

THE AVENUE MAIL

JAMSHEDPUR • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2024 • VOL : 32 NO : 130 • RS.3/- • PAGES - 12 • www.avenuemail.in



JADEJA'S FIERY FIVE-WICKET HAUL MATCHES ABDUL QADIR'S RECORD, PAGE : 11

Congress stands badly exposed: PM slams party for unfulfilled poll promises

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday slammed the Congress for "unfulfilled" poll promises and said that the fiscal health of the Congress-ruled states is turning from bad to worse.

"The Congress Party is realising the hard way that making unreal promises is easy but implementing them properly is tough or impossible. Campaign after campaign they promise things to the people, which they also know they will never be able to deliver. Now, they stand badly exposed in front of the people!" PM Modi said in a post on X on Friday. He claimed that the developmental trajectory of Congress-ruled states is worse.

"Check any state where the Congress has Governments today - Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana - the developmental trajectory and fiscal health is turning from bad to worse. Their so-called Guarantees lie unfulfilled, which is a terrible deceit upon the people of these states. The victims of such politics



are the poor, youngsters, farmers and women, who are not only denied the benefits of these promises but also see their existing schemes diluted," PM Modi further said.

He said, in Karnataka, Congress is busier in intra-party politics and loot instead of even bothering to deliver on development.

"Not only that, they are also

going to roll back existing schemes. In Himachal Pradesh, salaries of government workers are not paid on time. In Telangana, farmers are waiting for the waiver they were promised. Previously, in Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, they promised certain allowances which were never implemented for five years. There are numerous such examples of how Congress

works," the Prime Minister added.

Warning the people of the country, PM Modi said: "The people of the country will have to be vigilant against the Congress-sponsored culture of fake promises! We saw recently how the people of Haryana rejected their lies and preferred a Government that is stable, progress-oriented and action-driven. There is a growing realisation across India that a vote for Congress is a vote for non-governance, poor economics and unparalleled loot. The people of India want development and progress, not the same old fake promises of Congress."

The Prime Minister's statement came three days after Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar indicated that there is need to revisit the 'Shakti' scheme, which provides free bus ride for all women of the state. Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge had also cautioned the Congress leaders of Karnataka to make only those promises for which there is financial provision.

Coordinated patrolling by Indian & Chinese armies starts in Demchok on LAC

Srinagar, Nov 1 (IANS) The Indian and Chinese armies on Friday started coordinated patrolling of Demchok on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh while patrolling in Depsang plains will also start soon, defence sources said.

The coordinated patrolling by the armies of the two countries came after the completion of disengagement in both Demchok and Depsang. This marks the disengagement of all the friction points of the standoff between the two armies that began in May 2020.

Indian and Chinese armies on Thursday exchanged sweets at several border posts along the LAC in Ladakh on Diwali, a day after the two sides completed the disengagement process.

Defence Ministry sources said today that Indian and Chinese Armies exchanged sweets



at several border points along LAC on Diwali. The disengagement process between India and China on LAC in Eastern Ladakh was completed on Wednesday after which the two armies started verification of positions and dismantling of infrastructure by each other, the defence sources said.

The sources added that the dismantling of temporary structures in Depsang plains and Demchok is complete and the verification process

has taken place almost at all such places on the two sides. The verification was done physically as well as using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Troops on both sides have been withdrawn to be stationed at depth in the rear locations as part of the disengagement process.

The patrolling, which will be undertaken to points hitherto inaccessible since April 2020, will be done by small parties of troops numbering around 10 to 15 soldiers.

Alka Tiwari is new chief secretary of Jharkhand

Ranchi, November 1: The Election Commission on Friday accepted the Jharkhand government's proposal to appoint Alka Tiwari as the chief secretary of the poll-bound state.

Assembly polls in Jharkhand will be held in two phases -- November 13 and November 20.

Tiwari, who is from the 1988 batch, is currently the senior-most IAS officer in the cadre. Before this, the poll panel had also consented to the proposal of a five-month extension of the tenure of former chief secretary L Kiangte the sources said.

Meanwhile, the state government issued a notification announcing the appointment of Tiwari as the chief secretary.

"The proposal for appointment has been approved by the Election



Commission of India," a notification from the department of Personnel, Administrative Reforms and Rajbhasha said.

Her husband and 1986 batch retired IAS officer Dr DK Tiwari had earlier held the topmost bureaucratic post in the state.

With this, Alka Tiwari has become the third lady IAS officer to hold the coveted post of chief secretary in 24-

year-old Jharkhand. Her predecessors included Lakshmi Singh and Rajbala Verma.

She is scheduled to retire on September 30, 2025.

Earlier, the Central government repatriated Alka Tiwari, to the parent cadre on October 15. Thereafter, the State government posted her as a member of the Board of Revenue.

Alka is a postgraduate in Psychology from Meerut University and received the Governor's Gold Medal for being the topper. She did her M.Sc. from the Civil and Structural Engineering Department of the University of Manchester, U.K., topped the course in "Management & Implementation of the Development Projects" and received the gold medal. She is also a Law graduate from Ranchi University.

JMM neither promotes fake things nor presents fake papers: Pandey

Ranchi, Nov 1 (IANS) As controversy was sparked over the age of Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader Manoj Pandey clarified all the allegations about his age and said there was no need to do politics on this as everything was crystal clear.

The BJP has alleged that CM Soren's age increased by seven years in the last five years. Soren declared his age to be 42 in 2019, but this year, he mentioned in the affidavit that his age is 49.

Talking to IANS, Manoj Pandey said, "Everything is crystal clear. All the information related to CM Soren is in the public domain. We do not believe in telling lies. He was born in 1975, so according to that he is 49

years old now."

The JMM leader further asserted that there was a need to correct a mistake which was made earlier.

"If there were any mistakes earlier, then they should be corrected. There is no need to raise questions on such things. The JMM neither promotes fake things nor presents fake documents. We are not among those who have not passed even class eight and talk of a degree in political science. We don't tick the column of being unmarried if we are married. So, we are not like that," he added.

The Jharkhand Assembly elections, scheduled for November 13 and 20 are shaping up to be a significant political showdown. All 81 seats in the Assembly will be contested, attracting high-profile

candidates from various parties who could play pivotal roles in the outcome. Of the 81 constituencies, 44 are general, while 28 are allocated to Scheduled Castes (SC) and nine to Scheduled Tribes (ST).

Jharkhand has a total of 26 million voters, comprising 13.1 million men and 12.9 million women. Voters aged between 20 and 29 number 6.684 million, with 1.184 million first-time voters aged 18 and 19.

CM Soren announced that the INDIA bloc would contest the Jharkhand Assembly polls collectively. According to Soren, the Congress and the ruling JMM will field candidates in 70 out of the 81 segments in the Assembly. Vote counting is scheduled for November 23.

Is Rahul Gandhi's nephew Raihan being groomed for a political debut?

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Priyanka Gandhi is becoming the latest member of the Nehru-Gandhi family to take an electoral plunge but is the stage being set for the next generation to enter politics too?

Days ahead of Priyanka Gandhi fighting her first-ever poll battle as she contests the bypoll to Kerala's Wayanad Lok Sabha seat, slated to be held on November 13, her son, Raihan Vadra - whose public appearances have been extremely rare, has appeared in a video released by his uncle Rahul Gandhi.

In the nine-minute video shared by Rahul Gandhi on X, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha is seen interacting with workers sprucing up his mother Sonia Gandhi's 10 Janpath residence for



Diwali and lending them a hand by scraping away old plaster while perched on a stepladder and his nephew is seen with him. Raihan, 24, also tries to emulate his uncle's aid to the workers. The video also shows Rahul Gandhi visiting a woman-led pottery business in the west Delhi locality of Uttam Nagar, interacting with the women, her

daughters, and other helpers, as well as trying his hand at crafting a diya.

Interspersed are Rahul Gandhi and Raihan, clad in spotless white kurtas walking around their residence at dusk, with the uncle acquainting his nephew with the role of the unseen workers who make houses shine bright for Diwali and the effort of the craftspeople who create even the simple diya. However, Raihan does not speak much and mostly nods to his uncle's remarks.

The sudden appearance of Raihan as his uncle seeks to create the informal interactions of his Bharat Jodo Yatra in Delhi in the runup to Diwali are kindling speculations if the Gandhis are angling for the next generation to don the political mantle too.

Operationally ready at all times, says Eastern Army Commander on 104th Raising Day

Kolkata, Nov 1 (IANS) The Army's Eastern Command celebrated its 104th Raising Day at Fort William here on Friday with its chief, Lt Gen Ram Chander Tiwari asserting that it is operationally ready at all times and continues to develop its capabilities to face present and future challenges.

Chief of Staff Lt Gen R.C. Srikanth laid a wreath at Vijay Smarak in Fort William to pay tribute to bravehearts, who made the supreme sacrifice in the service to the nation, in the morning.

Kolhan tribal girl becomes first female biker to cross 18 passes in 25 Days

Suniti Singh

Jamshedpur, November 1: Kolhan tribal girl sets record as first female biker to cross 18 mountain passes in 25 days

Jharkhand: A tribal girl from Jharkhand, Kanchan Ugursandi, has made history by becoming the first female biker to cross 18 high-altitude mountain passes in just 25 days, including the challenging Lipulekh Pass.

Her incredible feat, also included reaching Umling La, the world's highest motorable pass at 19,300 feet and has led to celebration in Seraikela, her hometown.

Former Chief Minister and current Seraikela MLA Champai Soren extended his congratulations on social media, writing, "Hearty congratulations to Jharkhand's daughter Kanchan Ugursandi, who hails from my home district, for achieving this feat. Best wishes for a bright future. The whole country



is proud of you. Educate your daughters. Give them the opportunity to progress in education, sports and the field of their choice. One day, they will become like Kalpana Chawla, Salima Tete and Kanchan, bringing glory to their family, society and country."

Kanchan, the first female and tribal motorcyclist to reach the 17,500-foot-high Lipulekh Pass, shared her experience on social media, calling Uttarakhand her "second home" and describing its people as warm and hospitable. "Uttarakhand is one of the safest places for travelers," she wrote,

expressing her gratitude to the locals.

In a special ceremony at Hotel Plaza in Pithoragarh, the Hotel Association of Pithoragarh honored Kanchan for her achievement. She acknowledged the support she received during her journey, especially from the people of Uttarakhand.

Having conquered 18 of India's highest peaks in 2021, Kanchan dedicated her previous accomplishment to the hardworking members of the Border Roads Organization (BRO). She expressed her appreciation for Lieutenant General Rajeev Chaudhary, BRO Director General, stating, "I don't say it's easy, I believe it's possible."

The BRO also celebrated Kanchan's latest achievement, as she became the first woman to complete the 3,200-kilometer solo journey from Delhi to Leh, Ladakh, Rohtang, Umling La, Siachen Base and back to Delhi.

स्मृति शेष

अद्वैत आशीष डे (माई)
02.02.1956 - 02.11.2007

मृत्यु जीवन का अंत करती है, रिश्तों का नहीं,
आपकी मधुर यादों का रिश्ता अटूट है, अनमोल है...

अर्धावगत

Sreeleathers

समस्त श्रीलेदर्स परिवार

Kali Puja celebrated with enthusiasm and devotion



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: The festival of lights, Diwali, ushers in a vibrant celebration of Kali Puja in Jamshedpur, where the enthusiasm mirrors that of Diwali festivities. Devotees engage in this sacred ritual to seek the protection of Goddess Kali against drought and war, while also invoking her blessings for happiness, health, and prosperity.

As the city prepares for the celebrations, homes are adorned with colorful decorations, and intricate rangoli patterns embellish courtyards and doorways. Elaborate rituals take place at various pandals during the evening, showcasing the community's deep reverence for the goddess. The Bengali community, in particular, dedicates itself to performing a special puja for Kali, seeking joy, prosperity, and protection from hardships.

According to Hindu mythology, Goddess Kali is one of the ten incarnations of Goddess Durga. Often depicted with a fierce expression, she symbolizes the aggressive aspect of Durga,

portraying strength and justice. Images of Kali typically feature her foot on Lord Shiva's chest, a severed head in one hand, a sword in the other, and a garland of skulls. She is revered as the Mother Goddess who eradicates evil and fights for justice. In Jamshedpur, numerous Kali Puja pandals have been constructed, each inaugurated with great enthusiasm. Tapas Sen, a senior functionary of the Kali Puja Committee in Baridih, expressed the significance of the occasion: "Kali Puja is an important event for us, and we look forward to celebrating it traditionally each year. A

massive pandal has been built for the occasion, and although the grandeur of Durga Puja is more pronounced, the devotion and festivities for Kali Puja are equally profound."

Throughout Jamshedpur, pandals have sprung up in various neighborhoods, including Bistupur, Sonari, Burmamines, and Pursudih, reflecting the communal spirit of celebration. As the evening approaches, devotees gather at these venues, uniting in devotion and joy, ensuring that the festival of Kali Puja remains a cherished tradition in the city. (w/pb)

Mothers from Old Age Home inaugurate Golmuri Kali Puja pandal



Jamshedpur, November 1: Mothers from Old Age Home inaugurated the Maa Kali Puja pandal at Golmuri Juggers Park on Thursday evening. The Kali Puja is organised by Navayuvak Chetna Mancha. The patron of the committee and retired Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Kamal Kishore said, "We worship Maa Kali. Our objective of inaugurating the puja pandal by mothers of the old age home is to convey the message of empowering society through the worship of our elderly mothers. The inauguration program of Kali puja pandal was conducted by Appu Tiwari." He further added the aim was to enhance the respect and power of mothers in society by this unique initiative. Kishore further said that women who have made outstanding contribution in various fields were also honored by the committee. The mothers were honored with shawls and traditional garments. They also completed the inauguration ceremony by performing the worship rituals.

Devotees attend Kali Puja at Kadma Sati Ghat



Jamshedpur, November 1: The annual Kali Puja at Kadma Sati Ghat, located along the Kharkai River, drew hundreds of devotees for an evening of Pushpanjali, Aarti, and Mahaprasad under the guidance of the Kadma Jogmaya Kali Temple. The temple's head priest, Kamakhya, along with Tarapith Tantra Sadhana Siddha Astrologer Acharya Prajesh Bhattacharjee (Buro Da) and Kamakhya, Tarapith Rajrappa Siddha Tantra Sadhak Nitha Baba, explained the rich history of the ritual. In 1960, with the assistance of Bholanath Mahato, Tapagopal Mukherjee, and Shiv Shankar Chaudhary, the first Kali Puja was held at a temporary cremation ground here, which later became known as Sati Ghat.

Astrologer Acharya Moinak Bhattacharya shared that, according to a dream in which Ma Kali appeared, the practice of animal sacrifice was not observed here. Despite its origins as a crematorium, the Goddess was worshiped in full Sati form, adorned with sixteen traditional embellishments. Devotees gathered to receive the Mahaprasad of the Goddess, honoring a long-standing tradition at Sati Ghat. (w/gsd)

Bharat Singh opens Kali Puja Pandal at Vidyapatnagar

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: BJP State Working Committee member Bharat Singh inaugurated a grand Kali Puja pandal set up by the Sankalp Seva Samiti at Vidyapati Nagar's Transport Ground in Jamshedpur. The event drew a large gathering, with Singh emphasizing the cultural significance of such celebrations. "India's festivals are a reflection of joy and devotion, each with its own importance.

Maa Kali holds a special place among devotees," he stated. Alongside Singh were Puja Committee Chairman Karan Gorai and prominent community members like Rahul Singh and Saurabh Anand, marking the start of festivities in Vidyapatnagar. (w/nkm)

Devotees celebrate Maa Kali Puja with grandeur

Gamharia, Nov 1: The worship of Maa Kali in Kandra, Gamharia, and surrounding areas was marked by devotion and enthusiasm. Various Puja committees constructed grand and eye-catching pandals, where the idol of Maa Kali was installed and worshipped with traditional rituals during the midnight of last Thursday.

The celebrations attracted a significant crowd of devotees, eager to participate in the festive atmosphere.

Earlier, several Puja pandals were formally inaugurated, highlighting the community spirit surrounding the event.

In Uparpada of Bada Gamharia, the festival was celebrated with great fervour under the leadership of VHP District President Raju Chaudhary at the temple located in the Gamharia market area. Additionally, traditional



customs were observed at the Shamsan Kali temple situated

in the industrial region.

