally, since Modi came to power have been costly.

The Congress-INDIA protest at Ramlila Maidan on November 1 was an eye-opener, even for the Congress. It appeared to be a final attempt to assert political relevance and recover some much-needed oxygen before its fortunes declined further.

The claim that a million people would attend fell flat, with the actual turnout considerably below the projected figure. Even the cameras could not conceal the disparity. The INDIA bloc also appeared to have lost sight of its political objectives. Unable to translate its efforts into electoral gains, it seemed preoccupied with its SIR playbook. Its allegation that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) was a complete hoax appeared to be another attempt to keep the Modi government under pressure and restore the alliance's relevance.



M.R. LALU
Freelance Journalist and Social Worker

The alliance claimed that protesters carried placards bearing the images of Narendra Modi and Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, and that a volcanic eruption of public anger had taken place against the government. Yet this assertion lacked convincing support in the numbers. Photographic and videographic evidence did little to substantiate it.

A prominent left-leaning liberal political analyst, writing on a reputed online platform, claimed that people were hurling curses at Modi and the Chief Election Commissioner. He described the anger of men, women, youth, politicians, workers and farmers, alleging that they wanted to punish the CEC for striking 13 crore names from electoral rolls at Modi's behest.

In contrast, footage broadcast by a national news channel appeared to show poor people from villages and Adivasi areas who were unaware of the SIR process. When questioned, some seemed unable to explain the protest's purpose and appeared to believe they had been brought to Delhi for dance and merriment.

These accounts raise questions about participants' awareness and how they were mobilized. They also revive a central question: has the INDIA opposition resolved its internal differences sufficiently to project Rahul Gandhi as its undisputed leader? That image appears little more than a Fata Morgana. Voters remain skeptical about the alliance's commitment to elevating an alleged political non-starter into a stalwart of coalition politics.

The protest's impact and future strategies remain to be seen. Yet the contest is increasingly being framed as a battle for prominence between Narendra Modi and Rahul Gandhi. This could be one of the principal outcomes of the Congress's Ramlila Maidan experiment, something the party may be content to celebrate.

An exasperated street spectacle may offer temporary relief. The real battlefield lies in the campaigns and electoral outcomes in the states going to the polls in the coming days. Modi may yet deliver another electoral masterstroke to his opponents, while impending defeats could further weaken the INDIA bloc, electorally and existentially.

The Ramlila rally's scale and significance do not warrant elevating it to a JP moment for Congress and its allies. Unlike during Indira Gandhi's Emergency, today's electorate has a clearer understanding of electoral freedom and democratic rights. India has progressed as a democracy and emerged as an exemplary model, increasingly acknowledged and praised even in the Western world.

Cultural Diversity Strengthens The Foundations Of Democracy

India's democratic strength depends on protecting cultural diversity, constitutional freedoms and social equality while resisting intolerance, inherited discrimination and attempts to impose cultural uniformity nationwide.



Dr. Kolahalam Ramkishore



Culture represents the collective experience of humanity, shaped by centuries of social interaction, traditions, languages, beliefs and creative expression. India's extraordinary cultural diversity reflects this continuous evolution. However, when cultural traditions become instruments of political authority or social domination, they threaten the democratic values that hold society together.

No community possesses an exclusive claim over national culture. India's identity emerges from numerous religious, linguistic, regional and indigenous traditions. Attempts to establish one cultural interpretation as superior risk undermining the country's pluralistic character. Genuine national unity requires mutual respect rather than compulsory conformity.

Historical inequalities have frequently survived under the protection of social customs. Patriarchal structures, inherited privileges and rigid hierarchies have often restricted individual freedom. While families and communities provide emotional security and social belonging, traditions cannot justify discrimination, exploitation or unquestioning obedience.

Caste discrimination remains particularly concerning. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar recognised caste as a system of graded inequality that undermines human dignity. Despite constitutional safeguards, prejudice against Dalits, opposition to inter-caste marriages and violence over family honour continue to expose society's resistance to meaningful reform. Religion, similarly, can inspire compassion, morality and solidarity.

Problems emerge when religious beliefs are imposed upon others through intimidation or coercion. Restrictions on personal choices, food habits, artistic expression and intellectual debate weaken individual liberty. Protecting religious freedom must never become an excuse for suppressing dissent.

The Indian Constitution establishes equality, liberty and freedom of conscience as essential democratic principles. Articles 14, 15, 19 and 25 provide important protections against discrimination and arbitrary restrictions. These guarantees belong equally to every citizen, irrespective of religious affiliation, social background or political opinion.

Democracy involves considerably more than winning elections. Electoral majorities cannot legitimately override constitutional rights or silence minority voices. Its true strength lies in independent institutions, impartial law enforcement and the freedom to challenge established practices without fear.

Modern communication platforms have complicated this responsibility. Although social media encourages participation, it also spreads misinformation, hostility and intolerance. Writers, journalists, academics and artists increasingly encounter pressure when expressing unpopular opinions. Article 51A(h) emphasises scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform.

Educational institutions must therefore encourage critical thinking, constitutional awareness and informed debate instead of promoting unquestioning acceptance of inherited beliefs.

Governments must protect citizens against intimidation, ensure accountability and defend legitimate creative expression. Young people and intellectuals must confront prejudice through peaceful engagement, reason and constructive dialogue.

India's future depends not upon erasing differences but upon respecting them. Cultural traditions gain strength through openness, adaptation and exchange. A truly democratic society honours its heritage while permitting citizens to question injustice. Ultimately, protecting cultural diversity and safeguarding constitutional democracy are inseparable responsibilities.

YOURLETTERS

Tsunami preparedness essential to protect lives

Tsunamis, triggered by underwater earthquakes, volcanic eruptions or landslides, can cause devastating destruction across coastal regions. Over the past century, 58 tsunamis have claimed approximately 2.6 lakh lives. Rising sea levels and growing coastal populations have increased vulnerability. These massive waves can travel at speeds exceeding 500 kmph, sometimes reaching extraordinary heights. Immediate evacuation to higher ground following strong earthquakes is crucial. World Tsunami Awareness Day, observed on November 5, reminds humanity of the catastrophic 2004 disaster and the importance of preparedness.

Dr Ganapathi Bhat, Akola

Excessive working hours threaten public safety

India's economic growth may be creating employment opportunities, but decent working conditions remain elusive. Development economist Jean Drèze recently highlighted the growing prevalence of stressful, hazardous and poorly paid jobs. Railway loco pilots and app-based cab drivers frequently endure exhausting shifts, increasing fatigue and compromising safety. Such demanding schedules expose workers and passengers to serious accident risks. Authorities must enforce reasonable working hours, adequate rest periods and improved workplace conditions. Economic progress should guarantee workers dignity, safety and security rather than prolonged exploitation.

Sujit De, Kolkata

Send your articles (600-650 words) and letters (70-80 words) for this page on: **editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com** The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity.

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Nation



No need to launch agitation on every issue.

Dattatreya Hosabale,
RSS general secretary

'Two-child norm laws have lost relevance'

India's TFR has fallen from 3.0 to 1.9 since 2003, the apex court said laws aimed at limiting population growth have now lost their significance.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday said laws that penalise having more than two children have lost their relevance as the fear of overpopulation has crumbled due to demographic changes in the past few decades.

Observing that India's total fertility rate (TFR) has fallen from 3.0 to 1.9 since 2003, the apex court said laws aimed at limiting population growth have now lost their significance. The top court delivered its verdict on a plea filed by Mangala Bhimrao Ingle, whose election as 'sarpanch' of Kakoda gram panchayat was set aside on the ground that she was disqualified from contesting the polls as



she had more than two children and it was in violation of Section 14(1)(j-1) of the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act, 1959. A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Alok Aradhe referred to a July 2003 verdict of the apex court which, after examining the vires of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, had upheld the disqualification of persons with more than two living children from running or holding panchayat positions.

Noting that the right to make reproductive decisions is an integral facet of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21, the top court referred the matter to a larger bench for reconsideration of the ratio laid down in Javed versus State of Haryana (2003 verdict). "We are of the strong opinion that laws that penalise having more than two children have lost their relevance. The foundation of such laws, i.e. the fear of overpopulation, has crumbled due to demographic changes in the past few decades," the bench said.

HIGHLIGHT

- SC refers reproductive rights issue to larger bench.
- 2.1 TFR ensures generational replacement.

It said a TFR of 2.1, known as the replacement rate, would allow one generation to completely replace itself.

"So, even though India's population is not yet declining, the TFR falling below the replacement rate will soon result in a demographic transition towards an older population with a declining share of the working-age population," the top court said.

"If we fail to take note of such demographic changes, India will face serious consequences. Adapting to change is important for achieving justice, as failure to adapt produces injustice and is, in a sense, an abuse of power," it said.

DA hike

AHMEDABAD: The Gujarat govt on Wednesday announced a 3 per cent hike in DA for its 4.62 lakh serving employees and 5.07 lakh pensioners, providing relief to over 9.69 lakh beneficiaries ahead of Diwali. The decision, taken at a state cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, will be effective from July 1, 2026, and is in line with the Centre's decision, senior cabinet member and government spokesperson Jitu Vaghani said. A week ago, the Union Cabinet approved a 3 per cent hike in the DA for central government employees and pensioners. Vaghani told reporters in Gandhinagar that the arrears for the four-month period, from July to October 2026, would be paid in a single instalment along with the November salary and pension. The beneficiaries of the DA hike include employees of state government departments, panchayat services and other organisations, as well as retired employees covered under the Sixth and Seventh Pay Commissions.

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

ROSARB Branch, Bank of Baroda, Opposite Mahavir Gaushala, K.K. Road, Maudhapara, Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492004,
Phone: 0771-4570909, E-mail: SARRAP@bankofbaroda.bank.in

(Publication in the Newspaper in case of return/failure of service of 60 day's Demand Notice U/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act,2002)

The Authorized Officer, **Bank of Baroda** had issued 60 day's Notices to under mentioned borrowers / Guarantors U/s.13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 by Registered A/D/speed post. But these Notices were returned by the Postal authorities due to the reason of refusal to take delivery/wrong address/person left the place/city. These borrowers/guarantors have given their under mentioned movable/immovable assets by way of hypothecation / mortgage as security to secure the various credit limits granted by the Bank to the borrower(s). Due to non-payment of Bank's dues and non-fulfillment of terms and conditions of the loan, default has been committed by the borrower (s) / guarantor (s) in payment of bank loan and interest and the loan account has become NPA as per RBI guidelines. In view of the above, a 60 days Public Notice is given to the following borrower(s)/guarantor(s) to pay the bank dues as stated below alongwith interest till payment failing which the bank will be constrained to enforce its security interest without intervention of Court or Tribunal by taking recourse to one or more of the measures under Chapter – III of the Act. The borrower/guarantors are also directed by this Notice that in terms of Section 13(13) of the Act they shall not transfer by way of sale/lease or otherwise (other than in ordinary course of business) any of the secured assets charged to the bank without prior consent of the bank. The details of borrower/guarantors and secured assets is as follows, against whom the bank will start initiating action after 60 days in the event of non-payment of banks' dues by them.