To enhance the festivities, a two-day fair was organized from Friday, attracting large crowds from nearby areas who came to enjoy the vibrant atmosphere and various activities available at the fair. The combination of religious devotion and community celebrations showcased the rich cultural heritage of the region during this auspicious occasion. (w/nkm)

Report excess fees for water connections: Saryu



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: Saryu Roy, the NDA candidate for the Jamshedpur West Assembly, has called upon residents to report any excess fees demanded for drinking water connections from Tata Steel UISL. Roy expressed concern over the high installation charges, stating, "Fees ranging from Rs 30,000 to Rs 40,000 are being demanded, which is beyond the financial reach of many slum dwellers." He emphasized that these fees should comply with the rates set by the Jharkhand government for municipalities, as outlined in the Tata lease agreement.

In a discussion with the General

Manager of Tata Steel UISL, Roy articulated his concerns, referring to both the lease agreement and the Jharkhand government's guidelines.

The General Manager responded, assuring that installation fees align with state government standards and encouraged residents facing issues with fees to "contact our office directly."

During his recent tour of Tilgarha, Sidhu-Kanho Basti, Rupnagar, Nirmalnagar, and Azad Basti, residents raised the issue of excessive charges with Roy. He reassured them, "I will address any cases of excessive fees and encourage slum residents to apply for water connections without fear of overcharging." He stressed that, according to the Tata lease agreement, Tata Steel UISL is responsible for providing public facilities at government-regulated rates.

Roy added, "Residents below the poverty line are entitled to free water connections under government rules," urging slum dwellers to notify him if they encounter any requests for additional fees. (w/nkm)

Banna sets new development standards in Jamshedpur West: Congress



Jamshedpur, Nov 1: Congress leaders, including former District President Vijay Khan and senior Jharkhand Congress member Kamal Kishore Agarwal, emphasized that the forthcoming Assembly election will be a battle of ideologies aimed at preserving Jharkhand's culture, identity, and dignity.

Speaking at the election office of INDI Alliance candidate Banna Gupta in Kadma, they highlighted Gupta's achievements in Jamshedpur West, noting that over the past five years, he had led significant development efforts, including the issuance of pensions to more than 50,000 elderly residents and continuous services for ration and Aadhaar cards.

Vijay Khan further outlined Gupta's notable projects, including the construction of the Mango flyover, a new MGM building, a hospital in Mango, and an interstate bus stand. He claimed that while Gupta had championed development, Saryu Rai had often created obstacles through divisive politics.

If elected, Khan alleged, Rai would jeopardize progress on the Mango flyover and disrupt new construction in Sonari's Domuhani area. Senior Congress leader Kamal Kishore Agarwal added that the public would reject those trying to hinder development under Hemant Soren's leadership. District Congress Vice President Sanjay Singh Azad and Vijendra Tiwari also attended the press conference. (w/gsd)

Gupta cautions against divisive politics

Jamshedpur, November 1: INDI Alliance candidate from Jamshedpur West, Banna Gupta, held multiple election meetings in Mango, urging supporters to remain vigilant against divisive leaders who focused on religion and caste politics. Addressing party workers, Gupta cautioned that certain individuals would attempt to mislead voters, stressing the need to choose a leader committed to completing major development projects like the Mango flyover. He warned that if any other candidate were elected as MLA, the Mango flyover project could be halted.



Banna Gupta and his wife Sudha Gupta offered prayers Lord Ganesh and Goddess Lakshmi Ji at their Kadma residence on the occasion of Dipawali.

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER

E-Tender Notice No. : RSO-RR-TATA-24-26-16, Date: 30.10.2024. For & on behalf of President of India, Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical), Chakradharpur, South Eastern Railway invites E-Tenders in Two Packet System (Packet-I: Technical Bid and Packet-II: Financial Bid) for the under mentioned work. Manual offers are not allowed against the tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Name of work:** Upkeeping of running room at Tatanagar (TATA) for 730 days. **Tender Value:** ₹ 2,61,13,071.50. **E.M.D.:** ₹ 2,80,600. **Cost of Tender Form:** ₹ 10,000. **Place of opening of e-tender:** Office of the Sr. DEE (OP)/Chakradharpur, South Eastern Railway. **Date and time of closing of tender:** 15.00 hrs. of 21.11.2024. **Date and time of opening of tender:** 15.30 hrs. of 21.11.2024. Tender can be viewed at website <https://www.treps.gov.in>. The tenderer/bidder must have Class-III digital signature certificate & must be registered under IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. (PR-756)

For & on behalf of the President of India, Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRS-CON/In-charge), South Eastern Railway, Rourkela invites E-Tender for the below mentioned work. Manual offers are not allowed against the tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **GeM Bid No. : GEM/2024/B/5563983, Dated: 30.10.2024.** **Description of work:** Custom Bid for Services- Cleaning of Centre of Excellence at Rourkela. **Approx. Cost of work:** ₹ 33,03,412.80. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 66,070. **Date & time for closing of E-Tender:** 11.00 hrs. of 21.11.2024. **Website particulars & details:** <https://www.gem.gov.in>. The complete particular of the E-Tender will be available on the website. (PR-759)

Accident on NH-33 leaves one dead, one injured

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: A fatal accident occurred on the Tata-Ranchi NH-33 in Tamar, where a parcel truck collided with a coal-laden truck, resulting in the driver's death and severe injuries to his helper.

According to police, the parcel truck, en route from Ranchi to Tata, struck the stationary coal truck parked on the highway for two days due to a breakdown. The impact crushed the front section of the parcel truck, trapping the driver inside.

Tamar police took custody of the body, identified as Tarif Majid from Mewat, Haryana. The injured helper was rushed to RIMS for treatment, with traffic disrupted for an hour during the rescue. (w/nkm)

Railways enhance facilities at Tatanagar for Chhath Puja crowds

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: In anticipation of heavy passenger traffic during Chhath Puja, Tatanagar Railway Station has introduced extensive arrangements to ensure crowd control and provide essential services to travellers. The railway's commercial department has intensified monitoring, maintaining round-the-clock communication with the Chakradharpur Control Room to manage the increased flow of passengers.

To prevent sudden changes in platform allocations and minimize passenger inconvenience, the operating department has received strict instructions. Regular announcements are being made to inform passengers of the exact locations of general coaches, with a special section on the platform designated for general coach travellers. This area, clearly marked with a hoarding reading "General Coach Unreserved Passenger Waiting Room Area," helps guide passen-



Pic- Intu Imteyaz

gers to the correct waiting spot, reducing confusion and crowding on the platform.

Enhanced security measures are also in place, led by the commercial department and the Railway Protection Force. In an effort to maintain a safe environment, authorities are conducting security drives on trains and around the parcel office, focusing on preventing the transport of inflammable materials. Passengers in waiting rooms and on platforms are also being advised to avoid carrying such items, prioritizing overall safety.

Passenger amenities are being thoroughly checked to ensure smooth travel experiences. All tick-

et counters, automatic vending machines, and additional ticket counters, if needed, are functioning optimally to avoid delays or queues. Facilities like waiting rooms, drinking water stations, and toilets are also being closely supervised to ensure reliable access.

In response to the increased demand, the South Eastern Railway has introduced a special Chhath Puja train. The Tatanagar-Buxar Chhath Puja Special (Train No. 08183) will depart from Tatanagar on November 1, 2024, at 10:40 p.m., providing an additional option for passengers to reach their destinations in time for the festival. Information regarding this special train has been widely communicated to help passengers plan their journeys smoothly.

With these extensive arrangements, Tatanagar Railway Station aims to offer a safe and convenient experience for travellers during the Chhath Puja season. (w/nkm)

Formate C-1 (for candidate to publish in Newspaper, TV)

Declaration about Criminal Cases
(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No.536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name and address of candidate : Geeta Kora, At Patahatu, PO-Maluka, PS-Jagannathpur, Dist-West Singhbhum
Name of Political Party : Bhartiya Janta Party
Name of Election : Legislative Assembly Election 2024
Name of Constituency : 54-Jagannathpur (ST) Assembly Constituency

I Geeta Kora a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents :

(A) Pending criminal cases				
Sl. No.	Name of Court	Case No. and Dated	Status of Case(s)	Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)
1.	Sri Manoj Kumar Indwar, SPL Judge Economic Offence, at Ranchi	Complaint Case No.2/2012, PS-Lalpur, Ranchi, Date	Witness before Charge	u/s 276 C.C. of the Income Tax Act 1961. Willfully fails to furnish in due time the return of income which she is require to furnish.
2.	Sri Sharthak Sharma MP, MLA Court, at Ranchi	PS Case No.-203/24, Lalpur, Sadar Ranchi, Date 13/08/2024	Appearing	u/s 191(1)(3)/190/115(2)/117(2)/109, 121(1)/125/132/324(2)/351(2)/352/61(2) Creating an unlawful assembly and obstruction government work under a criminal conspiracy committing life threatening attack

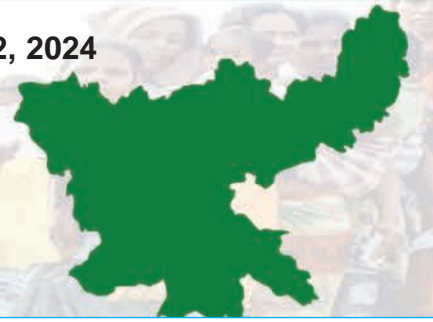
(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences

Sl. No.	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence (s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed
1.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
2.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

* In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.

GEETA KORA

Battle For Jharkhand



Rebel leaders fuel SP and BSP's hopes in Jharkhand Assembly race

Shankar Agarwal

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: In the upcoming Jharkhand Assembly elections, the Samajwadi Party (SP) and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) are gearing up to make a significant impact, despite being smaller players in a field dominated by the major NDA and INDI Alliance parties. Interestingly, SP and BSP are pinning their hopes on veteran leaders who were denied tickets from their original parties and joined SP or BSP to secure a place on the ballot. Some of these leaders were edged out due to alliance agreements, while others were dropped from consideration altogether, leading them to seek new political homes.

Kushwaha Shiv Pujan Mehta, former MLA of the Hussainabad constituency, is a prime example of this trend. After preparing for five years within the AJSU Party, Mehta was anticipating the NDA alliance would allocate his seat to AJSU. However, when outgoing Hussainabad MLA Kamlesh Singh joined the BJP, the seat went to the BJP instead. Meanwhile, the INDI Alliance allocated the seat to RJD, leaving Mehta without an option but to join BSP. This pivot opens a path for the BSP to leverage Mehta's local support base to potentially secure a seat in Jharkhand's assembly.

Similarly, Akil Akhtar, a former JMM MLA who ran with AJSU in the 2019 elections, switched to the Samajwadi Party just two days before the nomination deadline. Having failed to secure a ticket with JMM or Congress for this election cycle, Akhtar decided to contest



from the SP. Known for his influence in Pakur, Akhtar's entry could provide SP with a valuable foothold in the constituency.

Another notable figure, former minister Girinath Singh, who has previously won three times from Garhwa on an RJD ticket, has shifted to SP after being denied an RJD ticket. With substantial local influence, Singh's move to SP brings significant weight to the party's campaign, giving SP the chance to attract voters in a region traditionally loyal to its rebel candidate.

The Samajwadi Party also welcomed Umashankar Akela from Barhi, Hazaribagh, who was overlooked for a ticket by the Congress due to the INDI Alliance arrangements. Left without an option from BJP, JMM, RJD, or AJSU, Akela accepted the SP ticket, further solidifying SP's strategy of gathering seasoned leaders to build its platform in Jharkhand.

In an unusual instance, the former minister and veteran AJSU leader Umakant Rajak switched to JMM after the Chandankyari seat was allocated to the BJP under the NDA alliance. Though Rajak's departure from AJSU was a significant loss, JMM's decision to offer him a ticket provides him an opportunity to

continue his political career under a different banner.

Historically, Jharkhand has seen independent and smaller-party candidates secure seats, such as Mehta himself, who previously won Hussainabad on a BSP ticket. In 2019, he contested with AJSU but did not win. Kamlesh Singh, also from Hussainabad, clinched a victory on an NCP ticket in 2019, exemplifying the potential impact of these independent or smaller-party candidates. As rebel leaders bring their substantial experience and loyal voter bases to SP and BSP, these parties hope to capitalize on their support to secure their first seats in the Jharkhand Assembly elections.

SP and BSP seek breakthrough in Jharkhand with rebel candidates

In a strategic twist for the Jharkhand Assembly elections, Samajwadi Party (SP) and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) are stepping up their game, fielding several influential candidates, many of whom are seasoned politicians and former allies of major alliances. With National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and INDIAN National Development Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) dominating the political

landscape, SP and BSP are eyeing their entry into the assembly by capitalizing on the disenchantment of rebel leaders who switched allegiance after being denied tickets by their previous parties.

Among the prominent figures who have aligned with SP and BSP are leaders who, after years of work and hopeful preparations with larger alliances, found themselves sidelined due to seat-sharing compromises. This turn of events has positioned SP and BSP to potentially secure an electoral win by attracting candidates who bring experience, influence, and a local support base.

High-profile rebels in the fray
Kushwaha Shiv Pujan Mehta (BSP)

Mehta, a former MLA from Hussainabad, invested five years working with the All Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU), hopeful of representing the constituency under the NDA banner. However, with the entry of Kamlesh Singh, a key opponent from Hussainabad, into the BJP just before the election announcement, Mehta's hopes were dashed. The seat ultimately went to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) under the NDA alliance, forcing Mehta to return to the BSP, where he

previously held a successful record.

Akil Akhtar (SP)

A former JMM MLA, Akhtar transitioned to AJSU in 2019 after his seat in Pakur was assigned to Congress under a prior alliance arrangement, though he lost the election. This year, when his efforts to secure a JMM or Congress ticket proved unfruitful, he joined SP just before the nomination deadline. His bid under the SP banner marks yet another pivot in his political journey, as he continues seeking representation for his constituency.

Girinath Singh (SP)

A three-time MLA and former minister from Garhwa, Girinath Singh recently left the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and is now contesting on an SP ticket. Known for his political experience and influence in the region, Singh's switch underscores SP's strategy to recruit veteran leaders aiming to consolidate their base.

Umashankar Akela (SP)

Formerly with Congress, Umashankar Akela, an MLA from Barhi in Hazaribagh district, was denied a ticket under the INDI Alliance. With limited options for a ticket from other prominent parties, he joined SP and is now contesting on its ticket. Akela's involvement

with SP further reinforces the party's appeal as a platform for seasoned candidates deprived of opportunities in major alliances.

Umakant Rajak (JMM)
As a former AJSU MLA and significant political figure, Rajak found his Chandankyari seat allocated to BJP under NDA's seat-sharing agreement, leaving him without a ticket. In response, JMM offered him a spot, marking one of the few exceptions where an ex-AJSU leader joined the INDI coalition instead of SP or BSP.

The legacy of rebels in Jharkhand politics

Jharkhand's political history has seen rebels successfully contest on tickets from BSP and other regional parties. Kushwaha Shiv Pujan Mehta, for instance, previously secured a win in Hussainabad on a BSP ticket, only shifting to AJSU in 2019, where he narrowly lost. In a similar vein, former minister Kamlesh Singh won from Hussainabad on an NCP ticket in 2019, indicating that voters in Jharkhand have shown willingness to back rebel leaders representing lesser-known parties.

With SP and BSP harnessing the discontent of these sidelined leaders, the Jharkhand Assembly election has taken on new dimensions. Should any of these candidates succeed, they could significantly impact the composition of the assembly, marking the entry of SP and BSP into a political landscape traditionally dominated by BJP, Congress, JMM, and AJSU.

Chakradharpur seat yet to see a woman legislator in 16 polls

Sanjay Mishra

Chakradharpur, Nov 1: Since the Chakradharpur Assembly seat was established in 1951, it has held 16 elections, but no woman has ever won this seat. Over the decades, several women have contested, yet the position has remained elusive for female candidates.

In 1977, Chandu Kui became the first woman to contest from Chakradharpur, running as an independent candidate. She received 764 votes, placing fourth. Kui ran again in 2000 as a CPI candidate, this time securing 1,124 votes, which landed her in seventh place. In 2005, Landu Jonko entered the race as a CPI candidate as well, but her efforts also fell short, finishing fifth



with 2,284 votes.

The closest a woman came to winning Chakradharpur was in 2014, when Navami Oraon, wife of BJP's Sukhran Oraon, took up her husband's political ambitions after he was legally barred from contesting. Running on a BJP ticket, she secured 37,948 votes and achieved second place. In 2019, Pushpa Munda ran as an independent candidate, finishing tenth with only 698 votes.

In the 2024 elections, Basanti Purti of Jharkhand Loktantrik Morcha (JLKM), independents Damayanti Nag, Maya Tudu, and Lakshmi Hansda are now in the fray, hoping to break the long-standing pattern and make history as the first female MLA from Chakradharpur.

7 key candidates in race for Ichagarh are 'outsiders'

Jamshedpur, Nov 1:

In Ichagarh Assembly Constituency, seven out of 23 candidates vying for the MLA seat are not residents of the constituency, raising local concerns. Among them are five party-backed candidates and two independents, hailing from regions beyond Ichagarh. Notable candidates include current MLA Savita Mahato and former MLA Arvind Kumar Singh, both of whom have prior experience representing Ichagarh. Since the late Sudhir Mahato's tenure, the constituency has seen a legacy of political leadership between Mahato's family and Arvind Singh, punctuated by BJP's Sadhu Charan Mahato breaking the chain in the past decade. (w/nkm)

Kalindi, India's 5th poorest MLA, has seen his wealth increase by 7,555%

Jamshedpur, Nov 1:

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha candidate Mangal Kalindi, contesting from the Jugsalai seat in East Singhbhum district, has transitioned from Below Poverty Line (BPL) to Above Poverty Line (APL) within five years. According to his affidavit, the Jugsalai legislator's wealth has increased by 7,555 percent in just five years. The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and National Election Watch (NEW) had previously listed Kalindi as the 5th poorest MLA in the country and the poorest in Jharkhand. In the affidavit submitted by Kalindi to the Election Commission for the 2019 Jharkhand Assembly election, he declared total assets worth Rs30,000, which included Rs20,000 in cash and Rs10,000 in a bank account.

At the time, he claimed he owned no house or land and had no debts or loans, describing his occupation as a laborer. However, upon



examining his 2024 affidavit submitted to the Election Commission, Kalindi's wealth appears to have grown by 7,555 percent.

A comparison of both affidavits shows significant growth in Kalindi's assets. According to the latest affidavit for the assembly elections, he now owns a house worth Rs 73 lakh (current market value), a Scorpio car worth Rs10 lakh, a Bolero car worth Rs3 lakh, and a bike. Kalindi's affidavit also

lists Rs50,000 in cash, Rs40,000 worth of gold, and over Rs23 lakh in bank deposits.

He has declared a Rs32 lakh loan from the Jharkhand Assembly to construct his house. His total movable assets now amount to Rs13.5 lakh, while his immovable assets are valued at Rs73 lakh. His bank balances include Rs19,99,298 in SBI Doranda Branch, Rs3 lakh in Axis Bank Sakchi, and Rs12,032 in Bandhan Bank Sakchi.

Manoharpur: A call for Sub-Division status amidst unfulfilled development promises



Navneet Mishra

Manoharpur, Nov 1: The people of Manoharpur Assembly constituency, rich in natural resources, are growing increasingly frustrated with the lack of expected development, despite having alternately elected representatives from the JMM and BJP for the past 25 years. Joba Majhi, the current MLA, has served the area since the formation of Jharkhand, but residents feel that more needs to be done, particularly regarding infrastructure and educational opportunities.

Over the last 24 years, some development has occurred, including improvements to roads and culverts. However, critical issues persist, with many residents advocating for Manoharpur to be granted sub-division status. This change is seen as vital for enhancing governance and addressing local needs more effectively. Local concerns extend to stopping youth migration, promoting girls' education, and establishing a women's college in the area. Residents are voicing their demands, highlighting the need for infrastructure improvements such as a road overbridge and the pressing issue of closed railway gates, which lead to significant delays and inconveniences at level crossings.

Deepak Upadhyay, a local teacher, points out the urgent need for improvements in education, stating, "There is a shortage of subject-wise teachers in schools, and the quality of education is not satisfactory." He emphasizes the importance of establishing a women's college to better support girls' education in the area.

DC directive to encourage voting in vulnerable areas

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: District Election Officer Ananya Mittal on Friday instructed all BDOs, COs, and station in-charges to inspect vulnerable pockets to encourage free and fair voting during the upcoming assembly election. According to the DEO, the aim to conduct the inspection is to ensure that voters can cast their votes independently, without any pressure, enticement,

or fear. As part of this initiative, Potka BDO Arun Kumar Munda visited the Jhariya booth in Bhatin Panchayat and engaged with local voters, urging them to vote without influence from external forces. Munda during his visit requested the voters in the constituency to cast their votes on November 13 as involvement of every voter is essential for a strong democratic system.

Rebels to queer Cong pitch on Baghmara seat in Dhanbad

Dhanbad Nov 1:

Though election fever has yet to get momentum in coal belt, initial poll scenario indicates rebel may queer the pitch for Cong Party at least in Baghmara constituency of Dhanbad.

Its rebel Rohit Yadav has jumped in fray as independent candidate. He is being seen as a leader to make dent in vote banks of official candidate Jaleswer Mahto who is facing straight fight from BJP candidate Shatrughan Mahto, the elder brother of Dhanbad MP Dhulu Mahto.

Elections are scheduled in Dhanbad in second phase on November 20.

Coal trader Rohit Yadav is old guard of Cong and was considered right hand of late former minister OP Lal in 1980-1990s. Later he joined

RJD and became Baghmara block president. Three months ago he again Cong returned Cong and staked claim for ticket from Baghmara.

Refused to meet Jaleswer, Mir After Cong gave ticket to its former state president Jaleswer Mahto, from Baghmara, Rohit Yadav filed his nomination as independent candidate. Though Jaleswer Mahto and Jharkhand in-charge Ghulam Ahmad Mir visited Rohit Yadav's house to persuade him, the rebel did not relent.

According to local political pundits Rohit Yadav has strong base in the region. In May Lok Sabha elections, he campaigned for JMM candidate Mathura Prasad Mahto and managed more than 50,000 voted in



Baghmara assembly segment which falls under Giridih Lok Sabha constituency.

Famous social activist of Baghmara Vijay Jha said that it is too early to jump on any conclusion at this time. Picture of Baghmara will clear only after Chhath Festival.

Cong lost merely by 824 votes in 2019 Since in 2019 assembly election Cong candidate Jaleswer Mahto lost to BJP candidate Dhulu Mahto merely by 824 votes, it is said division of party

votes may again cost Jaleswer Mahto dearly in 2024 assembly election. Jaleswer Mahto had contested assembly elections from Baghmara constituency for seven times and won twice in 2000 during Bihar regime and in first assembly election of Jharkhand in 2005. He first contested as independent candidate in 1990 and surprised all by getting 36,000 votes. In 1995 he contested on Nitish Kumar's Samta Party and lost to veteran leader and former minister OP Lal.

However in 2000 Bihar assembly election he won first time defeated OP Lal. In 2005 he contested on Janta Dal U ticket and retained the seat. But later on he lost to Dhulu Mahto in 2009 and 2014.

In 2019 assembly election Jaleswer Mahto

3 candidates withdraw name in Dhanbad

Dhanbad, Nov 1: Three candidates withdrew their names from assembly elections in two constituencies in Dhanbad district on Friday.

Giving this information to media persons on Friday evening deputy commissioner cum district electoral officer Madhvi Mishra told that on last date of name withdrawal from poll contest, three candidates opted out from the race.

Those who withdrew their names were Dinesh Kumar Mahto and Hiramani Nayak from Tundi assembly seat while Md Saddam Hussain withdrew his name from Jharia assembly seat.

DC said after withdrawal of three names total 80 candidates have been left in six assembly seats of Dhanbad district. Among them 9 on Nirsa seat, 18 on Dhanbad sadar seat, 11 on Jharia seat, 20 on Tundi seat and 13 on Baghmara assembly seat.

"Double ballot papers will be used on Dhanbad sadar and Tundi seats while single ballot paper in Nirsa, Jharia, Sindri and Baghmara", said district electoral officer.

Elections in Dhanbad district is scheduled in second phase of polling on November 20

joined in Cong at Delhi in and contested from presence of Rahul Gandhi Baghmara.

'BJP leaders in touch with Congress to break Jamshedpur East dynasty rule'



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: As the political temperature continues to rise with poll date inching closure, the national spokesperson of the Congress Party Alok Sharma dropped a bombshell claiming that the BJP and RSS leaders are in touch with them to ensure that the BJP candidate from Jamshedpur East (Purnima Sahu Das) is defeated in this election.

Without taking names of any party leader, Sharma said that even the workers and leaders of the saffron party do not want that a 'particular family' is given the reign to rule the city for another five years.

"It is really surprising that for the first time the BJP and RSS are reaching to us to ensure that

their candidate is made to lose the elections," he claimed.

Sharma took pot shots on Das's tenure, alleging his inaction and false promises had left residents of East Jamshedpur struggling. Sharma claimed that over 25 years, Das's promises of development and new business ventures failed to materialize. "He made tempting promises but neither secured ownership rights nor attracted new companies. Many businesses closed or relocated, leaving workers jobless while Das, the so-called 'messiah of workers,' remained silent," he stated.

Sharma mocked Das's grand schemes, saying, "Jharkhand saw nothing from 'Momentum Jharkhand' but an empty treasury spent on grand but unproductive ventures." He

further noted that if Congress candidate Dr. Ajoy Kumar wins, they will prioritize securing ownership rights and reopening businesses, providing much-needed employment to locals. Additionally, he pledged to improve educational and healthcare services in the area.

Highlighting the significance of ownership rights, Sharma said the Congress party would conduct surveys in major cities, including Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Dhanbad, and Bokaro, to address this long standing issue. "We aim to pass an ordinance to bring legal stability to ownership issues," he stated.

In the field of education, Sharma announced plans for "15 CM Model Schools" to cater to students from economically disadvantaged families. These

Congress sets up election management committee for Jamshedpur East

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: The Congress Party has appointed an Election Management Committee for the Jamshedpur East Assembly constituency, following the directions of East Singhbhum Congress President Anand Bihari Dubey. Led by Ramashya Prasad as chairman and Josai Mardi as vice chairman, the committee's goal is to rally support for Congress candidate Dr. Ajoy Kumar. "This committee is entrusted to expedite our campaign efforts," said Vice President Sanjay Singh Azad. Key committee members include PN Jha, Sushila Pandey, and Parwinder Singh Sohal, highlighting Congress's commitment to robust campaign management in the lead-up to the election. (w/nkm)

schools would offer English-medium education, and a relief fund would support financially weaker families in paying school fees.

Dr. Ajoy Kumar, Congress's candidate from East Jamshedpur, also aims to revive closed businesses and encourage Tata Steel to reintegrate these ventures.

Sharma highlighted incidents of business closures, like Toyo Rolls and Tata Agrico in 2016, attributing them to Das's lack of support.

Furthermore, the Congress spokesperson highlighted Jharkhand government's recent initiatives under the Congress-JMM coalition, including the

increase in monthly financial aid to women from Rs.1,000 to Rs. 2,500, benefiting nearly 50 lakh women.

He also noted that the coalition had introduced a 10% reservation for economically weaker sections among upper castes and simplified access to caste certificates for SC, ST, and OBC communities in Jamshedpur.

Sharma concluded by emphasizing the need for change, saying, "People of East Jamshedpur have been demanding accountability. A vote for Dr. Ajoy Kumar would bring development, end local political dominance, and support the people's welfare."

Rs 1.03 Lakh seized at Muchrishol checkpoint in Gudabanda

Dumaria, Nov 1: Police at Muchrishol checkpoint in the Gudabanda area seized Rs1.03 lakh from a poultry transport vehicle during a routine inspection on Wednesday. The driver was unable to present any documents justifying the large sum. This follows a previous seizure of Rs 4 lakh from a truck two days earlier. With the state's model code of conduct in effect, amounts exceeding Rs 50,000 require prior permission to be carried. Police reported that the cash was found in a pickup van (JH05 DK-1363) and have taken further action to verify the source and purpose of the funds. (w-ss)

Irrigation motor stolen

Gamharia, Nov 1: A motor used by the drinking water and sanitation department for irrigation and water supply was stolen from Murghaghatu village, causing significant distress among local farmers. Village head Singrai Besra reported that the pump was essential for agricultural activities, and its theft has left farmers worried about their irrigation needs. The village head has notified the manufacturing agency regarding the incident, seeking assistance to address the issue. (w/nkm)

Sambhav organization celebrated Diwali with the elderly at the old age home

Jamshedpur, November 1: The members of the Sambhav organization celebrated Diwali with great excitement at the 'Ashirwad' Old Age Home with the elderly on Friday. The President of the Sambhav organization, Sarika Singh said "the members of our organization decorated the 'Ashirwad' Elderly Home with diyas and candles and celebrated Diwali with the elderly by lighting firecrackers and sharing sweets." She also said that all the elderly were provided with clothes, fruits, and dry fruits by the Sambhav organization. At the time of Diwali celebrations, the Chief Patron Mr. Bharat Singh, President Sarika Singh and all the members.

Loyola School Telco launches first magazine, 'Exordium'

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, November 1: Loyola School Telco marked a milestone with the unveiling of its inaugural school magazine, Exordium. This launch introduced a new platform for creativity, featuring a rich array of ideas, experiences, and creative expressions from the school community.

The magazine was the result of collaborative efforts by the editorial team, Press Club moderators, teachers, and students, who worked to ensure its high quality. Principal Charanjit Ohson led the unveiling ceremony during the school assembly, joined by Press Club moderators and student contributors, creating an atmosphere of excitement and pride. Special recognition was given to Fr. Gerry D'Souza and teachers Deepika and Sofia for their invaluable support.

Exordium reflected the vision of Principal Ohson and Administrator Fr. D'Souza, aiming to inspire students and nurture their creative talents. (w/gsd)

Dipawali celebrations at Vivekanand International School

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, November 1: Dipawali was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Vivekanand International School in keeping with its annual tradition. Students from all classes participated in activities including Rangoli, Diya decoration, singing, and poster and card making.

The Rangoli designs, based on themes like women empowerment, saving the Earth, and communal harmony, conveyed meaningful societal messages. Class IX students won the first prize in the Rangoli competition for their artwork on 'Save Earth.'

Azad Nagar Police Station In-charge Rakesh Kumar Singh was the chief guest on the occasion. Peace Committee and Human Welfare Trust Secretary Mukhtar Alam Khan, social worker Manzar Amin, and Moinuddin Ansari were present as special guests. Singh commended the school's efforts to promote unity.

The event was hosted by Alisha Naseem and Ayesha Tajalli, with musical performances by Tuba Fahim and AashnaFirdaus. Principal Dr. Nidhi Srivastava offered the vote of thanks, and teachers were acknowledged for their contributions to the program's success. (w/gsd)



Rajan Banerjee of Team PSF donates blood to SDP during Deepotsav and Kali Puja celebrations.

Saurav launches campaign with promise of hope for East Singhbhum

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: Independent candidate Saurav Vishnu kicked off his public relations campaign in Baridih market, accompanied by his wife Monika and their two daughters, igniting a sense of hope among the local populace. This campaign is marked by enthusiastic support from the community, as residents express their desire to see him as their leader.

Monika Vishnu addressed the crowd, urging the people of East Singhbhum to vote for a representative who truly listens and stands beside them in both joyous and challenging times. "When you need to meet your representative, you should have direct access to him," she emphasized, highlighting the importance of approachability in leadership. Many view Saurav Vishnu as a beacon of hope, promising to rise above nepotism and dictatorial politics to focus on critical issues such as education, health, employment, and women's safety. He encouraged voters to make an informed choice this election, questioning whether they wish to support a government characterized by nepotism and authoritarianism or to help create a new narrative for their community.

"My assembly election symbol is a bucket," Saurav stated confidently, adding that the public has resolved to vote for him, symbolizing a desire for change. (w/nkm)

Purnima Sahu connects with voters in East Plant Basti



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: BJP candidate Purnima Sahu held a successful padyatra in East Plant Basti of Burma Mines Mandal, accompanied by State Working Committee member Kulwant Singh Bunt. The event saw a lively turnout as Sahu engaged with local residents, including women,

youth, and the elderly, personally appealing for their support in the upcoming elections.

During her interactions, Sahu emphasized her commitment to addressing the community's issues, urging residents to bless her with their votes. "I promise to work diligently to solve your problems," she stated, resonating with the concerns of the people.

BJP forms 34-member steering committee for Jamshedpur East

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: BJP has announced a 34-member steering committee to manage the campaign in Jamshedpur East for the upcoming assembly elections.

According to BJP Jamshedpur Mahanagar President Sudhanshu Ojha, the committee includes seasoned office bearers and active workers, highlighting the party's emphasis on experience and dedication. Assembly in-charge Rakesh Prasad and co-in-charge Sanjeev Singh are key leaders on the committee.