Sl No.	Name of the Borrower & Guarantor & Address	Outstanding Amount as per Demand Notice	Details of Secured assets (NPA Date: 29.01.2021) (Notice Date: 21.10.2026)
1	**M/s Prakash Food and Beverages** (Prop. Mr. Sandeep Kumar Shrivastava S/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava), Near Vodaphone Tower, Vikash Nagar Gudiyari,Raipur (C.G.) - 492001, Mr. Sandeep Kumar Shrivastava S/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava (Prop. M/s Prakash Food and Beverages) C/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava), Plot No. 430/44, In front of Shiv Mandir, Pritam Nagar, Gudiyari,Raipur (C.G.)- 492001, Guarantor- Mrs. Maya Devi W/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava, Plot No. 430/44, In front of Shiv Mandir, Pritam Nagar, Gudiyari, Raipur (C.G.)- 492001 & Residence-MQ-756, Ward No.-7 Kapildhara Colony,Bijuri, Jaitpur, Sahdol (MP) India - 484440	Rs. 25,97,930.00 + Unapplied interest + other charges	Extension of Equitable Mortgage residential Land and building at KH No. - 227/37, 228/37, 229/38, 230/38, 231/37, 356/37, area 1305 Sq. Ft. PH No. 17 Mouza - Koni, RNM Bilaspur,Tehsil and District Bilaspur(C.G.) in the name of Mrs. Maya Devi W/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava. Boundaries: North: Nistary Way South: Land of Ramadhar Patel, East: House of Rajkumar, West: Land of Sangam Shukla.
2	**M/s Prakash Enterprises** (Prop. Mrs. Maya Devi W/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava) Near Vodafone Tower, Vikash Nagar, Gudiyari, Raipur (C.G.)- 492001, Mrs. Maya Devi W/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava (Prop.M/s Prakash Enterprises), Residence - MQ - 756, Ward No. - 7, Kapildhara Colony,Bijuri, Jaitpur, Sahdol (MP) India-484440, M/s Prakash Enterprises, (Proprietor Mrs. Maya Devi W/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava) , Residence - MQ - 765, Ward No. - 7, Mrs. Maya Devi W/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava (Proprietor M/s Prakash Enterprises), Near Vodafone Tower,Vikash Nagar, Gudiyari, Raipur (C.G.) - 492001.	Rs. 23,94,867.34 + Unapplied interest + other charges	(NPA Date: 21.12.2020) (Notice Date: 21.10.2026) Equitable Mortgage residential Land and building at KH No.- 227/37, 228/37, 229/38, 230/38, 231/37, 356/37, area - 1305 Sq. Ft. PH No. 17 Mouza- Koni, RNM Bilaspur,Tehsil and District Bilaspur (C.G.) in the name of Mrs. Maya Devi W/o Mr. Chandra Prakash Shrivastava. Boundaries: North : Nistary Way, South : Land of Ramadhar Patel, East : House of Rajkumar West : Land of Sangam Shukla.

Date: 05.11.2026, Place: Raipur, Chhattisgarh — Authorized Officer, Bank of Baroda

Red Notice

NEW DELHI: A Red Corner Notice was issued through Interpol at the request of Delhi Police, following which the accused was traced and arrested by UAE authorities. According to the CBI, the accused and an accomplice allegedly administered an intoxicating substance to the woman, rendering her unconscious. He then allegedly took her to a hotel and fraudulently checked in using third-party identity documents to avoid detection before sexually assaulting her.

Medical and forensic reports reportedly corroborated the allegations. A comprehensive chargesheet has already been filed before the competent court.

| OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS |

ICAR-NIBSM's Dr Anil Dixit wins leadership award

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI/RAIPUR: Dr. Anil Dixit, Joint Director, ICAR-National Institute of Biotic Stress Management (ICAR-NIBSM), Raipur, Chhattisgarh, has been conferred the prestigious Noble Leadership and Academician Award by Agri Meet Foundation, Bharat, and Agriculture Wali Research Foundation, New Delhi, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to agricultural sciences, research leadership, academic excellence and research management.

The award was conferred during the 8th



Global Agriculture Conference - NAARI-2026, themed "Nurturing Agricultural Advancement through Research & Innovation", organised from 15-17 October 2026 at New Delhi. The award was presented during the valedictory ceremony on 17 October 2026, following the recommendations of the Award Screening Committee.

Dr. Dixit has made significant contributions to agricultural research, particularly in the areas of weed science, crop health management and biotic stress management. With more than three decades of distinguished service in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), he has played important roles in scientific research, institutional administration, academic development, human resource development and research management.

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना सार्वजनिक सूचना

विज्ञापन क्र.1528/न.पा.नि./पीएमएवाय/2026 दिनांक 03/11/2026

सार्वजनिक सूचना

प्रमोटर नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर द्वारा भारत सरकार की 72वीं CSMC बैठक दिनांक 17/04/2025 में परियोजना के समस्त 174 आवासों का समर्पण स्वीकृत होने के कारण छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा में पंजीकृत प्रोजेक्ट "PMAY FOR 174 (DUS) AT PRESS CLUB SAMITI, BIRKONA BILASPUR", पंजीयन क्रमांक PCGRERA170622001438 का सरेंडर डी–रजिस्ट्रेशन निरस्तीकरण कराया जाना प्रस्तावित है।
किसी व्यक्ति संस्था द्वारा उक्त प्रोजेक्ट में यदि कोई बुकिंग कराई गई हो अथवा कोई क्लेम दावा हो, तो अपना दावा विवरण सहित इस सूचना के प्रकाशन से 15 दिनों के भीतर छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा की ईमेल आईडी registrar.rera.cg@gov.in पर भेजें तथा दावा विवरण रजिस्ट्रार, छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा कार्यालय, शास्त्री चौक, रायपुर 492001 को भी प्रेषित करें।
प्रमोटर– नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
ईमेल–commissionerbmcbilaspur@gmail.com
आयुक्त
पर्यावरण संरक्षण हेतु पॉलीथीन का उपयोग न करें। नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना सार्वजनिक सूचना

विज्ञापन क्र.1529/न.पा.नि./पीएमएवाय/2026 दिनांक 03/11/2026

सार्वजनिक सूचना

प्रमोटर नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर द्वारा भारत सरकार की 72वीं CSMC बैठक दिनांक 17/04/2025 में परियोजना के समस्त 29 आवासों का समर्पण स्वीकृत होने के कारण छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा में पंजीकृत प्रोजेक्ट "PMAY AT OM SPACE COLONY-1 (29 DUS) SAKRI BILASPUR" पंजीयन क्रमांक PCGRERA250322001364 का सरेंडर डी–रजिस्ट्रेशन निरस्तीकरण कराया जाना प्रस्तावित है।
किसी व्यक्ति संस्था द्वारा उक्त प्रोजेक्ट में यदि कोई बुकिंग कराई गई हो अथवा कोई क्लेम दावा हो, तो अपना दावा विवरण सहित इस सूचना के प्रकाशन से 15 दिनों के भीतर छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा की ईमेल आईडी registrar.rera.cg@gov.in पर भेजें तथा दावा विवरण रजिस्ट्रार, छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा कार्यालय, शास्त्री चौक, रायपुर 492001 को भी प्रेषित करें।
प्रमोटर– नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
ईमेल–commissionerbmcbilaspur@gmail.com
आयुक्त
पर्यावरण संरक्षण हेतु पॉलीथीन का उपयोग न करें। नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना सार्वजनिक सूचना

विज्ञापन क्र.1526/न.पा.नि./पीएमएवाय/2026 दिनांक 03/11/2026

सार्वजनिक सूचना

प्रमोटर नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर द्वारा भारत सरकार की 72वीं CSMC बैठक दिनांक 17/04/2025 में परियोजना के समस्त 58 आवासों का समर्पण स्वीकृत होने के कारण छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा में पंजीकृत प्रोजेक्ट "PMAY FOR OM SPACE COLONY PHASE-2 (58DUS) SAKRI BILASPUR" पंजीयन क्रमांक PCGRERA010722001455 का सरेंडर डी–रजिस्ट्रेशन निरस्तीकरण कराया जाना प्रस्तावित है।
किसी व्यक्ति संस्था द्वारा उक्त प्रोजेक्ट में यदि कोई बुकिंग कराई गई हो अथवा कोई क्लेम दावा हो, तो अपना दावा विवरण सहित इस सूचना के प्रकाशन से 15 दिनों के भीतर छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा की ईमेल आईडी registrar.rera.cg@gov.in पर भेजें तथा दावा विवरण रजिस्ट्रार, छत्तीसगढ़ रेरा कार्यालय, शास्त्री चौक, रायपुर 492001 को भी प्रेषित करें।
प्रमोटर– नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)
ईमेल–commissionerbmcbilaspur@gmail.com
आयुक्त
पर्यावरण संरक्षण हेतु पॉलीथीन का उपयोग न करें। नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTIONS/ CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS
Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Krishak Nagar, Raipur (C.G.)-492 012
निदेशालय शिक्षण / परीक्षा नियंत्रक
इंदिरा गाँधी कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, कृषक नगर, रायपुर (छ.ग.)–492012
Phone: +91-771-2444105 (O), Email: diigkv@yahoo.com

No.2785 Dated: 04.11.2026

Admission Notice for Vacant Seats of ICAR PG & Ph.D in IGKV, Raipur 2026-27

Online applications from eligible candidates for admission in vacant seats of PG & Ph.D are invited. Please visit website https://igkv.ac.in for details on number of seats, eligibility criteria etc. The last date of filling online application is 10/11/2026. All interested candidates are advised to visit the web link and fill the online application form within the stipulated time.

S-49693/3 REGISTRAR

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER P.W.D. BASTAR CIRCLE JAGDALPUR (C.G.)

e-Procurement Tender Notice
https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in

Tender are invited for the Following Works :-
Last Date of Tender Downloading :- 20/11/2026

S. NO.	NIT No. NIT Date	System Tender No. (Tender Call No)	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in Lacs)
01	02	03	04	05
1	172/2026-27 Date 30/10/2026	203263 (First-Call)	Cement Concrete Patch Repair Work on Various Road of Under Sub Division Sukma, Division- Sukma.	16.53
2	173/2026-27 Date 30/10/2026	203264 (First-Call)	Cement Concrete Patch Repair Work on Various Road of Under Sub Division Konta, Division- Sukma.	15.25
3	174/2026-27 Date 30/10/2026	203265 (First-Call)	Cement Concrete Patch Repair Work on Various Road of Under Chhindgarh Section Sub Division Sukma, Division-Sukma.	14.41

For more details on the Tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Superintending Engineer
P.W.D. Bastar Circle
Jagdalpur

G-262704386/1

सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.) **Central Bank of India** Regional Office, Raipur (C.G.)