Other prominent members include Chandrasekhar Mishra, Abhay Singh, and Dinesh Kumar. "We have ensured experienced hands lead this crucial task," said Ojha, adding that individual responsibilities for members will be announced soon. (w/nkm)

Many locals reciprocated her call, expressing their willingness to support her candidacy. The padyatra also featured notable leaders and supporters from the Mandal, including Mandal President Suraj Singh, Vipin Singh,

Ramdulari, Laxmi Yadav, Madhu Tanti, and several others, who accompanied Sahu throughout the campaign trail. Their collective presence underscored the strong backing Sahu enjoys within the community. (w/pb)

Protest against alleged anti-women remarks by Congress Leaders



Jamshedpur, Nov 1: The women's wing of Sanatan Utsav Samiti staged a protest in Sakchi, burning effigies of Congress leaders Dr. Ajoy Kumar and Dr. Irfan Ansari over alleged derogatory remarks against women. The protestors, including members like Muskan Gorai and Renuka Kalindi, demanded action from the Election Commission. "These leaders need to be held accountable for their words," said Muskan Gorai. The women's wing vowed to respond through votes in the upcoming elections, sending a strong message against misogynistic rhetoric. (w/nkm)

Massive public support boosts confidence of Shivshankar Singh

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: With Diwali and Kali Puja celebrations concluding, election campaigns are gaining momentum as candidates and their supporters ramp up outreach efforts. On Friday, independent candidate and well-known social activist Shivshankar Singh, who is contesting from Jamshedpur East Assembly constituency, conducted an extensive public outreach campaign in areas like Bagunhatu, Baridih, Birsanagar Zones 3 and 4, Bhuiyandih Kalyan Nagar, and Bhalubasa. Singh urged voters to support him by casting their votes for his symbol, the "Gas Stove," in the upcoming election on November 13, emphasizing his stand against family and dynasty politics.

Energized by the overwhelming support received during his outreach campaign, Shivshankar Singh



expressed his disappointment over the neglect Jamshedpur East has faced for the past 30 years. Despite electing leaders who ascended from MLA to Minister, and even Chief Minister, Singh noted that the constituency still struggles with basic infrastructure issues such as electricity shortages, clean drinking water, healthcare, and education. He highlighted that certain leaders, after exploiting voters for 25 years, are

now imposing family-based politics on the electorate, attempting to distract them from real issues. Singh criticized the move to field a "dummy candidate" as an effort to control the constituency, which he believes the voters will not accept. Meeting with Tata Motors Workers' Union Officials During his campaign, Singh also met with the office bearers of the Tata Motors Workers' Union, seeking their support for his candidacy. The meeting, attended by Union President Gurmeet Singh Tote, General Secretary R.K. Singh, and other members, focused on Singh's commitment to championing workers' rights in the assembly if elected. The union officials assured their support for Singh, pledging to vote for him on November 13 and back his symbol, the "Gas Stove." (w/pb)

Sundi Samaj vows support for Dr Ajoy's assembly candidacy



Jamshedpur, Nov 1: The Sundi Samaj pledged its support for Congress candidate Dr. Ajoy Kumar for the Jamshedpur East Assembly constituency, showing a strong endorsement under the leadership of Shashinath Saha. "Today, the society and state need a public representative with ideas like Dr. Ajoy's, who has a vision for Jamshedpur's all-round development," remarked Saha, adding, "He achieved great work during his parliamentary tenure, and I am confident that Jamshedpur's people will ensure his victory by a large majority."

Expressing gratitude, Dr. Ajoy Kumar described the support as a sign of the community's desire for a change. "The Sundi community's unconditional support signifies that Jamshedpur's people seek freedom from the autocratic rule of a single family," he said, vowing to address local concerns if elected. "With public support, I will work to make Jamshedpur crime-free and reduce educational costs for families. Additionally, I plan to open mohalla clinics to provide accessible healthcare," Dr. Kumar affirmed, emphasizing his commitment to the well-being and prosperity of Jamshedpur's citizens.

All India Sikh Students Federation pays tribute to martyrs of Sikh massacre victims' families honored

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Nov 1: In commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the November 1, 1984 massacre, the All India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF) organized a tribute event at the Sitaram Dera Gurdwara Sahib. The program featured a Kirtan Darbar, prayers, and a heartfelt homage to those who lost their lives in the tragic events of 1984. During the ceremony, AISSF East India President Satnam Singh Gambhir remarked, "The pain of the 1984 Sikh massacre will remain etched in the memory of every generation of the Sikh community until the end of time."

He expressed disappointment that the government at the time attempted to disguise this horrific event as mere "Delhi riots,"



but emphasized that the truth ultimately surfaced.

Gambhir further credited the late Giani Joginder Singh Vedanti for recognizing the 1984

tragedy as a Sikh genocide on January 8, 2008, following persistent requests from the Federation and victimized families. He asserted, "One day, the

Gandhi family will have to kneel before the Akal Takht Sahib and seek forgiveness from the Khalsa Panth for the sins of their ancestors."

The event also honored victims' families, with Harjeet Singh, Manjit Kaur, Simran Kaur, Balbir Singh, Jaspal Kaur, and Balwinder Kaur receiving traditional scarves as a mark of respect. Key attendees included Avtar Singh Bhatia, Inder Singh Inder, and Paramjit Singh Kale, among others, who shared their thoughts on the significance of remembrance and justice for the victims.

The program received full support from the Gurdwara Management Committee, with participation from Inderjit Singh Sanyi, Sarabjit Singh Bhullar, Mandeep Singh Sachdev, Sukhwinder Singh Sabbi, Shalu Singh, Roshan Singh, Rounak Singh Sachdev, Harjeet Singh, Avinash Singh, Manmeet Luthra, Mahinderpal Singh, and Jasbir Kaur. (w/pb)

DC reviews election preparations at strong room and dispatch centre

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Nov 1: District Election Officer cum Deputy Commissioner Ravi Shankar Shukla, along with senior officials, conducted a detailed inspection of the strong rooms and dispatch centre at Kashi Sahu College, Seraikela, in preparation for the upcoming Jharkhand Assembly General Elections-2024. The inspection was carried out to assess arrangements for three assembly constituencies, including the 50-Ichagarh and 51-Seraikela constituencies.

During the visit, Shukla provided specific directives to expedite the setup of polling and counting facilities. He emphasized the need for separate counters for polling parties of each



constituency and outlined logistical requirements, such as dedicated vehicle parking areas for each constituency, to ensure a smooth process on election day. "Our priority is to have all facilities prepared and functional in a manner that will assist polling personnel and ensure a seamless voting experience," he remarked.

Further instructions included installing CCTV cameras in all rooms, arranging continuous power supply, and establishing essential services such as a help centre, postal ballot station, medical aid, mobile toilets, and

drinking water facilities at the site. Signage, banners, and flex boards will also be positioned to guide polling staff efficiently. Shukla reviewed critical facilities, including the counting hall, control rooms, toilets, and other designated areas, and emphasized timely completion of all setup per the Election Commission of India's guidelines. The inspection team included Deputy Development Commissioner Prabhat Kumar Bardiya, ITDA Project Director Ashish Agarwal, Director DRDA Ajay Kumar Tirkey, Additional Deputy Commissioner Jaivardhan Kumar, Assistant Collector Kumar Rajat, District Deputy Election Officer, and District Public Relations Officer. (w/nkm)

Gamharia : SBI ATM theft

Mail News Service

Gamharia, Nov 1: Thieves broke into the SBI ATM located near Usha Mor under the Gamharia police station, stealing equipment during the late hours of October 30. An FIR was lodged against unknown suspects by the agency's channel executive, Aman Kumar.

According to the report, the incident occurred around 3 a.m. when the thieves attempted to cut the machine, aiming to steal the ATM itself. Fortunately, they did not manage to access the cash but successfully took the modem, mistakenly believing it was a DVR. (w/nkm)

Police seize illegal vehicles

Mail News Service

Gamharia, Nov 1: During routine patrols, Gamharia police seized three vehicles, including one laden with sand and two with gravel, after discovering the drivers had no necessary paperwork for the materials.

The police intercepted the vehicles and requested documentation, but the drivers were unable to provide any. Consequently, all three vehicles were confiscated, and an FIR was filed by Mines Inspector Sameer Kumar Ojha at the Gamharia police station. (w/nkm)

General observer inspects polling stations

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Nov 1: C.N. Langfai, the General Observer appointed by the Election Commission of India for the 51-Seraikela Assembly Constituency for the upcoming Jharkhand Assembly General Election-2024, conducted surprise inspections of several polling stations on Friday. Langfai thoroughly reviewed polling stations numbered 335, 336, 344, 345, 346, 347, 351, 352, 363, and 364, assessing security arrangements, basic facilities, furniture, and provisions for drinking water and sanitation. He gathered information on voter statistics, including the number of male and female voters and the availability of voter information cards.



The Observer emphasized the importance of ensuring adequate facilities for elderly and disabled voters, directing that all preparations align with the guidelines set by the Election Commission. Present during the inspections were Block Development Officer Yasmita Singh and other officials, who assisted in facilitating the review process. (w/nkm)

Food safety team inspects Adityapur sweet shops, collects samples

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Nov 1: In an effort to ensure safe and quality sweets for the public during Deepawali, the district food safety inspection team led by the Additional Chief Medical Officer of Seraikela-Kharsawan, Dr. Jujhar Majhi, conducted late-night raids on multiple sweet shops in the Adityapur area. These inspections were intended to prevent the sale of substandard or adulterated sweets, which often flood the market during festive seasons.

During the raid, the team collected samples of sweets suspected to contain adulterants, sending them to the State Food Testing Laboratory in Namkum, Ranchi, for further analysis. A sample of the popular sweet "Kalakand" from Nandi Sweets at Adityapur Imli Chowk was collected after officials observed unhygienic conditions at the shop. In response, Dr. Majhi reprimanded



the shopkeeper and issued a notice for immediate improvements under the Food Safety Act. The team's actions aim to counter unethical practices some

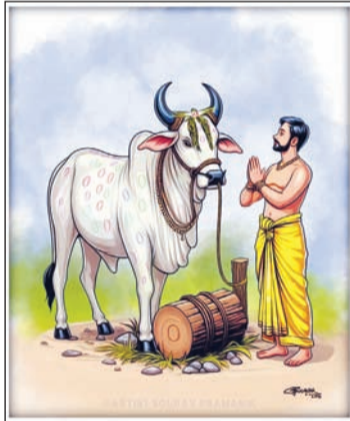
shopkeepers employ to increase profits, such as repeatedly reusing oil for frying sweets, which can lead to health issues for consumers. Dr. Majhi emphasized that any instance of adulterated food being sold would result in severe penalties under the Food Safety Act.

The inspection team, which included Food Inspector In-Charge Ghanpat Mahato, Santosh Kumar Sahu, and Assistant Tarun Kumar Mahato, is dedicated to monitoring and maintaining the safety standards of local food establishments. Dr. Majhi reiterated the district's commitment to safeguarding public health and warned that any vendor found selling adulterated products would face strict legal action. (w/nkm)

Chandil artist Saurabh uses digital art to preserve cultural heritage

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Nov 1: An artist from Chandil Saurabh Pramanik is making efforts to preserve cultural heritage through his digital paintings. Through his art, Saurabh introduces viewers to the customs, beliefs and traditions of his ancestors, showcasing important cultural practices like the Sohrai festival, Hal Ki Puja (plough worship) and Juwaint. Saurabh explained that this initiative is essential not only for preserving the historical significance of cultural monuments but also for



helping the current generation



connect with their roots. "Digital

art is a medium that brings cultural richness to life, reaching a wider audience and keeping our traditions alive," he said. This digital representation promotes both cultural preservation and a deeper social understanding. Art lovers on digital platforms appreciate Saurabh's work, stating that his efforts are valuable not only for his personal growth but also for maintaining the identity of his ancestors. "With digital art, I'm building a bridge between the past and the present," Saurabh said, expressing his dedication to cultural continuity.

Gamharia's Prashansa Dewan tops University, aspires to be judge

Mail News Service

Gamharia, Nov 1: Prashansa Dewan, a third-year BBA/LLB student at Netaji Subhash Public University and daughter of Yogesh Dewan, has achieved remarkable success by becoming the university topper. Prashansa attributed her accomplishment to the unwavering support of her parents and teachers, who have played a crucial role in her academic journey.

Her family expressed immense pride in her achievements, celebrating her dedication and hard work. Prashansa shared her belief that there are no shortcuts to suc-



cess and emphasized the importance of setting clear goals. Currently, she is gaining practical experience through an internship at the Ranchi High Court, where she is learning the intricacies of advocacy under the mentorship of Senior Advocate KP Dubey from Seraikela Civil Court.

With a firm ambition to become a judge, Prashansa aims to deliver speedy justice to marginalized communities, including tribals, the poor, Dalits, and other underprivileged groups. Her inspiring journey reflects her commitment to making a significant impact in the field of law and justice. (w/nkm)

Deepotsav celebrated with devotion by Anand Marg community

Mail News Service

Gamharia, Nov 1: The Anand Marg community in Gamharia celebrated Deepotsav with great devotion across various units, including Anand Marg Ashram Kandra and Gurukul Awasiya Vidyalaya.

The celebrations featured heartfelt worship, including the singing of the Prabhata Sangeet "Deepawali Sajayechi Prabhu Tomare Karite Varan," which set a festive tone for the occasion. The program also included the Baba Naam Kevalam Sankirtan, creating an atmosphere of spiritual joy and community togetherness. District Bhukti Pradhan Gopal Barman of Anand Marg Pracharak Sangh was a key figure during the celebrations, enlightening attendees about the mythological significance of Deepotsav



and its importance in the community's cultural practices.

The event concluded with the distribution of sweets among the devotees present, further enhancing the sense of unity and joy among participants.

Notable community members, including Bharthari, Raj Kishore, Jiten Barman, and Surya Prakash, played instrumental roles in ensuring the success of the program. (w/nkm)

Show cause notices issued to absent polling personnel

Mail News Service

Seraikela, Nov 1: In preparation for the Assembly General Election-2024, the District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner, Ravi Shankar Shukla, has issued show cause notices to 49 polling personnel who were absent from their mandatory training sessions.

With the aim of ensuring a fair and error-free election process, training is being provided by the Training Cell on fixed dates. The absentees have been asked to explain why legal action should not be taken against them under relevant sections of election law.

Shukla stressed the necessity of fulfilling responsibilities assigned for election-related tasks, urging all personnel to comply with training requirements to facilitate a smooth electoral process. (w/nkm)

Vibrant Dhingwani celebration by Young Sporting Club

Seraikela, Nov 1: Celebrating Bandana and Sohrai, the

major festivals dedicated to livestock worship, the Young Sporting Club of Vikrampur village in Rajnagar block carried out a vibrant Dhingwani procession throughout the village. Club members and villagers visited every household, performing dances and singing Sohrai songs accompanied by traditional instruments like the Mandar, Dhomsa, and Jhumka, honouring livestock with devotion and cheer. This ritual, extending till dawn, included the distribution of Gur Pitha and Khapara Pitha, symbolizing gratitude towards the animals that support their agriculture. Villagers also prayed for the safety and wellbeing of their livestock and prosperity in each household.

The celebration drew active participation from villagers including Ganesh Chandra Mahato, Krishna Chandra Mahato, Nunu Ram Mahato, and several others, making it a cherished occasion of unity and thanksgiving in Vikrampur. (w/nkm)



Maa Kali idol installation and worship ceremony in Mahalimoroop

Seraikela, Nov 1: In celebration of

Deepawali, a grand idol of Goddess Kali was installed and worshipped with devotion in Mahalimoroop. The ritual began with devotees gathering water from the local reservoir at midnight, symbolizing their reverence. Pandit Prakash Pati led the ceremony, performing rituals with Vedic chants, as devotees gathered to bow at the feet of the Goddess, praying for happiness and prosperity in their families. Following the worship, prasad was distributed among all present, sharing blessings and joy among the community. The event saw participation from notable locals, including former Mukhiya Dhanuram Mahali, Gram Pradhan Shyam Singh Mundari, and several other community leaders who joined in the celebrations. The installation and worship of the Kali idol marked a moment of communal togetherness, filling the atmosphere with faith and festivity. (w/nkm)

Bandana festival commences

Seraikela, Nov 1: The Bandana festival, celebrated on Kartik Aamavashya, is one of the most cherished events in the tribal communities, emphasizing the deep bond between people and their animals. During this festival, tribals take special care of their livestock, engaging in activities such as washing, cleaning, painting, and adorning their cows and bulls with ornaments.

This year, the festival kicked off with the traditional Gote puja, held with immense devotion in various villages, including Pandra, Murup, Hatia, and Khatuwakudar. In Khatuwakudar, the puja was led by new priest Anand Mahato, who invoked the village deity and other deities during the ceremony.

Highlighting the puja's significance, the priest remarked, "This ritual has been observed since our ancestors, serving as a way to thank our livestock, including cows and bulls, for their contributions to our harvest." Villagers brought their livestock to the worship site, beautifully decorated, to express gratitude and pray for their safety and well-being.

Following the worship, a traditional egg-breaking race took place, where villagers placed eggs along a path for the livestock to pass over. The animals that broke the eggs were honoured, symbolizing the community's appreciation for their vital role. To further commemorate this bond, the livestock's foreheads were adorned with ears of paddy, and oil was applied to their horns, signifying respect and good wishes. (w/nkm)

Chaibasa's Amla Tola Kali Puja features grand peacock-themed pandal

Mail News Service

Chaibasa, Nov 1: The 52nd annual Kali Puja celebration by the Amla Tola Samiti captivated visitors with a spectacular peacock-themed pandal, showcasing the artistry and tradition that have made it a popular event across West Singhbhum.

Samiti President Sunil Prasad Sao highlighted the grand decorations and skilled craftsmanship, with intricate mobile electrical displays and a cane-structured pandal crafted by artisans from West Bengal, all inspired by India's national bird, the peacock.

Attracting thousands of devotees, this year's celebration stood out not only for its aesthetic appeal but also for its immersive elements. Artisans from West Bengal crafted the beauti-



ful idols, while traditional Dhaki, Dhol, and Kudkudi music from Bengal and a Jharkhand Tasha party added to the cultural richness. The puja prasad was distributed among the devotees, as is customary each year.

The idol immersion scheduled for tomorrow promises to be another highlight, featuring fireworks from West Bengal expected to draw significant crowds. Known for its grandeur, Amla Tola's Kali Puja has become a must-visit for locals and travellers alike, who come to witness the impressive displays, seek blessings from Maa Kali, and partake in the festive atmosphere. The Amala Tola

Sarvajani Kali Puja Committee celebrated Kali Puja with grandeur in Chaibasa, drawing visitors from neighbouring villages. The event commenced with a ceremonial water collection by the priest, followed by worship of the grand Kali idol in the elaborately decorated pandal. The pandal, inaugurated by local dignitaries, became a focal point of celebration as devotees gathered for the evening puja. Rituals were performed with great devotion, and prasad was distributed to devotees, fostering a spirit of unity and reverence. The Amala Tola Kali Puja has become a major attraction, inviting people from surrounding areas to partake in the celebration, view the majestic idol, and receive blessings, making it a highlight of Chaibasa's festive season. (w/nkm)

Elderly care revolutionized

The success of any government is often measured by its commitment to the well-being of its citizens, especially vulnerable groups such as the elderly. The expansion of the Ayushman Bharat scheme to cover people over seventy years without income restrictions is a commendable initiative that underscores the importance of inclusive health care in India. Initially designed to support low-income groups with health insurance up to ₹75 lakh, the scheme now extends its benefits to millions of elderly citizens. This is crucial, given that senior citizens in India are projected to make up a significant portion of the population, expected to double by 2050. Thus, the expansion reflects a forward-thinking approach to addressing the health and welfare needs of this growing demographic. Healthcare access for the elderly is essential for fostering a secure and inclusive society. Many elderly individuals face financial instability and neglect, with little to no income or familial support. These individuals often bear the brunt of neglect and health challenges in their later years, with many facing harassment or indifference from family members. This expanded healthcare provision under Ayushman Bharat will offer much-needed relief, reducing their dependency on family or external support for basic medical needs.

Under the scheme, senior citizens can receive treatment at over 30,000 affiliated hospitals across the country, enhancing accessibility and making critical healthcare more attainable. This is especially impactful for those without financial means, providing dignity and security in their later years. Moreover, by removing the age cap on health insurance purchases, the government has taken a progressive step in ensuring healthcare inclusivity. Now, those over seventy can still access health insurance schemes, which were previously restricted based on age. Despite these positive steps, the rollout of Ayushman Bharat has faced political pushback, particularly from the Delhi and West Bengal governments, who argue that the scheme is better in theory than practice, suggesting that their state-level healthcare initiatives are more effective in meeting citizens' needs. Health and education, both subjects on the concurrent list, require effective collaboration between the Center and the states. It is essential to avoid politicizing these efforts, as this only detracts from the shared goal of improving public health and leaves the common citizen at a disadvantage. While Ayushman Bharat represents a powerful commitment to expanding health coverage, the government must ensure effective implementation. Instances of misuse and the exploitation of public health schemes by private hospitals have been well-documented, and addressing these issues will be vital to the program's success. Ensuring that health services are not only accessible but also secure and equitable for all citizens—especially the elderly—remains essential to the scheme's true impact on social welfare.

From the Editorial Desk

Maternal, child mortality rates in Sudan rise due to ongoing war

Sudan's Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) has risen to 295 per 100,000 births, and the child mortality rate to 51 per 1,000 live births amid ongoing armed conflict, Sudanese Health Minister Haitham Mohamed Ibrahim said.

"The health of mothers and children requires special care after the increase in maternal and child mortality rates due to the ongoing war," Ibrahim said in a statement.

The global MMR in 2020 was 223 per 100,000 live births, while the global under-5 mortality rate was 37 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2022, according to the World Health Organization, reports Xinhua news agency.

The minister revealed a strategic plan for 2025 to improve the health of mothers and children at a total cost of more than \$200 million, stressing the need to integrate the efforts of the health ministry and international partners to reduce maternal and child mortalities.



Meanwhile, the Sudan Family Planning Association (SFPA), a government organisation, reported on Thursday that miscarriage cases in shelters for displaced persons were on the rise. "Hundreds of displaced women in displacement shelters suffer from a severe shortage of reproductive health services, while

miscarriages have increased due to the lack of adequate medical care," the SFPA said in a statement.

It noted that poor care during pregnancy and childbirth and insufficient healthcare for newborns have further increased maternal and child mortality rates.

The association added that inadequate health

facilities and medical equipment heightened the risk of the spread of infectious diseases.

A report from the International Organisation for Migration on Tuesday stated that over 14 million people have fled their homes since the beginning of the ongoing conflict in Sudan, with women making up more than half of those affected.

Sudan has been ravaged by a deadly conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces since mid-April 2023. According to a situation report issued by the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project on October 14, the deadly conflict has resulted in more than 24,850 deaths.

How Pakistan fuels anti-India sentiment among its people

Since the partition of the Indian sub-continent in 1947, Pakistan has deliberately fostered an anti-India narrative that permeates all facets of its society. While the historical context of partition and the ongoing Kashmir conflict provide the geopolitical backdrop, the institutionalisation of animosity towards India took root in earnest during General Zia-ul-Haq's rule.

Over time, this strategy has adapted to shifting political realities, media environments, and educational frameworks.

This article examines how Pakistan sustains an anti-India narrative, focusing on four key areas: the role of the education system, the influence of the media, the use of anti-India rhetoric by political leaders, and the wider societal consequences of this entrenched hostility. Education System: Indoctrination through curriculum

Pakistan's education system serves as arguably the most powerful instrument for embedding anti-India sentiment within the population.

The foundations of this narrative were laid during General Zia-ul-Haq's regime (1977-1988), driven by a vision of an Islamic state positioned against a secular, Hindu-majority India. Zia's rule saw a profound overhaul of the Pakistani curriculum, where enmity towards India was systematically woven into the educational content.

Often credited with the Islamisation of Pakistan, Zia's era significantly reshaped the educational landscape, not merely for religious indoctrination but to forge a national identity in stark opposition to India. Textbooks were restructured to glorify Islamic history and consistently cast India as the principal antagonist, achieved through a selective portrayal of historical events that depicted India as an aggressor and an enemy of Islam.

An extensive analysis by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) of textbooks from this period found that 78 per cent of the content related to India painted it as a perpetual enemy, heavily emphasising religious conflict. The wars of 1947, 1965, and 1971 were framed not as geopolitical struggles but



as religious confrontations, with Pakistan portrayed as the defender of Islam against Hindu aggression.

Additionally, 85 per cent of references to Hindus in these textbooks were negative, frequently associating them with deceit and moral decay.

The end of Zia's regime did not mark a shift away from the anti-India narrative. Successive governments, whether military or civilian, have continued to embed anti-India sentiment within the educational curriculum.

A follow-up study by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in 2016 found that, despite multiple reforms, the content in history and social studies textbooks remained largely unaltered.

Around 70 per cent of material concerning India still portrayed it negatively, and 90 per cent of students surveyed believed India to be an enemy state - an outlook shaped by their education.

This persistent depiction of India as a hostile neighbour in Pakistani textbooks has lasting consequences, embedding a deeply rooted perception of India as the "other" and fostering a sense of ongoing conflict that spans generations.

This approach not only distorts historical realities but also perpetuates a culture of intolerance, complicating efforts towards peace and reconciliation between the two nations.

A comparative study by the Jinnah Institute in 2017 of Pakistani and Indian textbooks further underscores the stark contrast in how each country depicts the other.

While Indian textbooks are not without bias, they generally promote secularism and coexistence, with only 20 per cent of the content about Pakistan being overtly negative. In contrast, Pakistani textbooks remain focused on the religious and

ideological divide, portraying India as a persistent threat to Pakistan's sovereignty and Islamic identity.

This educational approach has profound implications. By instilling anti-India sentiment from an early age, Pakistan cultivates a populace that is not only suspicious of its neighbour but also supportive of policies that favour conflict over cooperation.

This indoctrination through education ensures that the narrative of enmity is firmly embedded in Pakistani society, posing a significant obstacle to peace.

Media's role: Amplifying hostility

The media in Pakistan plays a pivotal role in reinforcing and amplifying the anti-India narrative cultivated by the education system. From the state-controlled media during Zia-ul-Haq's era to today's vibrant yet polarised media landscape, the depiction of India as an existential threat has remained a constant theme. This narrative permeates not just news outlets but also entertainment, social media, & various other forms of mass communication.

Under General Zia-ul-Haq, the media was tightly regulated by the state and primarily

functioned as a vehicle for government propaganda. India was persistently cast as the aggressor in all conflicts, and the notion of an imminent Indian threat was used to legitimise Zia's repressive policies. This state-dictated narrative fostered an environment where dissent equated to disloyalty, and questioning the anti-India stance was deemed unpatriotic. The content broadcast during this period was heavily censored to ensure alignment with the government's ideological position. News reports were crafted to highlight Indian aggression, particularly over Kashmir while downplaying or ignoring any provocative actions

by Pakistan.

This selective reporting created a distorted reality in which Pakistan was always portrayed as the victim and India as the villain. In the years following Zia's regime, Pakistan's media landscape underwent significant changes with the rise of private television channels and the growing influence of digital media. Yet, the anti-India narrative remained largely unaltered. Private news channels, in their quest for viewership, often relied on sensationalism, with India-bashing becoming a dependable way to boost ratings.

Television dramas and films have also contributed to reinforcing this anti-India narrative. Indian characters in Pakistani dramas are often portrayed as devious and malicious, reinforcing stereotypes ingrained in the public mind through decades of state-driven propaganda.

This depiction of India as a land of treachery and deceit is not confined to fictional media but extends to talk shows, news analysis programmes, and even comedy sketches. The impact of this sustained media campaign is evident in public perceptions of India.

A 2019 Pew Research Center survey found that 76 per cent of Pakistanis viewed India as a significant threat, with 64 per cent considering it an "enemy" rather than a competitor or rival. This perception is not merely a product of historical animosity but is actively shaped and reinforced by the media.

With the rise of social media, the spread of anti-India sentiment has become more widespread and difficult to regulate. Platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube are often used to circulate misinformation, conspiracy theories, and incendiary content about India. This digital propaganda is frequently crowd-sourced, with individuals and groups contributing to a vast network of anti-India rhetoric.

A 2018 study by the Pakistan Institute of Peace Studies (PIPS) found that 65 per cent of the most popular posts on Pakistani social media about India were negative, and 40 per cent contained misinformation or

exaggerated claims aimed at inciting hostility. Such content is often widely shared, reaching millions and reinforcing existing biases. The anonymity and virality of social media make it an ideal platform for spreading hate.

Unlike traditional media, where some editorial oversight exists, social media allows anyone with internet access to shape the narrative. This democratisation of information has created an environment where falsehoods and half-truths about India can spread unchecked, further entrenching anti-India sentiment within Pakistani society.

Political exploitation: Harnessing hostility for power

The political exploitation of anti-India sentiment has been a persistent feature in Pakistan's domestic politics. From military rulers to elected leaders, the portrayal of India as a threat has been used to galvanise public support, legitimise military dominance, and divert attention from internal issues.

The Pakistani military has been a major advocate of the anti-India narrative. Since Pakistan's creation, the military has positioned itself as the defender of the nation's sovereignty and Islamic identity, with India depicted as the principal adversary. This narrative has been employed to justify the military's substantial allocation of the national budget and its dominance over civilian governance.

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Pakistan's defence spending as a percentage of GDP has consistently ranked among the highest globally.

In 2020, Pakistan allocated 4.0 per cent of its GDP to defence, compared to India's 2.9 per cent. This disparity is even starker when considering that Pakistan's GDP is much smaller than India's. The military justifies this high level of expenditure by citing the perceived threat from India - a narrative carefully nurtured over decades.

However, this emphasis on defence has come at a considerable cost to Pakistan's socio-economic development.

Polls show tie as Harris appears to slip; 2 US dailies refuse to endorse candidates



By Arul Louis

Uncertainty hanging over the presidential election ten days away, two major newspapers,

The Washington Post and The Los Angeles Times, have decided in a break from tradition not to endorse either Vice President Kamala Harris or former President Donald Trump.

Two separate polls by The New York Times and CNN released on Friday have them locked in a tie.

The Times poll showed them both at 48 per cent, with Harris' lead of 3 per cent in a poll earlier this month vanishing, although it was - like the latest - within the margin of error.

Analysing the poll, the Times ominously wrote, "The result, coming less than two weeks before Election Day, and as millions of Americans have already voted, is not encouraging for Ms Harris". The CNN poll had them tied at 47 per cent. The RealClearPolling, the authoritative poll aggregator showed that Harris' lead shrunk to 0.2 per cent on Friday from the 2 per cent on October 1. Tellingly, the Times opinion section which is tilted towards Harris, ran an essay on Friday by a highly regarded election statistics analyst declaring that his "gut" feeling is that Trump is going to win.

Nate Silver, who runs the FiveThirtyEight website that was with the Times and is now in the ABC News stable, wrote, "My gut says Donald Trump. And my guess is that it is true for many

anxious Democrats."

He added the caveat, "In an election where the seven battleground states are all polling within a percentage point or two, 50-50 is the only reasonable forecast."

If the polls are correct - a big IF given their failure in 2016 when they predicted a Hillary Clinton victory - it would appear that neither Harris nor Trump have managed a breakthrough with their intensive campaigns.

Polls showing a setback for a candidate can also have the effect of the base redoubling its efforts and making a late hour impact.

Harris calling Trump a "fascist" and a threat to democracy, and hammering away on his age, his character, his lies, and his instability has not made an impact.

Nor had her stand on nationally legalising abortion or her moderating her policies moving towards the centre, shown any effect. The star power - Taylor Swift, Beyonce, and Leonardo DiCaprio among others - she has deployed hasn't yet turned things around. Trump calling her a "Communist" and also a threat to democracy, nailing her to President Joe Biden's failures, and harping on illegal migration and inflation, failed to move the needle significantly.

Besides the two newspapers, Teamsters, the powerful transportation workers' union with 1.4 million members, refused to endorse either candidate even though the majority of workers supported Trump in an internal poll.

The Washington Post's editorials have been critical of Trump and it had endorsed his opponents, Hillary Clinton in 2016 and Joe Biden in 2020. The Post's publisher, Will Lewis wrote, "We are returning to our roots of not endorsing presidential candidates."

The paper probably had

not dished out endorsements till 1952 when it backed Dwight Eisenhower and began regularly endorsing only since 1976 when it backed Jimmy Carter.

Lewis asserted that the action was neither a "tacit endorsement" nor a "condemnation" of either candidate and said, "We also see it as a statement in support of our readers' ability to make up their own minds". The newspaper's union blamed the Post's billionaire owner, Jeff Bezos who founded Amazon, for the decision. "According to our reporters and Guild members, an endorsement for Harris was already drafted, and the decision to not publish was made by The Post's owner, Jeff Bezos", it said in a post on X. The Los Angeles Times is owned by another billionaire, Patrick Soon-Shiong, a pharmaceutical inventor and the founder of a network of medical and Artificial Intelligence startups. Defending his decision against an endorsement, he said that he had asked the Editorial Board to write an editorial giving "side-by-side" analysis on the candidates' position, but it had not followed up.

The newspaper's union also criticised the decision and added that Soon-Shiong was unfairly putting the blame on the editorial staff. Both the newspapers are privately held by businessmen who had swooped in with their hundreds of millions to save foundering newspapers. Since their primary interests are elsewhere, there are allegations of conflicts of interests. Columbia Journalism Review Executive Editor Sewell Chan summed it up that they are "trying to hedge their bets out of fear that their business interests could be harmed during a second Trump presidency".