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **constructive possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Central Bank of India** Secured Creditor on the date mentioned below, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on date mentioned below, for recovery of outstanding due to the Central Bank of India- Secured Creditor on the date mentioned below from the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit of the respective property is mentioned hereinbelow:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrowers	Outstanding Amount (Secured debt) Demand Notice Date	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit / Bid Increase Amount
1.	**Mrs. Nisha Shriwas** W/o Mr. Ambika Prasad Shriwas and **Mr. Ambika Prasad Shriwas** S/o Mr. Sidha Gopal Shrivash **Both are resident of** Azad Chowk, Cinema Line, Shankar Nagar, Bhatapara (C.G.) and **Guarantor:- Mr. Abhishek Gupta** S/o Mr Chunnilal Gupta, Parsuram Ward, at & PO Bhatapara (C.G.) **Branch : Bhatapara** **Description of the Immovable Property :-** All the Parts and Parcel of Residential Land & Building situated at Plot No 121/1, Kh No 44/1, PHN 6/11, Shankar Nagar Ward No. 11, Cinema Lines, Behind Railway Station, Mouza- RNM- Block- Tehsil Bhatapara, Dist Baldoa-bazar (CG), Total Area 71.52 sq.mtr. (769.55 sq. ft.) in the name of Mrs. Nisha Shriwas W/o Mr. Ambika Prasad Shriwas. **Boundaries:** North-Road, South-House of Lalita Devi Jain, East- Street, West- House of Shannu Devi	**Rs. 16,49,633.64** as on **21.08.2023** (+) interest & expenses thereon Possession Notice Dated **16.12.2023** **E Auction Date : 25.11.2026 (Wednesday)**	Rs.49,96,000/- Rs.4,99,600/- Rs.1,00,000/-
2.	**1. M/s R. L. Industries** Prop. **Mr. Avinash Thakur,** Near Gurukripa Dall Mill, Sant Kanwar Ram Ward, Khokhali Road, Bhatapara, Dist. Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara (C.G.) and **2. Mr. Avinash Thakur** S/o Late Roshan Lal Thakur, House No. 315, Ward No. 31, Hemu Kalani Ward, Near Baba Garib Das Mandir, Bhatapara, Dist. Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara (CG) and **Guarantors**:- **1. Mr. Avinash Thakur** S/o Late Roshan Lal Thakur, **2. Mr. Kailash Thakur** S/o Late Roshan Lal Thakur, **both are resident of** House No. 315, Ward No. 31, Hemu Kalani Ward, Near Baba Garib Das Mandir, Bhatapara, Dist. Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara (C.G.) **3. Mrs. Lajwantin Bai** W/o Late Roshan Lal Thakur, **4. Mr. Deepak Thakur** S/o Late Roshan Lal Thakur **both are resident of** House No. 24/208, Kanwar Kripa, Mata Dewalaya Ward, Bhatapara, Dist. Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara (C.G.) **5.** Mrs. Simran Bajaj/Mrs. Rachana Thakur W/o Mr. Ravi Bajaj, Jyoti Nagar, Sindhi Colony, Datia, Dist. Datia (MP) and **6. Mrs. Suman Vijay Kukreja/ Suman Thakur** W/o Mr. Vijay Kukreja, House No. 125, Ward No. 15, Dhamangaon Railway, Amravati, Dist. Dhamangaon R.S. (MH) **BRANCH : BHATAPARA** **Description of the Immovable Property 01:-** All the Part & Parcel of Industrial Land and Shed Building with embedded Plant and Machinery situated at Kh. No. 168/30, PH. No.11, Mouza Bhatapara, Sant Kanwar Ram Ward, Ward No. 30, Nagar Palika Parishad Bhatapara, Block, RNM & Tehsil Bhatapara, Dist. Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara (CG), Area- 0.0770 Hect. or 8265.0 sq. ft. in the name of M/s R. L. Industries Prop. Mr. Avinash Thakur. **Boundaries:** North: Road, South: Road, East: Land of Ramchand Balani, West: Land of Halki Bai. **Description of the Immovable Property 02:-** All the Part & Parcel of Commercial Leased Property situated at Sheet No. 12/D, Plot No. 36/1, Ph. No. 11, Sadar Ward, RNM & Tehsil Bhatapara, Dist. Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara (CG), Area 670.0 sq. ft. or 62.22 sq. mtr. in the name of Mrs. Lajwanti Bai, Mr. Avinash Thakur, Mr. Kailash Thakur, Mr. Deepak Thakur, Mrs. Rachana Thakur and Mrs. Suman Thakur. **Boundaries:-** North: Hotel Gurunanak, South: Shop of Santosh, East : Road, West : Road.	**Rs. 1,70,37,154/-** as on **04.03.2025** (+) interest & expenses thereon Possession Notice Dated **08.05.2025** **Out of this Rs.4,49,000/- for Machinery** **E Auction Date : 25.11.2026 (Wednesday)**	Property No. 01 Rs.1,32,52,000/- Rs.13,25,200/- Rs.1,00,000/- Property No. 02 Rs.67,84,000/- Rs.6,78,400/- Rs.50,000/-
3.	**M/s Jai Durga Stone Crusher,** Prop. **Mr. Deepchand Verma, Add :** Vill. Ranjaroud, Tah. Simga, Dist. Balodabazar- Bhatapara (C.G.) & **Mr. Deepchand Verma** S/o Mr. Ganeshram Verma, **Add:** Madhav -B 38, Krishna Nagar, Bhatapara, Dist. Balodabazar-Bhatapara (CG) and **Guarantor:-** Mr. Dilip Kumar Verma S/o Mr. Ishwari Prasad Verma, Prop. **M/s Maa Sharda Stone Crasher,** Vill & PO Ranijaroud, Teh. Simga, Baloda Bazar Bhatapara (C.G.), **BRANCH : BHATAPARA** **Description of the Immovable Property :-** EM of Commercial Crusher Land & Building situated at Kh No 38/1 & Kh No 38/3, PHN 28, RNM-Rani Jaroud, Tah Simga, Dist Baldoabazar-Bhatapara CG, Area of 0.136 Hect. (Kh No. 38/1) + 0.271 Hect. (Kh No. 38/3) Total Area 0.407 Hect. in the name of Mr Deepchand Verma S/o Mr Ganeshram Verma. **Boundaries (Kh No 38/1):** North- Land of Vimla, South- Land of Dhruw, East- Land of Vimla, West- Land of Pradip, **Boundaries (Kh No 38/3):** North- Land of Jagdish, South- Land of Vimla Banjare, East- Land of Bhikham Chand, West- Land of Vinod Banchhor	**Rs. 28,79,203/-** as on **08.01.2024** (+) interest & expenses thereon Possession Notice Dated **12.04.2024** **E Auction Date : 25.11.2026 (Wednesday)**	Rs.30,32,000/- Rs.3,03,200/- Rs.25,000/-
4.	**Mrs. Varsha Gangwani** W/o Mr. Jitendra Gangwani, **2. Mr. Jitendra Gangwani** S/o Mr.Nichaldas Gangwani & **3. Mr. Gulab Chand Gangwani** S/o Nichaldas Gangwani and **Guarantors:- 1. Mr Jairam Das Gangwani** S/o Nichal Das Gangwani & **2. Mr. Shankar Panjwani** S/o Mr. Kundan Das Panjwani, **All are resident of** Bhagat Singh ward Bhatapara,Tehsil - Bhatapara, Dist - Balodabazar-Bhatapara (C.G.) **BRANCH: BHATAPARA** **Description of the Immovable Property :-** All the Parts and Parcel of Residential Land and Building at Plot No. 88, situated at Abadi Sheet No. 17 A, Plot No. 88, Khasra No. 324/1, 270/35, P.H.No. 06, Bhagat Singh Ward, Total Area 2550.0 sq.ft. Mouza- Bhatapara, RNM Bhatapara, Tah Bhatapara, Dist Balodabazar-Bhatapara, (CG) in the name of Mrs. Varsha Gangwani, Mr. Jayramdas Gangwani and Mr. Gulabchand Gangwani. **Boundaries:-** North : Galli, South : House of Jashanmal, East : House of Daulatram, West : Gali.	**Rs. 13,22,693/-** as on **22.08.2023** (+) interest & expenses thereon Possession Notice Dated **16.12.2023** **E Auction Date : 25.11.2026 (Wednesday)**	Rs.38,40,000/- Rs.3,84,000/- Rs.25,000/-
5.	**NPA A/c- M/s National Trade Combines, Through its Partners : 1. Late Suman Kumar Kathuria** S/o Late Narsingh Dev Kathuria, **Through his Legal heirs 1/1. Mr.Gaurav Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria, **1/2. Mr.Mohit Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuriya and **1/3. Mrs.Neelam kathuriya** W/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria and **2. Mr. Gaurav Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria, **Add :** 9-A, Industrial Estate Bhilai, Dist-Durg (C.G.) and **Late Suman Kumar Kathuria** S/o Late Narsingh Dev Kathuria, **Through his Legal heirs 1/1. Mr.Gaurav Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria, **1/2. Mr.Mohit Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuriya and **1/3. Mrs.Neelam kathuriya** W/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria and **2. Mr. Gaurav Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria **All are Resident of** H. No. 7B/5, Nehru Nagar (East) Bhilai, Dist. Durg (CG) **Guarantors :- 1. Late Suman Kumar Kathuria** S/o Late Narsingh Dev Kathuria, **Through his Legal heirs 1/1. Mr.Gaurav Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria, **1/2. Mr.Mohit Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuriya and **1/3. Mrs.Neelam kathuriya** W/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria, **2. Mr. Gaurav Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria, **3. Mr.Mohit Kathuria** S/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuriya and **4. Mrs.Neelam kathuriya** W/o Late Suman Kumar Kathuria, **All are resident of** H. No. 7B/5, Nehru Nagar (East) Bhilai, Dist. Durg (CG) **BRANCH : BHILAI** **Description of the Immovable Property 01:-** (1) All the Part and Parcel of Residential land and building situated at Bhukhand/Plot No. 5, Block 07/B, admeasuring 336.0 sq.mt. Motilal Nehru Nagar (East), Ward No. 02, Tehsil-Bhilai, District –Durg,(CG) leased out in the Name of Shri Suman Kumar Kathuria S/o Shri Narsingh Dev. **Boundaries:** North :Bhukhand No. 8, South: Road, East : Bhukhand No. 4 , West: Bhukhand No. 6. **Description of the Immovable Property 02:-** (2) All the Part and Parcel of Industrial Land and Building situated at Bhukhand No./Plot No 09-A, admeasuring approximately 35,000 sq.ft. at Village-Jamul ,Industrial estate Bhilai, Tehsil and District –Durg,(.CG) in the name of M/s National Trade Combines acting through its partner Shri Suman Kumar Kathuria. **Boundaries:** North : Road, South: Plot 8, East : Plot No-9, West : Road.	**Rs. 3,56,12,210/-** as on **11.10.2022** (+) interest & expenses thereon Possession Notice Dated **31.03.2023** **E Auction Date : 25.11.2026 (Wednesday)**	Property No. 01 Rs.1,80,00,000/- Rs.18,00,000/- Rs.1,00,000/- Property No. 02 Rs.65,70,000/- Rs.6,57,000/- Rs.50,000/-
6.	**Shri Amrit Lal Paw** S/o Dehru Ram Paw , **Address No. 01:-** H.No-29/2, At- Nansia, Raigarh , Distt-Raigarh (C.G.) and **Address No. 02:-** Nigarbandh Road, Ward No.-02, Takhatpur, Dist- Bilaspur,(C.G.) **BRANCH :- TAKHATPUR** **Description of the Immovable Property :-** All the Part and parcel of Land and Residential Land and Building situated at Takhatpur, Khasra No 245/18, Ward No-02, Patwari H.No-28, Maharana Pratap Ward No 01, Tahsil Chowk to Belpan road R.N.M + Tahsil- Takhatpur, District-Bilaspur, C.G, Total Area- 1875 sq. ft. {Super Build Up Area-1210.41 sq.ft.} in the name of Shri Amrit Lal Paw S/o- Shri Dehru Ram Paw. **Boundaries are as under:** North : House/Land of Shri Pravesh Agarwal, East: Nistari Road, South: House/Land of Babita Rai, West: Land of Anand Gupta.	**Rs. 21,02,302/-** as on **20.11.2025** (+) interest & expenses thereon Possession Notice Dated **20.02.2026** **E Auction Date : 25.11.2026 (Wednesday)**	Rs.26,73,000/- Rs.2,67,300/- Rs.10,000/-
7.	**Mr. Rangnath Prajapati** S/o Mr. Ramprasad Prajapati, Village : Parsakapa, Chulghat Road, Tehsil: Takhatpur, Dist- Bilaspur (C.G.) and **Guarantor:- Mr. Banwali Prasad** S/o Mr. Dhani Ram, Village: Karankapa, PO- Barela, Takhatpur, Dist- Bilaspur (C.G.), **BRANCH :- TAKHATPUR** **Description of the Immovable Property :** All the Part & Parcel of Residential Land and Building situated at Khasra No.141/2, Village Parsakapa, House No. 02, PH. No. 10, RNM Takahatpur, Tehsil Takhatpur, Distt. Bilaspur (C.G.) Admeasuring Area 0.133 Hect. or 0.33 Acre (Diverted Land Area 0.11 Acre or 4796.0 sq.ft.) in the name of Mr. Rangnath Prajapati S/o Ramprasad Prajapati. **Boundaries:** North: Land of Sher Singh Soni, South: Land of Nohar, East: Land of Ramesh, West : Land of Nohar.	**Rs. 10,06,227/-** as on **22.05.2026** (+) interest & expenses thereon Possession Notice Dated **14.08.2026** **E Auction Date : 16.12.2026 (Wednesday)**	Rs.12,00,000/- Rs.1,20,000/- Rs.10,000/-