India's forex kitty at \$684.8 bn, gold reserves go up Online shopping up in S. Korea in Sept over strong food delivery demand

New Delhi, Nov (IANS) Amid persistent selling of shares in the stock market by foreign institutional investors (FII) and growing geopolitical tensions, India's foreign exchange reserves posted a \$3.46 billion drop to stand at \$684.8 billion in the week ended October 25, data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed on Friday.

However, gold reserves, which form part of the foreign exchange kitty, increased by \$1.08 billion to \$68.53 billion during the week, according to the central bank.

There has been a surge in gold buying amid geo-political tensions. According to industry experts, gold is now acting as a hedge against US economic sanctions too, traditionally being a safe haven asset and a hedge against inflation.

Despite inflation being



moderated, gold has rallied to new highs. The share of gold in the country's forex reserves has also surged more than 210 per cent since 2018.

India's foreign exchange reserves had soared to an all-time high of \$704.885 billion at the end of September taking the country

to the 4th position globally after China, Japan, and Switzerland in the size of its forex kitty.

The country's forex reserves have overall gone up by \$38.39 billion in the current financial year which is sufficient to cover imports for 11.2 months based on the balance of payments,

according to the RBI.

This reflects the strong macroeconomic fundamentals of the economy.

Looking ahead, India's forex reserves are projected to grow and the strong forex will boost its economic growth trajectory by strengthening its position internationally, drawing in foreign investments, and promoting domestic trade and industry. The changes in foreign currency assets result from the central bank's actions in the forex market and fluctuations in the value of foreign assets within the reserves. According to experts, the bullion is likely to close this week in positive, amid support from safe demand, ETF buying, uncertain US election outcome, and rising bets for aggressive rate cuts from global central banks.

Seoul, Nov 1 (IANS) Online shopping sales in South Korea grew 2 per cent on-year in September, driven by increased demand for food delivery services and mobile devices, the statistics agency said Friday.

According to data from Statistics Korea, the combined value of online shopping transactions came to 19.56 trillion won (\$14.21 billion) in September, compared with 19.18 trillion won tallied a year earlier, Yonhap news agency reported. Spending on food and beverages surged 10.5 per cent on-year to reach 3.02 trillion won, and sales for food delivery services also advanced 17.3 per cent to 2.51 trillion won.

Purchases of mobile devices saw an increase of 94.9 per cent, reaching 738.5 billion won.

Everyday items' sales on online platforms rose 7.9 per cent to 1.51 trillion won.

Online shopping for e-coupon services, on the other hand, plunged 48.8 per cent on-year to 502.7 billion won, following payment delays by TMON and We Make Price. The two e-commerce platforms, owned by Singapore-based company Qoo10, filed for court receivership in July after failing to make payments to vendors and issue refunds to customers due to liquidity issues stemming from aggressive merger deals by their owner.

Purchases made through smartphones, tablets, and other mobile devices climbed 7.7 per cent on-year to 14.92 trillion won. Mobile-based shopping accounted for 76.3 per cent of total online sales in September, up by 4.1 percentage points from a year earlier, the data showed.

Meanwhile, retail sales in South Korea also surged 8.2 per cent in September from a year earlier, as consumers turned to "revenge shopping" amid the prolonged virus pandemic.

Apple sets all-time revenue record in India, to open 4 new retail stores: Tim Cook

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Apple, which clocked an all-time revenue record in India in the September quarter, is set to open four more own-branded retail stores in India, the tech giant's CEO Tim Cook has said.

Apple reported revenue of \$94.9 billion in the July-September period, a September quarter record and up 6 per cent from a year ago. iPhone grew in every geographic segment, marking a new September quarter revenue record for the category, and services set an all-time revenue record, up 12 per cent year over year.

"We continue to be excited by the enthusiasm we're seeing in India, where we set an all-time revenue record. This has been an extraordinary year of innovation at Apple," said Cook during the quarterly earnings call (Q4 fiscal year 2024) late on Thursday. In addition to growth in developed markets, "we also saw strong performance in many emerging markets

with double-digit growth in Mexico, Brazil, the Middle East, India, and South Asia", he informed.

Apple has two retail stores in India - in New Delhi (Saket) and Mumbai (BKC).

"We can't wait to bring four new stores to customers in India. We're passionate about education and believe technology has a vital role to play in both helping teachers to inspire their students and students to learn about the world around them," said Cook.

According to Luca Maestri, SVP, Chief Financial Officer, the company set "an all-time revenue record during the September quarter". As India continues to break all previous records on local mobile manufacturing, tech giant Apple is on course to surpass the FY24 figures of exports from India, reaching over Rs 50,000 crore (more than \$6 billion) in the first six months this fiscal (FY25), according to latest industry data.

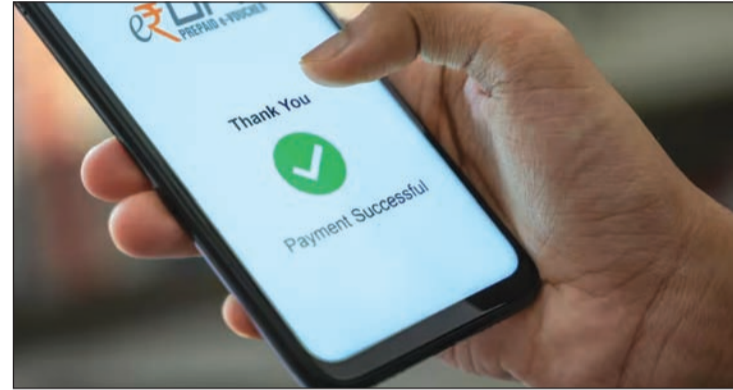
UPI sets new record with 16.58 billion transactions worth Rs 23.5 lakh crore in Oct

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) The Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based digital transactions continued to surge and in the month of October, the country saw 16.58 billion transactions worth Rs 23.5 lakh crore, the highest numbers since the UPI became operational in April 2016.

According to data shared by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) on Friday, October saw a 10 per cent increase in volume and 14 per cent in value compared to September.

Daily UPI transactions in October crossed 535 million in volume and Rs 75,801 crore in value - compared to 501 million in volume and Rs 68,800 crore in September.

There were 467 million Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) transactions in October,



up 9 per cent from 430 million in September. In value terms, IMPS transactions grew by 11 per cent to Rs 6.29 lakh crore compared to Rs 5.65 lakh crore in September.

Meanwhile, the number of FASTag transactions increased 8 per cent in October to 345 million, compared to 318 million in September. Transactions worth Rs

6,115 crore were made in October, up from Rs 5,620 crore in September.

There were 126 million transactions on the Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) in October, up 26 per cent from 100 million in September, as per the NPCI data.

According to a latest paper by

economist Pradip Bhuyan from the Reserve Bank's Department of Currency Management, digital transactions have surged in such a fashion in India that cash usage, which still accounts for 60 per cent of consumer expenditure (as of March 2024) is rapidly declining.

The share of digital payments more than doubled from 14-19 per cent in March 2021 to 40-48 per cent in March 2024, with unified payments interface (UPI) playing a key role.

UPI-based transaction volume surged 52 per cent to 78.97 billion in the first half of this year (H1 2024), from 51.9 billion in the same period last year.

Similarly, the value of transactions grew by 40 per cent, increasing from Rs 83.16 lakh crore to Rs 116.63 lakh crore in the first six months of this year.

Investors' wealth surges by Rs 128 lakh cr in Samvat 2080, Gold gives 32 pc return

Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) As the Indian stock market ended Samvat year 2080, investors' wealth surged by a whopping Rs 128 lakh crore (about \$1.5 trillion at current exchange rate) to Rs 453 lakh crore in just one year.

This made Samvat 2080 the biggest wealth-creating year on record, banking upon a stable government, strong fundamentals and record inflows by domestic funds which was at Rs 4.7 lakh crore.

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) saw its investor base crossing 20 crore. Amid strong interest from retail investors, 336 companies made their stock market debuts in Samvat 2080 - with 248 coming from the SME segment.

Nearly 100 of these IPOs have launched with listing gains exceeding 50 per cent and 163 IPOs are currently trading above their issue prices, as per industry data.

Samvat 2080 also saw significant growth in the prices of gold and silver, with both precious metals delivering returns of 32 per cent



and 39 per cent, respectively. This can be attributed to three key global factors -- geopolitical tensions, US presidential election and global interest rate policy.

The mutual fund sector saw its total assets at about Rs 68 lakh crore, with systematic investment plan (SIP) investments nearing Rs 25,000-crore mark.

The new Samvat or Hindu New Year begins at the time of Diwali. During this time, many investors believe that trades made during Muhurat draw prosperity for the year ahead.

According to market experts,

with Nifty returning 25 per cent and Nifty 500 returning 30 per cent in Samvat 2080, investors should be happy.

But the 6.2 per cent correction in October, the first above 5 per cent correction in 54 months, has triggered anxiety over the market performance, going forward.

Of serious concern is the relentless FII selling in October amounting to Rs 113,858 crore through the exchanges. Given India's elevated valuations and concerns over deceleration in earnings growth, FII selling might continue, impacting the benchmark indices. In such a scenario investors should focus on stock-specific investment where Q2 results have been good and earnings visibility is bright, said experts.

Jateen Trivedi from LKP Securities said the US election next week is expected to be a decisive factor for gold's trend, with market participants closely watching its outcome for further direction.

TN fireworks manufacturers sell Rs 6,000 crore worth of fireworks for Diwali

Chennai, Oct 31 (IANS) The Tamil Nadu Fireworks Manufacturers Association has reported that firecracker factories in Sivakasi, located in the state's Virudhunagar district, have sold firecrackers worth Rs 6,000 crore across the country for the Diwali festival.

However, association leaders noted that the century-old fireworks industry in Sivakasi faced a significant decline in production this year. This decrease is primarily due to the Supreme Court's reiteration of its ban on barium nitrate, a key ingredient in firecracker manufacturing, and additional restrictions on joined crackers - sets of individual firecrackers connected by a fuse, allowing them to ignite in succession when one cracker is lit.

Business owners in Sivakasi told



have kept their factories closed for months, resulting in workers migrating to other factories.

Additionally, heavy rains in parts of Sivakasi further impacted production, reducing the output to about 75 per cent of the usual volume.

Approximately 4 lakh workers from 1,150 fireworks factories in Sivakasi were involved in producing Rs 6,000 crore worth of firecrackers this year.

Sivakasi is considered the hub of India's firecracker industry, producing around 70 per cent of the country's firecrackers.

However, it is also worth noting that several accidents have occurred during the manufacturing process, leading to loss of life. In 2024 alone, Sivakasi saw 17 accidents that resulted in 54 fatalities.

Mahindra Auto records highest ever SUV sales in Oct, overall auto growth up 20 pc



Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Leading domestic automobile manufacturer Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd on Friday said that its overall auto sales for the month of October stood at 96,648 vehicles, including exports, which is a 20 per cent year-on-year growth.

In the utility vehicles (SUV) segment, the automaker sold 54,504 vehicles in the domestic market, a growth of 25 per cent and overall, 55,571 vehicles, including exports.

The domestic sales for commercial vehicles stood at 28,812, said the company.

"We are excited to have clocked the highest-ever SUV sales of 54,504 vehicles in October, a growth of 25 per cent and highest ever total volume of 96,648, a growth of 20 per cent," said Veejay Nakra, President, Automotive

Division, M&M Ltd.

In the commercial-vehicle space, including three-wheelers, sales rose 5 per cent year-on-year to 9,826 units as against 9,402 units last year, said the company.

"The month began on a fantastic note with Thar ROXX garnering 1.7 lakh bookings in the first 60 mins and the positive momentum continued across the SUV portfolio through the festive season," he added.

In September, the automaker said its overall auto sales stood at 87,839 vehicles, including exports, which is a 16 per cent growth (year-on-year). In the month of September, the automaker exported 3,027 vehicles, a 25 per cent YoY growth from 2,419 vehicles last year.

As private consumption rises across the country, there has been a surge in auto loans for car ownership as people from tier 2, 3 cities and beyond opt for longer-term financing options to afford latest vehicles. About 80 per cent of car purchases in the country are financed through bank loans or non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).

Maruti Suzuki India clocks highest-ever exports in Oct, Tata Motors' sales flat



New Delhi/Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Maruti Suzuki India on Friday said it sold a total of 206,434 units in the month of October, which is its highest-ever monthly sales volume. The company also clocked highest-ever exports in the month.

The country's largest automaker had sold 199,217 units in the same month last year. However, in the passenger vehicle (PV) segment, Maruti Suzuki India witnessed a 5 per cent YoY sales decrease, selling 159,591

units in the domestic market last month, compared to 168,047 units in October 2023.

In the April-October period this fiscal, Maruti Suzuki India sold 1,269,852 units in the current fiscal (FY25) compared to 1,249,302 units in the same period last fiscal (FY24).

In October, the sales included domestic sales of 163,130 units and sales to other original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) of 10,136 units, according to the company.

The company exported 33,168 units in October, a significant growth from 21,951 units in the year-ago month.

Meanwhile, the sales of Tata Motors in the domestic and international market for October stood at 82,682 vehicles, compared to 82,954 units during October 2023, which is almost flat.

The total commercial vehicle (CV) sale was 34,259 units and passenger vehicle sales were at 48,423 units.

Domestic sale of MH&ICV in October, including trucks and buses, stood at 15,574 units, compared to 15,211 units in October 2023.

Total sales for MH&ICV domestic and international business in October, including trucks and buses, stood at 16,274 units compared to 16,048 units in October 2023, the company said in a statement.

In July-September period, Tata Motors registered sales of 2,15,034 vehicles in the domestic and international market (Q2 FY25), compared to 2,43,024 units during Q2 FY24 - a 13 per cent YoY decline.

Total commercial vehicle sales were 84,281 units (down 19 per cent YoY) while passenger vehicle sales stood at 1,30,753 units, (down six per cent) in the quarter.

Limiting sugar consumption early can prevent chronic disease in midlife

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) A low-sugar diet in pregnancy, which if continued in the first two years of life can meaningfully reduce the risk of chronic diseases in adulthood, according to a new study.

The study led by the US and Canadian researchers provides compelling new evidence of the lifelong health effects of early-life sugar consumption.

Children who had sugar restrictions during their first 1,000 days after conception had up to 35 per cent lower risk

of developing Type 2 diabetes.

It can also reduce as much as 20 per cent the risk of hypertension as adults, revealed the study published in the journal *Science*.

Diabetes and hypertension (high blood pressure) are the most common non-communicable diseases driving a significant health burden across the globe. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends no added sugars for children under two and not more than 12 teaspoons (50g) of

added sugar daily for adults. Notably, exposure to sugar restrictions in utero alone was enough to lower risks, but disease protection increased postnatally once solids were likely introduced.

If followed this can save costs, extend life expectancy, and, perhaps more importantly, quality of life, said the researchers from the McGill University in Montreal, and the University of California, Berkeley, who examined how sugar rationing during World War II influ-



enced long-term health outcomes.

Besides raising annual medical expenditures, earlier diagnosis of diabetes also means significantly shorter life expectancy, with every decade earlier that a diagnosis of diabetes is made cutting three to four years off of life expectancy.

These numbers underscore the value of early interventions that could delay or prevent this disease, the researchers noted.

Even as consumption of excessive amounts of

added sugars during children's early life, a critical period of development continues to mount the study raised concerns about children's long-term health.

While adjusting child sugar consumption is not easy as added sugar is everywhere, even in baby and toddler foods, they called on policy-makers to hold "food companies accountable to reformulate baby foods with healthier options and regulate the marketing and tax sugary foods targeted at kids."

ISRO launches India's first analog space mission

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) on Friday announced the launch of its first analog space mission, to study the challenges of extra-terrestrial conditions that will help in future space missions.

The mission, which includes a compact, inflatable habitat named Hab-1 will simulate life in an interplanetary habitat. It is being held in Leh, in Ladakh.

Even as India plans to launch several space missions, the new mission will help understand the challenges that future astronauts may encounter on missions beyond Earth.



"India's first analog space mission kicks off in Leh!" ISRO said in a post on X. "This mission will simulate life in an interplanetary habitat to tackle the challenges of a base station beyond Earth," the space agency added. Hab-1 is equipped with essentials like a hydroponics farm, kitchen, and sanitation facilities. It provides a self-sustaining environment, offering valuable data as India is planning long-duration space missions to the Moon, Mars, & beyond.

The mission is a collaborative effort by the Human Spaceflight Centre, ISRO, AAKA Space Studio, University of Ladakh, IIT Bombay, and is supported by the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development

Council. Ladakh was chosen as the place for the mission due to its unique geological characteristics that closely resemble Martian and lunar landscapes. Its cold, arid conditions and high altitude will provide an ideal environment for testing technologies and strategies necessary for long-duration space missions.