Terms & Conditions: 1. Date & Time of e-auction: **Sr. No. 1 to 6 - 25.11.2026, & Sr. No. 7 - 16.12.2026** from **10:00 AM** to **12:00 PM** (with auto extension clause in case of bid in last Ten minutes before closing), The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider **"https://baanknet.com"** For further details, terms and conditions, the interested bidders can visit our Bank's website at **https://www.centralbankofindia.bank.in** & **https://baanknet.com**. **2.** For more details please Contact for **Sr. No. 1 to 4 - Mr. Shakti Choudhary, BM, Branch- Bhatapara, Mob. No. 9981032767, Sr. No. 5 - Mr. Dinesh Pradhan, BM, Branch- Bhilai, Mob. No.** 7509318041, **Sr. No. 6 & 7 - Mr. Jagnath Biruli, BM, Branch-Takhatpur, Mob. No. 9926173932,** at any working day during office hours. **3.** The Auction Sale is conducted on "As is where is, As is What is and Whatever there is" Basis. Bank is not aware of any pending charges, taxes, etc. Purchasers are bound to verify the same and, if any have to bear the same. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's website i.e. **www.centralbankofindia.bank.in** and service provider's website **https://baanknet.com**

STATUTORY 15/30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagor are hereby Notified for sale of immovalbe/movable secured asset toward realization of outstanding dues of Secured Creditor.

DATE : 05.11.2026, PLACE - RAIPUR — AUTHORISED OFFICER, CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA

"When you are young, you can do all the things they want to see you doing. But after a certain time, those things become a little difficult. After a certain age, some of those things become difficult."

Shahid Kapoor



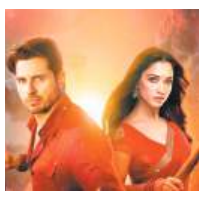
&Glitters

OTT Watch



Minions bring mischief to JioHotstar

The Minions return to JioHotstar with another hilarious adventure, turning simple situations into complete chaos. Directed by Pierre Coffin and Patrick Delage, Minions and Monsters bring slapstick humour and mischievous energy for family viewing.



The Vvaan arrives on Prime Video

Sidharth Malhotra's return to his ancestral village turns mysterious when he breaks an ancient seal inside a forbidden forest. The fantasy thriller, also starring Tamannaah Bhatia, arrives on Prime Video on November 6, debuting as rental.



Secrets and Spies return in Black Doves

Helen Webb returns to balancing family life and her secret career as an assassin in Black Doves Season 2. Starring Keira Knightley and Ben Whishaw, the gripping British spy thriller streams on Netflix.



Muhammad Ali's life gets a series

The Greatest traces Muhammad Ali's journey from heavyweight boxing champion to global cultural icon. The biographical series explores his sporting achievements, religious conversion and political activism, highlighting the beliefs that shaped his extraordinary legacy.



Under Siege brings history to Netflix

Under Siege revisits Colombia's 1985 Palace of Justice siege, when M-19 guerrillas took over 300 people hostage. The eight-part series explore the military operation, its aftermath and decades-long fight for justice.

CLOSE UP

Ayushmann Khurrana's journey beyond the ordinary

Ayushmann Khurrana continues choosing stories that challenge cinematic expectations.





Ayushmann will next be seen in Yeh Prem Mol Liya.

Central Chronicle News

He trusts fresh narratives, creative risks and audience acceptance.

Actor Ayushmann Khurrana has opened up about his career choices and his belief in exploring unconventional stories. Since making his Bollywood debut with 'Vicky Donor' in 2012, the actor has consistently chosen films that challenge traditional storytelling and move beyond familiar Hindi cinema formulas. With projects such as 'Dum Laga Ke Haisha', 'Shubh Mangal Saavdhan', 'Andhadhun', 'Article 15' and 'Dream Girl', Ayushmann has carved a distinct identity through content-driven cinema. Speaking about his journey, the actor said he has always believed in walking the road less travelled. He added that his choices, including his recent projects 'Udta Teer', 'Yeh Prem Mol Liya' and 'Mupapa', reflect his desire to explore fresh concepts and different genres. Ayushmann also credited audiences for giving him the confidence to experiment with stories that are different from conventional commercial films. According to him, their trust allows him to take creative risks, challenge himself and explore new possibilities as an actor. He further said that he wants to be part of films that offer something new to viewers while keeping entertainment at the centre. The appreciation received by 'Udta Teer', he believes, reflects how audiences are increasingly open to unusual premises and fresh storytelling when the content connects with them. The actor also expressed gratitude to the directors, writers and production teams who have trusted him with unconventional projects. He acknowledged that audience support has helped such stories find their place in mainstream entertainment.



Up next, Ayushmann will be seen in Sooraj Barjatya's romantic family drama 'Yeh Prem Mol Liya'. The film also features Sharvari, Anupam Kher, Supriya Pathak, Seema Pahwa, Saumya Tandon, Shaad Randhawa and Swanand Kirkire in important roles.

| HOLLYWOOD |

Paula finds joy in voicing for 'The Cat in the Hat'

Central Chronicle News



Paula Pell voices Patty.

HIGHLIGHT

- **Paula Pell brings warmth and humour to Patty's animated transformation.**

Actor-writer Paula Pell voices Patty, a strict landlady, in the animated film The Cat in the Hat, based on Dr Seuss' children's book. Known for 30 Rock and voice roles in Inside Out and Riley's First Date? Pell calls the movie a fun and sweet story filled with adventure and transformation. Pell plays Patty, who rents a home to Carmen and her children. A firm believer in rules, she bans pets and initially appears unpleasant. However, the character gradually changes, making the role enjoyable for Pell. She loves playing someone who seems like an enemy but eventually undergoes a transformation. To develop Patty's voice, Pell drew inspiration from real-life landlords and landladies she had encountered. She describes her character as a difficult person who can be quite a handful. The actor recalled growing up with Dr Seuss' books, revealing that Hop on Pop was among the first books she learned to read. She enjoyed the film's imaginative world, especially its idea of travelling to unfamiliar places and returning home. Pell credited directors Erica Rivinoja and Alessandro Carloni for encouraging improvisation and allowing her to explore different interpretations of Patty. She appreciated their openness to varied approaches while following the script. She believes The Cat in the Hat endures because it brings joy and adventure to audiences of all ages. In a world that often feels overwhelming, Pell feels people need more laughter and fun. She added that children and adults alike seek stories that invite them into joyful adventures.

The voice cast features Bill Hader, Matt Berry, Quinta Brunson, Xochitl Gomez, Giancarlo Esposito and America Ferrera. The film releases in India on November 5 in Hindi and English.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Web Series

The Royals begins filming its second season

Netflix's romantic drama 'The Royals' is returning with its second season, as filming has officially begun. Ishaan Khatter, Zeenat Aman, Sakshi Tanwar, Vihaan Samat and Kavya Trehan will reprise their roles in the series. Set in the fictional royal family of Morpur, the new season promises more romance, humour, family drama and unexpected relationships. Creators Rangita and Ishita Pritish Nandy expressed excitement about continuing the story following the first season's global success. Directed by Nitya Mehra and Tanuj Chopra, the upcoming season will introduce fresh characters, rivalries and developments.

Hot Pair

Rohit and Ritika's sweet pre-wedding story



Rohit Sharma recently shared a hilarious memory from his courtship days with wife Ritika Sajdeh, offering a glimpse into their playful relationship. Recalling a pre-wedding prank, the cricketer revealed that he once jokingly told Ritika she would have to learn cooking after marriage because his mother wanted him to marry someone who knew how to cook. The comment caused a little tension between the couple, but things eventually settled. Rohit clarified that he was only teasing her. The couple, who tied the knot on December 13, 2015, first met during an advertisement shoot in 2008 and are now parents to daughter Samaira and son Ahaan.



Music

King brings Ed Sheeran and Arijit together

Ed Sheeran has revealed how his Bollywood debut song 'Tu Mil Jaaye' came together for Shah Rukh Khan's upcoming film 'King'. The British singer-songwriter wrote and recorded his English rap verse on the same night he met composers Sachin-Jigar at Khan's Mumbai residence, Mannat. Featuring vocals by Sheeran and Arijit Singh, the track was released on November 2, coinciding with Shah Rukh Khan's 61st birthday. Sheeran recalled how his friendship with Khan began and praised the collaboration, calling the project a meeting of his favourite people. Directed by Siddharth Anand, 'King' releases December 24.

Trending on Insta

@karanwahi

Karan Wahi revisits his television debut

Karan Wahi celebrates 22 years of his television debut with Remix, sharing nostalgic behind-the-scenes pictures with the cast and crew. He also thanks fans for their constant love and recalls his journey from Delhi to Mumbai.





Art & Culture

STATE CULTURE

Chhattisgarh at 26: A celebration of culture and heritage

Twenty-six years on, Chhattisgarh continues to cherish its colourful traditions.






Chhattisgarh completes 26 years since formation

HIGHLIGHT

- Three days of celebrations highlight the state's artistic and traditional richness.

Twenty-six years after its formation, Chhattisgarh is celebrating its journey with a three-day Rajyotsav, bringing its culture, traditions and achievements into focus. November 1 marks the foundation day of the state, which was carved out of Madhya Pradesh in 2000.

This year's celebration holds special significance as Chhattisgarh marks its first Rajyotsav following the declaration of freedom from Naxalism. The occasion offers an opportunity to look beyond development milestones and appreciate the cultural identity that makes the state distinctive.

From the tribal heartlands of Bastar to the folk traditions of the plains, Chhattisgarh has a cultural landscape shaped by generations of communities. Its art forms, music, dance, crafts and festivals continue to preserve stories of local life and ancestral knowledge. Traditional performances such as Panthi, Raut Nacha and Sua dance reflect the region's collective spirit, while folk songs bring alive its everyday experiences, beliefs and celebrations.

The state is also known for its rich craft heritage. Bastar's bell-metal work, wrought iron craft, wooden carvings and terracotta creations showcase the skill of local artisans. These handmade traditions are more than decorative expressions; they represent a close relationship between communities, nature and their surroundings.



Food, too, is an important part of Chhattisgarh's cultural identity. Local favourites such as chila, fara, angakar roti and bore baasi reflect the simplicity of regional ingredients and traditional cooking practices.

As the state completes 26 years, Rajyotsav becomes more than an anniversary celebration. It is a reminder of the diverse traditions, artistic expressions and community stories that give Chhattisgarh its character. The three-day festivities provide a platform to celebrate this heritage while looking towards the future.

NIF prize celebrates Indian non-fiction



The shortlist for the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2026 features five non-fiction books exploring India's history, Constitution, development and cultural journey. The selected titles include works by Narayani Basu, Sam Dalrymple, Rohit De and Ornit Shani, Devesh Kapur and Arvind Subramanian, and Sumana Ramanan. Published in 2025, these books offer different perspectives on modern India, its people and its changing identity. The winner will be announced in December and receive a cash prize of Rs 15 lakh at the Bangalore Literature Festival on December 12. The award was established in 2018 to encourage quality writing about India.

LINGUISTIC TREASURES

Kolkata's unique museum brings words to life



Kolkata's Museum of Word offers a refreshing way to explore India's linguistic heritage through interactive experiences. Located at historic Belvedere House, the country's first immersive language museum features nine galleries across twelve rooms. Visitors can explore languages through sound, touch, visuals and storytelling. From an immersive installation celebrating Indian languages to ancient scripts, inscriptions and digital exhibits, every section makes learning engaging. The museum also showcases emotions through classical dance and art. With wheelchair accessibility, affordable entry and freedom to explore at one's own pace, Museum of Word celebrates the beauty, diversity and cultural significance of India's mother tongues.

| ETHNIC FASHION |

The nine-yard story of Maharashtra's cultural pride

Central Chronicle News


The nauvari carries centuries of Maharashtrian history.

Few garments capture the cultural soul of Maharashtra as beautifully as the Nauvari saree. Draped in nine yards of fabric, it is not merely an expression of traditional fashion but a living symbol of the region's history, identity and artistic heritage. Its distinctive silhouette carries stories of women who shaped everyday life, preserved customs and challenged the boundaries of their time.

The name Nauvari comes from the Marathi word for nine yards, referring to the saree's traditional length. Its unique draping style, with fabric tucked between the legs, resembles a dhoti and allows greater freedom of movement. This practical design made it suitable for women engaged in agricultural work, household responsibilities and other physically demanding activities. Historical and cultural accounts also associate the style with Maratha women warriors, adding an enduring image of courage to its legacy.

The beauty of the Nauvari lies in the details. Rich colours, woven borders and traditional motifs reflect Maharashtra's textile traditions. Paithani silk, known for its intricate peacock designs and elaborate zari work, is a treasured choice for special occasions. The saree is often complemented by a traditional nath, green glass bangles, a crescent-shaped bindi and Maharashtrian jewellery, creating an ensemble deeply rooted in regional aesthetics.



Across generations, the Nauvari has remained an important part of festivals, weddings, religious ceremonies and folk performances. Its presence during celebrations such as Ganesh Chaturthi and Gudi Padwa reflects the pride with which women embrace their cultural roots.

HIGHLIGHT

- More than attire, the Nauvari carries Maharashtra's stories across generations.

Today, contemporary designers are reimagining the Nauvari through lighter fabrics, innovative draping and pre-stitched versions. Yet, its cultural significance remains untouched. More than an heirloom garment, the Nauvari is a celebration of Maharashtra's artistic traditions, feminine strength and the enduring beauty of Indian craftsmanship.

*Cultural*Hues

Rare flute sheds light on troy



Archaeologists have discovered a 2,800-year-old bone flute at the ancient city of Troy in modern-day Turkey. It is believed to be the first musical instrument unearthed at the historic site in more than 150 years of excavations. The flute dates to the eighth century BCE, around the time Homer is believed to have composed The Iliad and The Odyssey. The discovery offers valuable evidence of Troy's musical culture and how music may have featured in religious rituals and everyday life.

A paw print frozen in time



Archaeologists have discovered a 4,000-year-old dog paw print on a mud brick at Tavsanli Hoyuk in western Turkey. The brick was found among the remains of a Bronze Age house destroyed by fire. Researchers believe a dog stepped on it while the brick was drying in the sun. The discovery offers a fascinating glimpse into ancient daily life and highlights the long-standing bond between humans and dogs in the region.

The 1,600-year-old colour trick



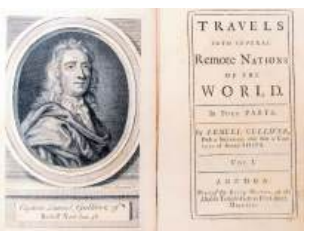
Romans created a remarkable glass vessel 1,600 years ago that changes colour with light. Known as the Lycurgus Cup, it appears green in reflected light and red when illuminated directly. Scientists have now recreated this ancient technique using tiny gold and silver nanoparticles embedded in glass. A researcher at the University of Sheffield successfully developed a similar formula using materials available to Roman artisans, revealing the fascinating science behind this ancient invention.



A 1907 painting's remarkable journey

A painting by Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky has sold for nearly $42 million at a London auction. Created in 1907, Das bunte Leben was stolen by the Nazis during World War II from its Dutch Jewish owners. After spending decades in a German museum, it was returned to the family's heirs in 2023. The colourful masterpiece, inspired by Russian folklore, has now made headlines with its record-breaking sale, bringing renewed attention to its remarkable history.

Gulliver's travels complete 300 years



Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels has completed 300 years since its first publication in October 1726. The famous novel follows Captain Lemuel Gulliver on extraordinary journeys to imaginary lands, using humour and adventure to explore human behaviour, politics and society. Despite being written three centuries ago, its sharp observations remain relevant today. An exhibition at Trinity College Dublin is celebrating the milestone with rare editions, illustrations and adaptations showcasing the book's remarkable literary journey.

When ceilings become works of art



A unique campaign in England is asking visitors to lie down and admire the beauty of historic ceilings. Called 'Lie Down and Look Up', the initiative by English Heritage features five historic sites with stunning ceiling designs, golden stars and intricate plasterwork. Visitors can use cushions to comfortably enjoy the artwork above them. Highlights include Queen Victoria's seaside retreat, Osborne, and Bolsover Castle, offering a fresh way to explore England's architectural and artistic heritage.

Sports



"Sanju and I share a special bond. Our conversations are about cricket, confidence, and enjoying the game with a smile."

Sachin Tendulkar
Legendary Indian cricketer

Sindhu targets World Tour Finals with renewed confidence

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu believes age cannot diminish her ambitions as she prepares for the BWF World Tour Finals following another impressive title-winning performance this season.

Press Trust Of India

Indian badminton star believes experience, fitness and passion can extend sporting success.



NEW DELHI: Indian badminton superstar PV Sindhu has declared that age is merely a number as she prepares for the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals in China from December 9 to 13, insisting that "31 is the new 21."

The two-time Olympic medallist has secured qualification for the prestigious tournament following an impressive resurgence that has lifted her to sixth in the world rankings and fifth in the World Tour qualification standings.

Sindhu captured her second title of the season at the Hylo Open Super 500 on Sunday, having previously won the Japan Open in July. She also finished runner-up at the French Open last month.

The 31-year-old Hyderabad shuttler believes consistent performances naturally translate into improved rankings and greater confidence.

"I'm happy that I've climbed into the top six now. If you perform well and win tournaments, you don't have to think only about the ranking," Sindhu said.

Representing the celebrated generation featuring Carolina Marín, Nozomi Okuhara, Ratchanok Intanon and Tai Tzu-ying, Sindhu remains confident of competing successfully against younger challengers.

She emphasised that maintaining physical fitness, managing workloads and making intelligent scheduling decisions were essential for extending her career.