During the mission, the scientists will test new technologies, robotic equipment, vehicles, habitats, and communications. They will also seek to understand power generation, mobility, infrastructure, and storage during the analog mission.

Hab-1 will also study the effects of isolation and confinement on human

health and performance.

The findings may help ISRO understand the strengths, limitations, and validity of planned human-robotic exploration operations. "This analog mission is a significant step towards understanding the complexities of living on other planets," said Rajnagar Divisional Forest Officer Sudarshan Gopinath.

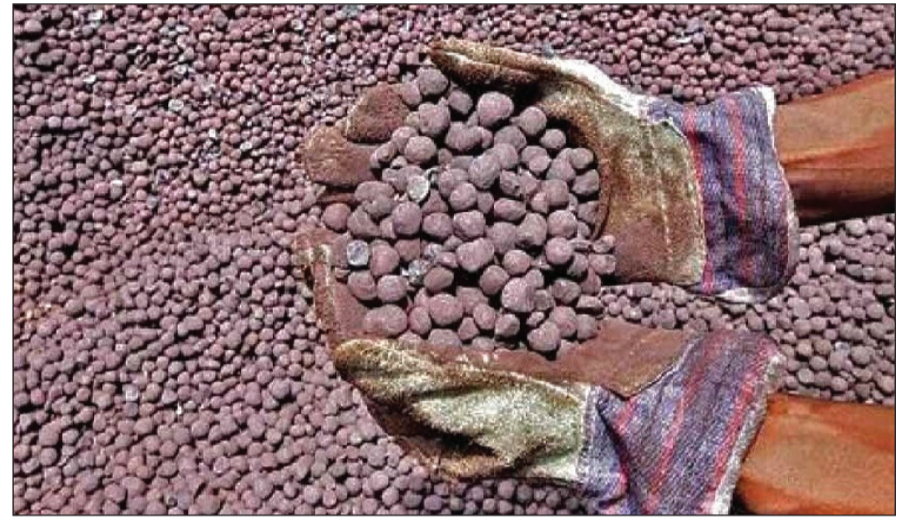
"The insights gained will be crucial for the success of future space missions," he added. The country's Space Vision 2047 includes setting up an Indian Space Station - Bharatiya Antariksha Station (BAS) -- by 2035 and landing an Indian on the Moon by 2040.

India clocks robust growth in key mineral production in FY25 first half

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) The government on Friday said that the production of key minerals in the country has continued to witness strong growth during the first half of the current fiscal (FY25), with iron ore leading the pack.

The FY25 growth follows record production levels in the last fiscal (FY24), according to the Ministry of Mines data.

"Iron ore accounts for about 70 per cent of the total Mineral Conservation and Development Rules (MCDR) mineral production by value. Production of iron ore was 274 million metric tonnes (MMT) in FY 2023-24," the data showed.



As per provisional data, production of iron ore has increased from 128 MMT in FY 2023-24 (April-September period) to 135 MMT in FY 2024-25 (April-September), showing a healthy 5.5 per cent growth.

Production of manganese ore has risen by 6.2 per cent to 1.7 MMT in FY

2024-25 (April-September) from 1.6 MMT during the corresponding period of the previous year.

According to the government data, in the non-ferrous metal sector, primary aluminium production in FY 2024-25 (April-September) posted a growth of 1.2 per cent over the corresponding period last year, increasing to 20.90 lakh tonnes (LT) in FY 2024-25 (April-

September) from 20.66 LT in FY 2023-24.

During the same comparative period, refined copper production has grown by 4.6 per cent from 2.39 LT to 2.50 LT.

India is the second largest aluminium producer, among the top 10 producers in refined copper and the fourth largest iron ore producer in the world. The country is also the third-largest lime producer in the world.

"Continued growth in production of iron ore in the current financial year reflects the robust demand conditions in the user industry viz steel," said the ministry.

Coupled with growth in aluminium and copper, these growth trends point towards continued strong economic activity in user sectors such as energy, infrastructure, construction, automotive and machinery, it added.

Glaucoma drug may help fight against dementia



New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Animal studies have shown the potential of a drug commonly used to treat glaucoma -- a chronic eye disease -- in fighting against dementia.

Researchers in the UK Dementia Research Institute at the University of Cambridge in the UK focussed on a class of drugs known as carbonic anhydrase inhibitors -- of which the glaucoma drug methazolamide is a part.

They found it can prevent the build-up of the protein tau -- linked to various forms of dementia in the brain.

Using genetically engineered zebrafish that could mimic so-called tauopathies, the team screened more than 1,400 clinically-approved drug compounds. Tauopathies are neurodegenerative diseases characterised by the build-up in the brain of tau protein 'aggregates' within

nerve cells. The researchers found that the drugs can help clear tau build-up and reduce signs of the disease in zebrafish.

The tau build up was also cleared in mice with the P301S human disease-causing mutation, which can lead to Alzheimer's, Pick's disease and progressive supranuclear palsy, they noted in the paper published in the journal *Nature Chemical Biology*. To understand the untreatable conditions, the team modelled tauopathy in zebrafish and screened 1,437 drug compounds.

In the genetically engineered mice, a treatment with methazolamide helped them perform better at memory tasks and also led to improved cognitive performance compared with untreated mice.

Analysis of the mouse brains showed that they indeed had fewer tau aggregates, and consequently a lesser reduction in brain cells, compared with the untreated mice.

"Methazolamide shows promise as a much-needed drug to help prevent the build-up of dangerous tau proteins in the brain. Although we've only looked at its effects in zebrafish and mice, so it is still early days, we at least know about this drug's safety profile in patients," said Professor Rubinsztein from the UK Dementia Research Institute at the University of Cambridge.

This Tamil Nadu village says no to firecrackers to protect 'Bat Grove'

Chennai, Nov 1 (IANS) Despite Tamil Nadu being the 'fireworks hub' of India, with the Sivakasi-based fireworks industry achieving an annual turnover of Rs 6,000 crore, a village in the state has chosen to celebrate Diwali without bursting firecrackers.

The residents of Perambur, a village in the Kunnam panchayat of Mayiladuthurai district, have refrained from using firecrackers for over a century to protect a sacred "Bat Grove" (locally known as "Vaval Thoppu") within the village.

This grove is home to hundreds of bats that nest on a massive banyan tree, which is also considered a shrine dedicated to Lord Muneeswaran, thus endowing the area with spiritual significance.

K.R. Palanisamy, a resi-



dent and small business owner, told IANS that the villagers view the Bat Grove as sacred.

Out of respect for the bats and to maintain tranquility, they avoid the use of firecrackers, which

could disturb the creatures.

Marriage alliances from outside the village are informed about this unique tradition, ensuring new families understand and respect Perambur's

commitment to preserving the bats and the sacred grove.

In addition to the primary banyan tree, other large banyan trees in the village also host numerous bats. Forest department

officials have observed that migratory birds have begun visiting the area in recent years, and they believe the site may soon become a recognised bird sanctuary. Villagers report a significant increase in bird populations during the migratory season.

Sukumaran Achary, a Perambur farmer, has called for a detailed study by the Forest Department to document the presence of these migratory birds and the evolving status of the grove as a potential sanctuary. The village is home to around 1,500 people, most of whom are paddy farmers.

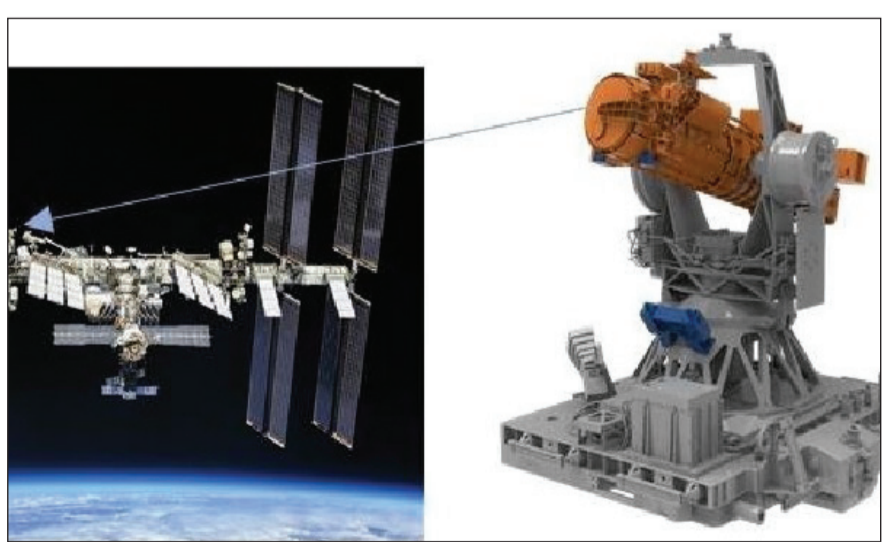
Umamaheswaran, an environmental activist from Madurai, praised the people of Perambur for their conservation efforts, urging further studies to understand and support the village's unique biodiversity.

S.Korea, NASA to send co-developed solar coronagraph to ISS

Seoul, Nov 1 (IANS) South Korea's national space agency on Friday said it plans to send a solar coronagraph jointly developed with the US to the International Space Station (ISS) to study the sun's outer atmosphere, or corona, and solar wind.

According to KASA, the Coronal Diagnostic Experiment (CODEX), a collaboration between the Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA) and the NASA, will be delivered to the ISS onboard Space X's Falcon 9 rocket Monday (US time) from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, Yonhap news agency reported.

As part of a bilateral solar research project, the coronagraph will be docked with the express logistics carrier on the ISS to observe the corona for up to 55 minutes per 90-minute Earth orbit.



CODEX is the world's first coronagraph designed to observe the temperature and velocity of the solar wind in addition to the density, KASA said, noting it will help researchers better understand solar wind and predict space weather.

The solar wind is a constant stream of particles

and magnetic fields released from the sun's outermost atmospheric layer that affects weather in space.

Meanwhile, the KASA has also signed a joint statement with the US NASA for cooperation in various areas involving space and aerospace research.

The agency has partnered with NASA to conduct studies related to the Moon exploration Artemis programme.

According to its officials, KASA's agreement with NASA aims to conduct research projects for sustainable exploration of the Moon and preparations for Mars exploration,

Yonhap reported.

South Korea is the fifth nation to sign such an agreement with NASA, according to the Korean space agency.

Under the agreement, KASA and NASA will collaborate to conduct feasibility studies on lunar landers, space communications, positioning, navigation and timing, tools and applications to support astronauts, and space-based life sciences and medical operations.

The projects also include lunar surface science and autonomous power, robotics, mobility systems, and activities in the cis-lunar space, which refers to the region of space between the Earth and the Moon.

South Korea is one of the 47 countries that have signed the Artemis Accords, a US-led international agreement for lunar exploration.

Now filter chats with customised lists on WhatsApp

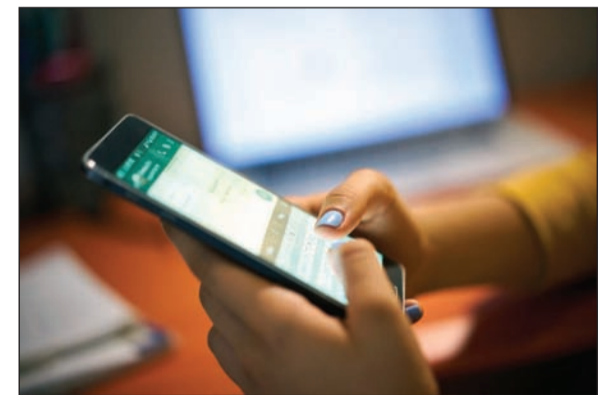
New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Meta-owned WhatsApp on Thursday made it easier to organise messages filling up users' inbox, which will help them keep track of conversations with family members, work colleagues, college friends and more.

Earlier this year, the popular messaging platform introduced chat filters as a way to find messages faster.

"We've had great feedback that they help you keep track of your chats, and we're excited to have quickly evolved them into Lists," said the social media company.

With Lists, you can now filter your chats with custom categories of your choice. Whether that's a list for family, work or your local neighbourhood, Lists help you focus on the conversations that are most important, when you need them.

"You can create and edit



your lists easily by tapping the + in the filter bar at the top of your Chats tab, or edit by long-pressing a list," said WhatsApp. Similar to your 'favourites', you can add both groups and one-on-one chats to a list, and any list you create will appear in the filter bar.

"We're rolling Lists out to users today, and will be available to everyone in the coming weeks. We look forward to expanding the functionality of Lists to help you focus on the people and conversa-

tions that matter most," the company informed.

By default, WhatsApp will still open to the "All" category, which displays all messages in chronological order.

Notably, WhatsApp already had a way to look at unread messages through a filter in the search bar. But with the new filter bubbles on top of the chat screen, the option is easily available.

Gmail users might find these filter bubbles familiar as the Google-owned email service introduced.

US Election: Harris says Trump shouldn't be telling women what to do with their bodies

Nevada, Nov 1 (IANS) Democratic presidential candidate and US Vice President Kamala Harris took aim at Republican candidate Donald Trump's positions on abortion and women's rights during a rally in Nevada.

Harris emphasised the Democratic Party's commitment to protecting personal freedoms, particularly a woman's right to make decisions about her own body without the government's interference.

"Ours is fighting for future and fight for freedom, like the fundamental freedom of women to make decisions about her own body and not have her government tell her what to do," Harris stated.

She accused Trump of playing a direct role in the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe vs Wade by appointing justices specifically aimed at eliminating abortion protections.

"We all remember how we got here. When Donald Trump was President, he hand-picked three members of the US Supreme Court with the intention that they would do away with the protection of Roe vs Wade; they did as he intended. Now in America, one in three women lives in a state with a Trump Abortion Ban -- many with no exception for rape and incest, which is immoral," she said.

Harris also referenced Trump's



past remarks where he suggested that he would "do what he wants whether women like it or not," arguing this demonstrates his lack of respect for women's autonomy.

"This is the same person who said that women should be punished for their choices. The courts will handle this, and we will handle November. We know that the man simply does not respect the freedom or the intelligence of women to be able to make decisions about our own lives," Harris continued.

She warned that Trump's

Trump," she added.

Urging voters to support Democrats, Harris said, "To make your right heard and to protect your right to take care of your own healthcare decisions, I would also recommend you vote on Yes on question six and make sure you vote up and down on ballot to truly protect your rights."

She assured supporters, "When Congress passes a bill restoring reproductive freedom nationwide, as the US President, I will proudly sign it into law."

Harris also warned of threats to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), commonly known as Obamacare, should Trump win. She pointed out that Trump's ally in Congress, the Speaker of the House, recently declared that there would be an 'End to Obamacare'. "The words he used were no Obamacare, which, if he were to get his way, if Trump wins, means they would throw millions of Americans off the health insurance and take us back, which would take us back to when, you'll remember, insurance companies have the ability to deny people with pre-existing conditions," Harris added.

With Election Day looming on November 5, Harris and Trump are in the final push of one of the most intense presidential races, with polls showing them locked in a tight battle.

At least 158 killed in Spain's flash floods

Madrid, Nov 1 (IANS) The death toll from rain-triggered flash floods in Spain has risen to at least 158, according to emergency rescue services in the country on Thursday afternoon.

In Valencia alone, at least 155 fatalities were confirmed from the floods that struck between Tuesday night and Wednesday, Xinhua

news agency reported, citing the regional authority.

In a post on social media platform X, the emergency coordination centre of the Valencian region stated that rescue workers were still searching for and identifying victims.

Three additional deaths were reported in Andalusia and Castile-La

Mancha, according to the regional emergency services.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez visited the Center for Coordinated and Integrated Operations on Thursday in the Valencian region, warning that the extreme weather responsible for the torrential rain and flash floods is "not over."