"I'm not young anymore, but 31 is the new 21," she remarked, expressing confidence about returning to her previous dominant form.

Sindhu revealed that she deliberately skipped certain tournaments, including the Korea Open, to prioritise recovery and prepare for upcoming competitions.

Reflecting on her recent victories, the former world champion admitted that success now carries greater emotional significance because experience has taught her to understand setbacks and manage pressure.

According to Sindhu, the excitement of winning remains unchanged, although her approach towards training, competition and recovery has become considerably more mature.

She also acknowledged badminton's evolving demands, particularly the proposed transition to a 15-point scoring system, which would require players to adapt their strategies.

Sindhu credited her support team, including strength and conditioning coach Wayne Lombard, physiotherapist Shreyasi Sanjay, Heera Mundluru and coach Irwansyah Adi Pratama, for helping maintain her fitness.

Daily assessments of her physical condition guide training intensity and tournament participation.

With renewed confidence, improved rankings and sustained motivation, Sindhu believes she can challenge the world's best again, demonstrating that experience and determination remain powerful assets in international badminton.

Second-string India face Pakistan in SAFF Championships opening match

DHAKA: A second string Indian team, with just 18 players available, will face arch rivals Pakistan in their opening match of the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championships here on Thursday. India are the defending champions but the main team is not taking part in the tournament in view of the away international friendly matches against New Zealand, on November 12 and 15 in Auckland and Christchurch, respectively. There is also the issue of the reluctance of the Indian Super League (ISL) clubs to release players in the midst of the ongoing season, as Thursday's match against Pakistan falls on a date outside the FIFA international window (November 9-17).

| MONTGOMERY'S REMARKABLE COMEBACK |

Robin Montgomery discovers life beyond tennis after injury setbacks

Press Trust Of India

American tennis star Robin Montgomery finds renewed confidence through injuries and self-discovery.



CHENNAI: American tennis player Robin Montgomery believes her injury struggles have helped her discover that life extends beyond tennis, giving her renewed confidence and perspective.

The 22-year-old lefthander, who defeated fourth seed Panna Udvardy in her Chennai Open opener, admitted that prolonged injury setbacks provided opportunities for personal growth.

A former junior world champion, Montgomery captured both singles and doubles titles at the 2021 US Open junior championships. She made her senior Grand Slam debut at just 16.

However, a serious wrist injury interrupted her promising career, forcing her to reconsider her priorities.

"Tennis is me, but that's not the only thing that matters," Montgomery said, explaining how discovering new hobbies strengthened her identity beyond sport.

Raised in Washington DC, she credits her mother and great-grandmother for developing her independence and determination.

Her partnership with Ashlyn Krueger, which produced a women's doubles final appearance at the 2026 US Open, has also improved her confidence at the net.

Montgomery previously claimed her maiden WTA singles title at the Rosmalen Open, becoming the lowest-ranked woman to win a tour-level grasscourt title.

HIGHLIGHT

- Former junior champion credits injury break for discovering identity beyond professional tennis.
- Montgomery hopes doubles success will strengthen her confidence and improve singles performances.

| DJOKOVIC BATTLES THROUGH |

Novak Djokovic survives Vacherot scare in Paris Masters

Press Trust Of India

PARIS: Record seven-time champion Novak Djokovic survived a major scare before defeating big-serving Valentin Vacherot 6-7 (5), 7-5, 6-1 in the opening round of the Paris Masters on Tuesday.

The 24-time Grand Slam champion overcame three crucial break points at 4-4 in the second set, preventing his Monaco opponent from serving for the match.

Vacherot, who defeated Djokovic in last year's Shanghai Masters semifinals, troubled the Serbian superstar with 22 aces and powerful serving.

Djokovic struggled initially but regained control after breaking Vacherot late in the second set. He dominated the decider and sealed victory with a brilliant backhand winner.



> **"Vacherot second serves are faster than my first serves, so it's very tough to play a guy in these conditions."**
>
> **Novak Djokovic**
> Serbian Tennis Star

Both players required medical attention during the second set, with Djokovic receiving treatment on his right shoulder and Vacherot having his left ankle strapped.

Djokovic is chasing his 103rd career singles title, which would put him level with Roger Federer.

Meanwhile, third seed Ben Shelton defeated Cameron Norrie 6-3, 6-4 to register his 42nd victory this season.

Taylor Fritz recovered to beat Benjamin Bonzi 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, while Tommy Paul defeated Holger Rune 7-5, 6-4.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

FINALS SHOWDOWN BECKONS

Rybakina And Sabalenka head strong groups for season ending WTA Finals



INDIAN WELLS: World No. 1 Elena Rybakina and second-ranked Aryna Sabalenka headline the WTA Finals singles groups as the season-ending tournament begins Sunday at Indian Wells Tennis Garden. Defending champion Rybakina leads Group 1 alongside Americans Coco Gauff and Jessica Pegula, and Linda Noskova. Sabalenka heads Group 2, featuring Mirra Andreeva, Elina Svitolina and Karolina Muchova. The eight players will compete in round-robin matches, with the top two from each group advancing to the semi-finals. Rybakina defeated Sabalenka in last year's final and is aiming to retain her crown. Andreeva, Muchova and Noskova will make their tournament debuts. The championships return to outdoor courts for the first time since 2023. Gabriela Dabrowski-Luisa Stefani and Taylor Townsend-Katerina Siniakova lead the doubles groups. **PTI**

KORDA'S REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT

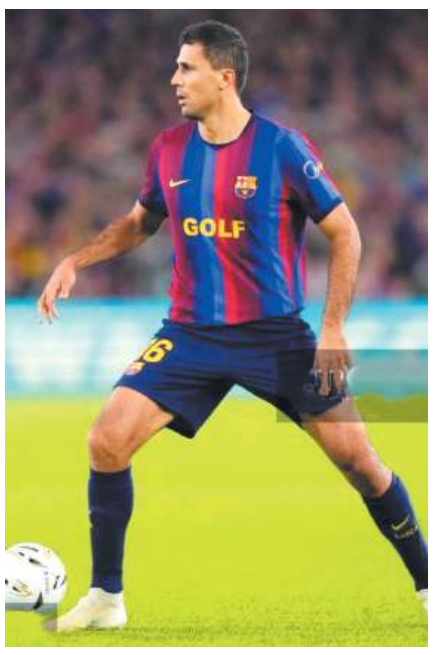
Nelly Korda clinches LPGA player of the year, nears Hall of Fame



DAYTONA BEACH: American golf superstar Nelly Korda has secured the LPGA Player of the Year award for the second time in three seasons, moving within one point of Hall of Fame qualification. The 28-year-old enjoyed another outstanding season, claiming four titles, including two majors at The Chevron Championship and the US Women's Open. Korda secured the prestigious honour with three tournaments remaining after her closest challengers became mathematically unable to overtake her. The award takes her Hall of Fame tally to 26 points, just one short of the required 27. She can achieve the milestone by winning either The Annika or the CME Group Tour Championship in Florida. Korda previously claimed the award in 2024. **PTI**

BARCELONA TRIUMPHS CONVINCINGLY

Rodri injury overshadows Barcelona's commanding Champions League victory



BARCELONA: Barcelona registered an impressive 3-0 victory over Aston Villa in the Champions League on Tuesday, but midfielder Rodri's suspected calf injury overshadowed the celebrations. Lamine Yamal opened the scoring in the seventh minute after intercepting a misplaced pass and curling home a brilliant finish. Raphinha extended Barcelona's advantage with goals in the 52nd and 64th minutes, completing a comfortable victory at Camp Nou. However, Rodri was replaced by Marc Bernal at halftime after experiencing muscular discomfort. Coach Hansi Flick expressed concern ahead of Sunday's crucial La Liga clash against Atletico Madrid. Prince William attended the match supporting Aston Villa, whose three-match winning streak ended. Villa manager Unai Emery admitted his side must improve against Europe's strongest opponents. **PTI**

PSG'S RECORD BLITZ

PSG create Champions League history with four goals inside record 17 minutes



VILLARREAL: Defending champions Paris Saint-Germain produced a sensational attacking display against Villarreal, scoring four goals within the opening 17 minutes to establish a new Champions League record on Tuesday. According to UEFA, PSG became the fastest team to score four goals in a Champions League match, surpassing Real Madrid's previous record of 20 minutes against Dinamo Zagreb in 2011. Joao Neves opened the scoring in the ninth minute before Desire Doue doubled the advantage three minutes later. Senny Mayulu struck in the 13th minute, while Fabian Ruiz completed the remarkable scoring burst four minutes later. Despite missing several key players, including Ousmane Dembele, Marquinhos, Nuno Mendes and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia, PSG dominated proceedings. Villarreal's defensive mistakes contributed significantly to the early collapse. **PTI**

Sports News

Virat Kohli and quicks power India to 1-0 lead

Virat Kohli celebrated his approaching 38th birthday with a magnificent 74, while India's inexperienced pace attack dismantled New Zealand to secure a comfortable five-wicket victory in Auckland.

Press Trust Of India

Gurnoor, Arshdeep and Kamboj shine as New Zealand collapse against Indian pace attack.



Virat Kohli, center, is congratulated by teammates after taking a catch to dismiss New Zealand's Nathan Smith.

AUCKLAND: Virat Kohli produced a sparkling 74 as India's inexperienced pace attack delivered an outstanding performance to secure a five-wicket victory over New Zealand in the rain-interrupted opening ODI here on Wednesday.

A day before his 38th birthday, Kohli entertained spectators with an aggressive 51-ball innings featuring 13 boundaries and one six. His brilliance helped India reach the revised target of 143 in 22.4 overs after New Zealand were dismissed for 185 in 40.2 overs.

The victory was built around an impressive bowling display from India's relatively inexperienced pacers, who successfully compensated for the absence of established stars Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna.

Towering fast bowler Gurnoor Brar exploited his height to generate uncomfortable bounce, returning impressive figures of 3/44. Arshdeep Singh spearheaded the attack with four wickets, while Anshul Kamboj delivered an exceptionally disciplined spell of 2/22, including 46 dot balls.

New Zealand struggled from the beginning as Arshdeep removed Will Young and Henry Nicholls cheaply. Both batters fell attempting pull shots against deliveries that climbed sharply.

Tim Seifert briefly counterattacked with 38, including an audacious six, before Gurnoor dismissed him with a short delivery.

Gurnoor subsequently produced a spectacular reflex return catch to remove Tom Latham, leaving the hosts struggling.

Daryl Mitchell contributed 28 and Glenn Phillips scored 30, but neither could provide the substantial partnership required to rebuild the innings.

Kamboj maintained relentless pressure through accurate bowling, while India's sharp fielding further restricted New Zealand's recovery.

Blair Tickner struck three late sixes against Arshdeep to push the hosts beyond 180, but the total remained insufficient.

India's chase began disastrously when Rohit Sharma departed for a six-ball duck. However, Kohli immediately seized control, combining elegant strokeplay with calculated aggression.

He dominated the New Zealand attack through powerful pulls, exquisite cover drives and wristy flicks, reaching his 80th ODI half-century.

Captain Shubman Gill contributed a valuable 37 as the pair stitched together a decisive 113-run second-wicket partnership.

Despite repeated rain interruptions, Kohli maintained his attacking rhythm and ensured India remained comfortably ahead.

The convincing victory highlighted India's emerging fast-bowling depth while underlining Kohli's enduring match-winning ability.

For the visitors, the performance provided an encouraging beginning to the ODI series and demonstrated the growing confidence of their younger players.

Mayank shines as Chhattisgarh tighten grip on Hyderabad

Central Chronicle News

Mayank Verma's brilliant 81 and Dev Aditya's double strike strengthen Chhattisgarh's position.



HYDERABAD: Chhattisgarh gained the upper hand against Hyderabad on the third day of their Ranji Trophy 2026-27 Elite Group encounter at the Gymkhana Ground here on Wednesday, leaving the hosts struggling at 13/2 while chasing a challenging target of 259 runs.

At stumps, Hyderabad required another 246 runs for victory with eight wickets remaining, setting up an exciting final day's contest.

Chhattisgarh's second innings was highlighted by an impressive 81 from Mayank Verma, who played a crucial role in helping his side post 254 runs in 68.4 overs. Sanjeet Desai provided valuable support with a determined 51, while experienced all-rounder Dharmendra Singh Jadeja contributed an important 38.

For Hyderabad, Rakshan Reddy and Aniket Reddy claimed three wickets each, preventing Chhattisgarh from building an even bigger lead.

Earlier, Chhattisgarh had posted 284 in their first innings after electing to bat. Captain Anuj Tiwari led from the front with a fighting 72, while Vikalp Tiwari struck a valuable 69. Mayank Verma and Jayant Yadav contributed 36 runs apiece.

Hyderabad's Milind captured three wickets, while Rakshan Reddy and Aniket Reddy picked up two each.

In reply, Hyderabad were dismissed for 280 in 86.1 overs, conceding a narrow four-run first-innings lead.

Rahul Radesh top-scored with 72, while Himateja contributed 46. Aniket Reddy added 32 and Tanay Thyagarajan scored 34 to keep Hyderabad competitive.

However, Dharmendra Singh Jadeja produced an outstanding bowling performance, claiming five wickets to restrict the hosts. Jayant Yadav and Dev Aditya Singh supported him with two wickets each.

Defending 258, Chhattisgarh made a sensational start as Dev Aditya Singh struck twice within the opening five overs, reducing Hyderabad to 13/2.

With the pitch offering opportunities for bowlers, Chhattisgarh will aim to maintain pressure and claim the remaining eight wickets on Thursday.

| ISSF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS |

Indian shooters miss medal targets, Olympic quota hunt remains elusive

Press Trust Of India

The 10m air rifle mixed team pair of Sonam Uttam Maskar and Himanshu Dhillon failed to qualify for the four-team final.

DOHA: Indian shooters endured another disappointing day at the ISSF World Championships here on Wednesday, failing to compete for medals in both the 10m air rifle mixed team and 25m rapid fire pistol events, while a disqualification further compounded the team's woes.

The 10m air rifle mixed team pair of Sonam Uttam Maskar and Himanshu Dhillon failed to qualify for the four-team final, finishing seventh with an aggregate of 632.4. Sonam shot 316.6, while Himanshu returned 315.8.

The other Indian pair, Shambhavi Kshirsagar and Parth Mane, was disqualified after the former fell foul of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) rules pertaining to apparel and equipment.

It was Shambhavi's second disqualification in a major competition in five months for a similar violation. She had also been disqualified at the ISSF Junior World Championships in Suhl, Germany, in June, costing India a potential women's team medal.

India's medal hopes also fizzled out in the 25m rapid fire pistol event, with none of the three shooters managing to make the eight-shooter final. Bhavesh Shekhawat was the best-placed Indian, finishing with an aggregate of 582 over two days of qualification.

Gurpreet Singh finished 18th with 579, while Suraj Sharma was placed 35th with 571. India's combined score of 1,732 earned it sixth place in the team competition.

The World Championships mark the beginning of the qualification process for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, but India are yet to win an individual medal in an Olympic discipline or secure a quota place for the Games.

Women's ACT: Indian hockey team to open against Malaysia

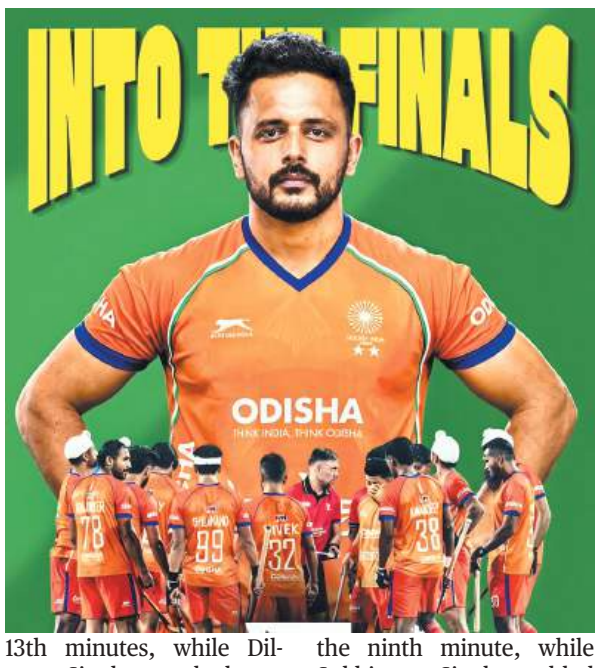
NEW DELHI: In pursuit of a third consecutive Asian Champions Trophy crown, the Indian women's hockey team will open its campaign by taking on Malaysia when the six-nation tournament kicks off on November 19 in Bhopal. The event will be staged at Bhopal's new hockey stadium at the International Sports Complex in Nathu Barkheda, featuring India, Japan, China, Malaysia, Thailand and South Korea. It would be the Indian women's hockey team's first international assignment following a historic gold medal triumph at the Asian Games in Japan last month. The hosts will enter the competition as three-time winners, having lifted the title in 2016, 2023 and 2024.

| ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY |

India crush South Korea to enter final

Press Trust Of India

Shilanand Lakra and Dilpreet Singh score twice each in India's emphatic victory.



MOHALI: Defending champions India stormed into the men's Asian Champions Trophy hockey final for a record-extending seventh time after crushing South Korea 8-1 in a commanding semifinal performance here on Wednesday.

Maintaining their unbeaten run, the hosts produced another spectacular attacking display, completely overwhelming their opponents to book a title showdown against Japan on Thursday.

Shilanand Lakra struck twice in the fourth and 13th minutes, while Dilpreet Singh scored a brace in the 21st and 25th minutes. Captain Harmanpreet Singh found the target in the ninth minute, while Sukhjeet Singh added another in the 21st. Angad Bir Singh extended India's advantage in the 36th minute before Vivek Sagar Prasad completed the rout in the 54th.

Sangjun Han scored South Korea's consolation goal in the ninth minute.

India had earlier demolished South Korea 8-0 during the round-robin stage, highlighting their overwhelming superiority.

The hosts entered the semifinals after topping the six-team league standings with five consecutive victories.

Earlier, Japan secured their final berth by defeating Malaysia in a shootout following a goalless draw in regulation time.

India will now aim to maintain their winning momentum and capture another continental crown before their home supporters.

| REYANSH CLINCHES CHAMPIONSHIP |

Reyansh outguns Karkshe to bag CG Squash honours

Central Chronicle News

Reyansh celebrates his title triumph after defeating Vidik Karkshe in Chhattisgarh Squash Championship final.



RAIPUR: Showcasing clinical precision and court dominance, Reyansh emerged champion at the Senior Chhattisgarh Squash Championship 2026, which concluded with high-voltage encounters at the Squash Complex in Budhapara, Raipur. The state-level tournament was held under the aegis of the Chhattisgarh Squash Association.

In an intensely contested final, Reyansh defeated Vidik Karkshe in straight sets, 12-10, 11-8, 11-9, to lift the coveted championship trophy. Despite a spirited fightback from Karkshe across all three games, Reyansh held his composure in critical baseline rallies to seal the win.

Earlier in the semi-finals, Reyansh overcame a gritty challenge from Divyam Upadhyay, winning 14-12, 11-7, 11-8. In the other semi-final clash, Vidik Karkshe outlasted Archit Saxena in a five-game thriller, 11-8, 4-11, 11-8, 9-11, 11-7, holding his nerve in the deciding fifth set to earn his spot in the title clash.

In the third-place playoff, Divyam Upadhyay staged an impressive comeback after dropping the opening game to defeat Archit Saxena 5-11, 11-2, 11-8, securing the bronze position. As per the final standings, Reyansh finished first, Vidik Karkshe second, Divyam Upadhyay third, and Archit Saxena fourth.

The closing ceremony was attended by Chhattisgarh Squash Association Vice President Dr. Manoj Agrawal, along with other key office-bearers and sports dignitaries. Lauding the participants, the officials noted that organising such competitive state-level tournaments provides a vital platform to hone local talent and accelerate the growth of squash across Chhattisgarh.

Anmol, Tanvi enter second round at Korea Open

YEOSU: India's Anmol Kharb and Tanvi Sharma produced impressive performances to advance to the women's singles second round of the Korea Open Super 500 badminton tournament here on Wednesday. Anmol, who reached the semi-finals of Hylo Open last week, defeated Canada's Rachel Chan 21-19, 21-18 in the opening round to set up a clash with second seed Akane Yamaguchi of Japan. Tanvi, the winner of the Taipei Open Super 300 title, fought back after dropping the second game to beat Japan's Manami Suizu 21-16, 12-21, 21-17 in her round-of-32 match. She will face either Japan's fifth seed Hina Akechi, or China's Xu Wen Jing next.

| WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE |

Vadodara, Mumbai to host fifth edition of WPL from January 14 to February 7

Press Trust Of India

The tournament will begin with a clash between defending champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru and fellow two-time winners Mumbai Indians on January 14.

MUMBAI: The fifth edition of the Women's Premier League will be held in Vadodara and Mumbai from January 14 to February 7, 2027, with both the cities hosting 11 matches apiece, the BCCI announced on Wednesday.

The tournament will begin with a clash between defending champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru and fellow two-time winners Mumbai Indians on January 14.

The BCCI announced the full schedule of the tournament along with officially confirming the venues for next year's WPL.

The matches in Vadodara will be played at the new BCA Stadium in Kotambi, whereas the Mumbai games will be at the Brabourne Stadium including the playoffs as well as the final. The matches will start at 7:30pm.

The previous edition of the five-team tournament was held at Navi Mumbai's DY Patil Stadium, which is currently under renovation, and Vadodara.

"The Vadodara leg will run until January 24, featuring 11 matches as the five teams begin their campaign in the race for the title. The action will then shift to Mumbai, where the Cricket Club of India's Brabourne Stadium will host the remaining 11 matches from January 26.

The league stage will continue until 3 February, setting up the contest for a place in the playoffs," the BCCI said in a release.

The Eliminator, played between the second and third placed teams in the points table, will be played on February 5.

World



Islamabad working for West Asia peace.

Shehbaz Sharif
Pakistan Prime Minister

Democrats sweep Congress in resounding midterm victory

Democrats won wide majorities in both the House and the Senate, ending two years of unified Republican control and creating a divided government.



Rep. Katherine Clark, D-Mass., the House minority whip, from left, House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., and Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee Chair Suzan DelBene, D-Wash., hold hands during a watch party at a hotel on Capitol Hill in Washington. (AP Photo)

Agencies

WASHINGTON: Democrats are riding their sweep of Congress into a new era, eager to meet voter demands for change with plans to tackle high costs of living and confront President Donald Trump's final years in the White House.

In a nationwide romp, Democrats ousted Republicans from coast to coast, with many surprising places in between, as voters rejected the president's party for the promise of something different for the country. Their majorities will be padded by wide margins in both the House and the Senate.

The results set up a divided government, with Congress poised to reassert itself as a coequal branch ready to challenge Trump and reverse course after two years of unified GOP control.

"We hear you," said House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York, who would make history as the first Black speaker of the House if his colleagues elect him to the job when the new Congress begins on Jan.

3, 2027. "We're going to work hard to deliver on the dramatic change that you deserve," he said.

The tally was decisive, at times bewildering, for the staggering scope of

FASTFACTS

- **Fueled by voter anger over the economy and democracy, Democrats plan to tackle high living costs and challenge President Donald Trump's final years in office.**
- **House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries is poised to make history as the first Black Speaker of the House when the new Congress convenes in January 2027.**

Democratic gains and the depth of Republican losses. The swelling margins underlined a deep sense of voter anger and concern over the economy and the state of democracy. All told, the results present a fundamental reshaping of power in Washington, with new opportunities and challenges for governing. Trump struck a conciliatory tone, suggesting he could work with the Democrats, but he also warned of gridlock ahead as he threatened to use the power of the presidential veto to strike down their agenda. "I don't want to be just sitting there for two years vetoing everything," he told Politico.

Democrats vow a 100-day agenda and investigations of Trump

House Democrats are promising a 100-day agenda starting with efforts to lower the costs of gas, groceries and other goods, as well as bills to reverse cuts to the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid healthcare programs. They're also ready to launch a robust oversight agenda to, as Jeffries says, "hold the crooks accountable." Impeachment — of the president or his Cabinet members — is an option.

Stranded cruise ship leaves Cambodia empty

PHNOM PENH: A US cruise ship that forced all its passengers to disembark in Cambodia after suspending its operations last week has departed the Southeast Asian nation with only crew aboard, Cambodian officials said Wednesday. The MV Odyssey, owned by Florida-based Villa Vie Residences, had been on an around-the-world cruise when it suspended its planned three-year voyage due to the sharp rise in fuel costs. It had been docked for a scheduled stop at the Cambodian port of Sihanoukville on the Gulf of Thailand, when on Oct. 28 its 203 passengers were suddenly told they had to disembark within a few hours.

| RUSSIA UKRAINE WAR |

Russian strikes disrupt Kyiv power as south searches survivors

Press Trust Of India

Overnight Russian strikes on critical infrastructure caused power and water outages across Kyiv and surrounding regions.



A damaged residential building is seen after a Russian air attack in Dnipro, Ukraine.

KYIV: Overnight attacks on critical infrastructure triggered power and water outages across Kyiv and surrounding regions Wednesday as rescuers combed through rubble in southern Ukraine, still searching for survivors three days after one of the deadliest attacks there in nearly five years of war. On Monday, multiple Russian guided bombs had slammed into a school and shelter in the village of Komyshuvakha, near the front line in the Zaporizhzhia region.

Authorities have confirmed 37 deaths and say some 38 may still be trapped. Moscow showed no signs of letting up its aerial assaults elsewhere.

In Kyiv, Ukraine's capital, residents were urged to use public drinking water fountains, and emergency centres were being hastily set up in the worst-hit areas, offering hot tea and power points where people could charge up electrical devices.

On Tuesday, a large-scale Russian attack on power plants and substations across nine regions knocked out power in several areas in and around Kyiv.

FASTFACTS

- **The death toll from Monday's strike on a school and shelter in Komyshuvakha rose to 37, with dozens still potentially trapped under the rubble.**

| INDONESIA MILITARY DEPLOYMENT |

Indonesia deploys troops after generals' arrest

Press Trust Of India

JAKARTA: Indonesia's military is deploying more than 20,000 troops and personnel to the capital, Jakarta, officials said Wednesday, as authorities investigate an alleged illegal wiretapping operation targeting the country's president that has led to the detention of three senior police generals.

The scandal took on added significance after the presidential palace said the alleged wiretapping targeting President Prabowo Subianto could be regarded as conduct "leading toward treason." Sensitive information accessible through a head of state's communications could endanger the state and national leadership, it said.



Among those implicated in the scandal is the presidential chief of staff, Gen. Listyo Sigit Prabowo. There are allegations that Cabinet officials, politicians, journalists, civil society leaders and business executives were also subjected to unauthorized surveillance. Authorities have not confirmed that the deployment is connected to the wiretapping probe. The first phase began on Monday with 2,100 personnel from units already stationed in Jakarta.

> **Military "must always be prepared to protect the entire nation and safeguard the integrity of the Republic of Indonesia.**
>
> **Maj. Gen. Muhammad Nas**
> Indonesian armed forces spokesperson

Troops from outside the capital were to start arriving Wednesday, bringing the total number of personnel involved to 20,980, according to the navy operations assistant, Vice Adm. Yayan Sofiyan.

The new deployments include troops from marine and navy units as well as training centers and naval bases from Java and Lampung province. An additional 13,140 personnel are on standby and ready for deployment if needed, Sofiyan said. Sofiyan did not elaborate on the purpose of the deployment or respond to questions about whether there were concerns about security or political tensions in Jakarta.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

NEPAL MISRI

Foreign Secretary Misri meets Nepalese counterpart, discusses bilateral ties



KATHMANDU: Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri on Wednesday held talks with his Nepalese counterpart Amrit Bahadur Rai on a range of issues of mutual interest, laying the groundwork for Prime Minister Balendra Shah's forthcoming visit to India.

"The bilateral talks covered the entire gamut of Nepal-India relations, including exchange of high-level visits, connectivity, trade, development cooperation, energy and people-to-people relations, underscoring the strong bond between the two countries," the Nepalese foreign ministry said after the meeting. Misri held talks on a range of issues of mutual interest with his Nepalese counterpart, in preparation for the forthcoming visit of Prime Minister Shah to India, the Indian Embassy in Nepal said in a post on X. Misri, who is in Nepal on a two-day visit at the invitation of Foreign Secretary Rai, paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Shisir Khanal and discussed prospects for expanding the multifaceted bilateral partnership presented by upcoming high-level engagements, it added.

According to Nepal's foreign ministry, various matters related to further deepening the multifaceted partnership and strengthening the age-old ties of friendship between Nepal and India were discussed.

Khanal said the close relations between Nepal and India "will gain new heights", according to the ministry. The two sides discussed various aspects of bilateral cooperation, including energy, trade, sports and education, with a focus on further strengthening multifaceted relations and deepening the historical friendship between the two countries, it added.

US ELECTIONS

Indian-Americans make strong showing in US midterm elections

WASHINGTON: Indian-American Democratic lawmakers Ami Bera, Ro Khanna, Suhas Subramanyam and Pramila Jayapal have been re-elected to the US House of Representatives, while Pia Dandiya has made her debut in the US Congress, marking a strong showing by the community in the midterm elections. Several other Indian-American candidates contested elections for offices ranging from governor to state legislatures and local bodies.

The elections, held on Tuesday, covered all 435 seats in the US House of Representatives, 35 Senate seats, 36 gubernatorial posts and several local public offices. Bera, 61, has won re-election to the US House from California's 3rd Congressional District, defeating Republican Robb Tucker. He has secured an eighth term.

A physician-turned-politician, Bera is the longest-serving Indian-American in the US Congress and is considered a prominent voice on healthcare and diplomacy. He was first elected to Congress in 2012 and took office in January 2013. He currently serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

BANGLA PROTEST

Bangladesh deploys additional paramilitary forces amid protests

DHAKA: Activists of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) on Wednesday took to the streets in "anti-protest" campaigns while authorities deployed additional paramilitary forces as garment workers' protests over higher wages continued for a fifth day.

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association officials said 50 factories were shut down in suburban Gazipur fearing backlash over the death of a previously injured worker during the current wave of protests. According to local media reports, the protesters set ablaze a police van in suburban Savar industrial area during clashes that blocked the major Dhaka-Aricha highway.

BNP activists carrying bamboo sticks took to the streets to "maintain order and resist infiltrators" as the party earlier alleged that activists of deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina's now disbanded Awami League had infiltrated among the workers. Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's Information Affairs Adviser Zahedur Rahman on Tuesday accused Hasina of fuelling the unrest.

ISRAEL ELECTIONS

Israel's president accepts certified election results ahead of talks on forming of new govt



JERUSALEM: Israeli President Isaac Herzog accepted on Wednesday the certified results from last week's vote, and said he would begin consultations with party representatives regarding the formation of a new government. Neither the party of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu nor that of his main challenger, former military chief Gadi Eisenkot, secured an outright majority in parliament.

The two sides are now in hard-fought negotiations to convince smaller parties to join forces to create a new government.

Earlier in the day, Israel's election commission said it found no fraud in last week's vote, dealing a blow to Netanyahu's attempts to discredit the results. Netanyahu and his supporters have repeatedly made unsubstantiated claims that Arab-led parties had "stolen" the election, possibly with foreign assistance.

The results showed Netanyahu's religious-nationalist bloc losing its parliamentary majority, while Arab-led parties made substantial gains. "The review found no evidence of irregularities that compromised the integrity of the election or affected its results," the committee said in a statement. The acting director of the elections committee, Dean Livne, said its investigation examined every complaint "individually and thoroughly," but found no evidence to support allegations that the election results were invalid.