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर (उत्पादक शाखा)

:: आदेश ::

मुख्य निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-सचिव, झारखण्ड, राँची के पत्रांक-01/ नि०(वि०स०)-16 -13/24/5488 दिनांक-15.10.2024 एवं संयुक्त आयुक्त उत्पाद, झारखण्ड, राँची के पत्रांक-01/ नीति-05-10/2022-2207 दिनांक-18.10.2024 के आलोक में पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला के विधानसभा क्षेत्र में होने वाले विधानसभा आम निर्वाचन 2024 के निमित्त मतदान समाप्त होने के 48 घंटे पूर्व से लेकर मतदान की समाप्ति तक एवं मतगणना के दिन शुक्र दिवस (DRY DAY) घोषित किये जाने का निर्देश है।

पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला में छ: विधानसभा क्षेत्र यथा 44-बहरागोड़ा, 45- चाटशिला (अ०ज०जा०), 46-पोटका (अ०ज०जा०), 47-जुगसलाई (अ०जा०), 48-जमशेदपुर पूर्वी एवं 49-जमशेदपुर पश्चिमी में प्रथम चरण में चुनाव निर्धारित है।

लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम 1951 की धारा 135 (ग) में निर्दिष्ट निर्देश के आलोक में मैं अनन्य निराल, जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर आदेश देता हूँ कि विधानसभा आम निर्वाचन 2024 के अवसर पर पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला के सम्पूर्ण क्षेत्र में निम्न तिथियों/अवधि को शुक्र दिवस (DRY DAY) घोषित किया जाता है।

क्र० सं०	विधानसभा क्षेत्र का नाम	मतदान की तिथि	पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला में घोषित शुक्र दिवस तिथि व समय	शुक्र दिवस (DRY DAY) का क्षेत्र
1	44- बहरागोड़ा	13.11.2024	दिनांक-11.11.2024 के अपराह्न 5:00 बजे से दिनांक-13.11.2024 के अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक	सम्पूर्ण पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जिला
2	45- चाटशिला (अ०ज०जा०)			
3	46- पोटका (अ०ज०जा०)			
4	47- जुगसलाई (अ०जा०)			
5	48- जमशेदपुर पूर्वी			
6	49- जमशेदपुर पश्चिमी			
7	मतगणना की तिथि	23.11.2024	सम्पूर्ण दिवस	सम्पूर्ण पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जिला

शुक्र दिवस की उक्त अवधि में पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिला की सभी खुदरा उत्पाद दुकानें, होटल, रेस्तराँ एवं बार सहित अन्य उत्पाद अनुज्ञापि प्राप्त परिसर पूर्णतः बन्द रहेंगे तथा किसी प्रकार के होटल, रेस्तराँ, क्लब, भोजनालय, पाकशाला, दुकान तथा शराब बेचने या परोसने वाले प्रतिष्ठान में अथवा निजी या सार्वजनिक स्थल पर कोई भी शिष्टयुक्त, मादक लिकर या वैसी प्रकृति का कोई अन्य पदार्थ न तो विक्रय किया जायेगा, न परोसा जायेगा और न ही वितरित किया जायेगा।

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर
PR 339770 Election (24-25)_D

Trump condemns attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh

New York, Nov 1 (IANS) Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has condemned the attacks on Hindus and other minorities in Bangladesh and gave an assurance that he would strengthen the partnership with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and India.

In his strongly-worded post on X on Thursday, he also extended a greeting: "Happy Diwali to All. I hope the Festival of Lights leads to the Victory of Good over Evil!"

"I strongly condemn the barbaric violence against Hindus, Christians, and other minorities who are getting attacked and looted by mobs in Bangladesh, which remains in a total state of chaos," he said.

He accused his Democratic Party rival Kamala Harris and President Joe Biden of ignoring the plight of Hindus around the world and promised to protect Hindu Americans.

"It would have never happened on my watch," he wrote. "Kamala and Joe have ignored Hindus across the world and in America".

"We will also protect Hindu Americans against the anti-religion agenda of the radical left. We will fight for your freedom," he said.

There has been a spate of attacks on Hindu temples across the US, which have not received a strong response from the government or personal condemnation by Biden or Harris.

"Under my administration, we will also strengthen our great partnership with India and my good friend, Prime Minister Modi," he added.

Now in the final days of the campaign for the presidency, he warned the Hindu Americans who run businesses of the risks from a Harris administration.

Trump extends Diwali greetings; vows to strengthen ties with India and PM Modi

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Former US President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has said that the United States' "great partnership" with India and "my good friend Prime Minister (Narendra) Modi" will be strengthened under his administration.



In a post on X, Trump also extended his greetings on Diwali. "... Happy Diwali to All. I hope the Festival of Lights leads to the Victory of Good over Evil!" he posted.

In the same post, the former President

Nigeria: 321 people killed in nationwide flooding



Abuja, Nov 1 (IANS) At least 321 people have been killed and over 740,000 others displaced in Nigeria so far this year due to the floods that ravaged most parts of the country, authorities said.

In addition, some 2,854 people have been injured in the flooding, caused mainly by prolonged rainfall across the most populous African country, Chukwuma Soludo, Governor of the southeastern state of Anambra, told reporters in the capital of Abuja, after a monthly National Economic Council meeting presided over by Vice President Kashim Shettima, Xinhua news agency reported.

"The country is facing a national emergency concerning flooding and the reports so far identify a major national

disaster," as the rains have led to widespread displacement, loss of lives, and destruction of homes and livelihoods, Soludo said, citing briefings at the Economic Council meeting.

The senior official said that 34 out of Nigeria's 36 states have experienced flooding, and 217 out of the 774 local government areas in the country have been affected. The ravaging flood has displaced at least 740,743 people, and destroyed or affected 281,000 houses and 258,000 cultivated farmlands.

In response to the national disaster, the Economic Council, which statutorily comprises the Vice President and all 36 state Governors, has directed a comprehensive integrity review of the state of local waterways and dams to mitigate the ravaging impact of flooding.

"There was a serious emphasis on the need for a massive programme of dredging of the waterways. The council also urged Governors who have not submitted their reports on their states' flooding situation and management to do so immediately," Soludo added.

Iran, Algeria urge efforts to stop Middle East conflict

Tehran, Nov 1 (IANS) Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi and his Algerian counterpart, Ahmed Attaf, called for effective efforts to stop Israel's "genocide in Gaza and aggression against Lebanon."

During a phone call on Thursday, both parties discussed the latest developments in the region, as stated by the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Xinhua news agency reported.

The situation in the region has become precarious due to the ongoing Israeli attacks in Gaza and Lebanon, underscoring the necessity for the international community to engage in effective and coordinated efforts, particularly within the framework of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, to stop the attacks, said the statement.

In their talks, the Iranian foreign minister praised Algeria for its firm positions in support of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and condemnation of Israel's recent "aggression" against Iran.

Australian PM celebrates Diwali, Bandi Chhor Divas in Sydney

Sydney, Nov 1 (IANS) Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Friday visited the Sydney Murugan Temple along with Parramatta MP Andrew Charlton to celebrate Diwali with the country's Hindu community.



"Deepavali celebrates the victory of light over darkness. Fantastic to join with the Tamil Australian community at the Sydney Murugan Temple today. The temple draws in people from all walks of life every day, and has become a sanctuary for Western Sydney's South Asian Hindu community," Albanese posted on X.

Later, he also visited Gurdwara Sahib in the Sydney suburb of Glenwood on the occasion of Bandi Chhor Divas.

"Wonderful to celebrate at Gurdwara Sahib Glenwood today and open the newly expanded kitchen, serving thousands of

people every week." Albanese stated while posting photographs of him wearing a turban during the visit.

On Thursday, while extending his Diwali wishes, Albanese said that the festival of lights is an "extraordinarily beautiful celebration of faith and culture" that inspires Australians from all walks of life.

"This annual festival of joy, hope and togetherness is an extraordinarily beautiful celebration of faith and culture - one embraced by Australia's diverse and vibrant society," Albanese stated in his Diwali greetings.

"With its celebration of the victory of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance,

it affirms the ideals that inspire Australians from all walks of life. The rituals and traditions of Diwali are in every way an expression of community, culture and heritage. It's a moment to enjoy the company of loved ones, and to reflect on the shared inheritance of centuries of tradition," he added.

The Australian PM emphasised that the festival of lights, joy, hope and togetherness is an extraordinarily beautiful celebration of faith and culture - one embraced by Australia's diverse and vibrant society.

"As families and friends gather in homes, parks, temples and community centres across our nation, may the glowing lights of this cherished festival bring you peace and joy. To everyone who celebrates, I wish you a wonderful Diwali," he mentioned.

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त का कार्यालय पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा (मतपत्र एवं ETPBMS कोषांग)

अनुलग्नक- (क)

प्रथम चरण के विधानसभा क्षेत्रों के ड्राफ्ट मतपत्र के माध्यम से मतदान हेतु निर्धारित स्थल एवं तिथि

क्र०	मतदाता का प्रकार	पोस्टल बलेट हेतु स्थल का नाम	दिनांक
1	Voters on Election Duty (पीठासीन पदाधिकारी / P1, P2 & P3) जोनल मजिस्ट्रेट / स्टेटिक मजिस्ट्रेट / सेक्टर मजिस्ट्रेट / माइक्रो ऑब्जर्वर / विडियोग्राफर / वेब कार्टिंग कर्मी विभिन्न कोषांग में कार्यरत पदाधिकारी एवं कर्मी / RO / ARO / All Officer (Voters) who are working on Election Duty etc.	प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र स्कॉट बालिका मध्य विद्यालय, चाईबासा	03.11.2024 से 11.11.2024
2	Voters on Election Duty (पुलिस पदाधिकारी / कर्मी / होमगार्ड / अन्य पुलिस बल)	मध्य विद्यालय, पुलिस लाईन, चाईबासा	03.11.2024 से 11.11.2024
3	Remaining Voters on election duty PB voting at Facilitation Centre	1. DEO Office (समाहरणालय), पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा। 2. अनुमण्डल कार्यालय, सदर चाईबासा 3. अनुमण्डल कार्यालय, चक्रधरपुर 4. अनुमण्डल कार्यालय, जगन्नाथपुर	03.11.2024 से 11.11.2024
4	For remaining Voter at Dispatch Centre	टाटा कॉलेज, चाईबासा	12.11.2024
5	Postal Voting at PVC (PVC for AVES)	1. DEO Office (समाहरणालय), पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा। 2. अनुमण्डल कार्यालय, चक्रधरपुर 3. अनुमण्डल कार्यालय, जगन्नाथपुर	08.11.2024 से 10.11.2024
6	Home Voting for AVSC & AVPD	मतदाता का आवास	03.11.2024 से 07.11.2024 (1st Round) 08.11.2024 से 10.11.2024 (2nd Round)

अनुलग्नक- (ख)

द्वितीय चरण के विधानसभा क्षेत्रों के ड्राफ्ट मतपत्र के माध्यम से मतदान हेतु निर्धारित तिथि

क्र०	मतदाता का प्रकार	पोस्टल बलेट हेतु स्थल का नाम	दिनांक
1	Voters on Election Duty (पीठासीन पदाधिकारी / P1, P2 & P3) जोनल मजिस्ट्रेट / स्टेटिक मजिस्ट्रेट / सेक्टर मजिस्ट्रेट / माइक्रो ऑब्जर्वर / विडियोग्राफर / वेब कार्टिंग कर्मी विभिन्न कोषांग में कार्यरत पदाधिकारी एवं कर्मी / RO / ARO / All Officer (Voters) who are working on Election Duty etc.	DEO Office (समाहरणालय), पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।	05.11.2024 से 18.11.2024
2	Voters on Election Duty (पुलिस पदाधिकारी / कर्मी / होमगार्ड / अन्य पुलिस बल)	DEO Office (समाहरणालय), पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।	05.11.2024 से 18.11.2024
3	Remaining Voters on election duty PB voting at Facilitation Centre at DEO office	DEO Office (समाहरणालय), पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।	05.11.2024 से 18.11.2024
6	Postal Voting at PVC (PVC for AVES)	1. DEO Office (समाहरणालय), पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा, 2. अनुमण्डल कार्यालय, चक्रधरपुर 3. अनुमण्डल कार्यालय, जगन्नाथपुर	14.11.2024 से 16.11.2024

जिला निर्वाचन पदाधिकारी-सह-उपायुक्त, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा
PR 339789 West Singhbhum (24-25)_D

Health

Study finds placenta's hidden role in maternal anxiety, depression

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) In groundbreaking research, a team of Australian researchers has identified the placenta's unexpected influence on maternal mental health. The finding may potentially revolutionise the understanding of pregnancy-related anxiety and depression and help develop a treatment for the conditions.

Scientists at the Mater Research Institute-University of Queensland identified 13 distinct glucocorticoid receptor isoforms in the placenta, with one particular variant showing a surprising response to maternal stress.

"We have discovered that the placenta has 13 different isoforms of the glucocorticoid receptor, with one isoform expressed in the presence of maternal stress, anxiety, and depression that activates an inflammatory response in the placenta in the presence of high cortisol concentrations," said Professor Vicki Clifton in a Genomic Press Interview published in Brain Medicine on Tuesday.

The research challenges conventional understanding of stress responses during pregnancy. While most glucocorticoid receptors typically suppress inflammation, this newly identified variant appears to enhance it. This potentially explains the complex relationship between stress and inflammation in pregnant women.

Professor Clifton's research has unveiled crucial differences between male and female foetuses, mediated through sex-specific placental functions.

"Presently, we do not consider the sex of the foetus in obstetrics," she said. "I would like to see sex-specific medicine for pregnancy complications, for the care of preterm neonates, and for the care of newborns."

The research suggests that maternal physiology can vary depending on the sex of the foetus. This opens up new possibilities for personalised interventions in pregnancy care. The insight could also be applied to how clinicians view pregnancy complications and neonatal care. The team now aims to find how placental inflammation might influence maternal brain function, potentially exacerbating anxiety and depression symptoms during pregnancy. The findings may revolutionise our approach to perinatal mental health care and lead to targeted interventions based on placental function.



Shammi Kapoor's Birthday and Raj Kapoor's Diwali Party: A Legendary Celebration

Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Legendary actor Shammi Kapoor's birthday and the extravagant Diwali party hosted by his brother Raj Kapoor were once celebrated together, creating an unforgettable event that resonated throughout the film industry.

Shammi, known for his captivating on-screen performances and charismatic presence, was born on October 21, 1931. In the year 1960, the festivities sparked even more brightly as they coincided with Raj Kapoor's renowned Diwali bash, famous for its grandeur and star-studded guest list. Raj Kapoor often threw lavish Diwali parties at RK Studios, where



guests were treated to a sumptuous feast, traditional sweets, and a dazzling display of fireworks that lit up the night sky.

Raj Kapoor, known for his generosity, used to give lavish gifts to his friends, including actress Nargis, the composer duo Shankar-Jaikishan, lyricists Shailendra and Hasrat Jaipuri, as well as singers Lata Mangeshkar, Mukesh, and Manna Dey.

Shammi's love for Diwali was deeply rooted in the cherished memories of his childhood. In an old interview, he recalled how his mother, who adored the festival, would watch him and Raj Kapoor as they burst firecrackers. Shammi shared, "This is the Diwali season. It is festival of lights and firecrackers. People light up their houses just like their hearts. I especially want to talk about my mother. My mom loved the Diwali festival. I remember she used to stand on the second floor of our Matunga house, where she would watch what was happening below."

Every year, the Kapoor family comes together to enjoy the festival of lights, continuing their cherished traditions and celebrating the bonds of family.

On Diwali, Kareena Kapoor shares a sneak peek into Halloween night

Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Kareena Kapoor Khan, who is an avid social media user, recently took to Instagram to share a glimpse of her Halloween celebration featuring husband Saif Ali Khan and their son Taimur.

On Thursday, Kareena dropped a spooky photo showing Saif standing near the entrance of a Halloween party. Though his look is obscured by dim lighting, he appears serious and somber, while beside him, Taimur is seen enjoying himself, fully immersed in the festive atmosphere.

The dimly lit photo captures only the silhouettes



of Saif and Taimur, set against a haunting backdrop filled with ghosts, coffins, skeletons, and other Halloween decorations scattered throughout. Alongside the image that she dropped on Diwali, Kareena wrote, "Aaj Halloween haibhihaina," adding a white heart emoji. The 'Jab We Met' actress also shared a photo with the 'Singham Again' team, sending Diwali wishes to her fans.

Meanwhile, Kareena's latest film, 'Singham Again', hits cinemas today.

She reprises her role as Avni Singham in this installment, directed by Rohit Shetty. The cop drama also stars Ajay Devgn, Deepika Padukone, Tiger Shroff, Arjun Kapoor, Ranveer Singh, and Akshay Kumar. 'Singham Again' is the fifth entry in Shetty's cop universe and the third film in the 'Singham' series. The film draws inspiration from the Hindu epic Ramayana. Ajay Devgn embodies a modern-day version of Lord Ram, while Tiger Shroff plays Lakshman.

Shraddha Kapoor : I love wearing sneakers



New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Bollywood star Shraddha Kapoor can be called a sneaker head as she loves wearing the footwear in her day-to-day life.

Asked what she likes more - stilettos or sneakers, Shraddha told IANS: "If you're going to a party, then you end up wearing stilettos. But if you're going to a party, when you're going and wearing stilettos, but you're dancing a lot, you change into your sneakers. So I'm that person." "And but otherwise, day to day, I love wearing sneakers," added the actress, who is the brand ambassador of sportswear label Asics.

Talking about her view on the rise of fitness culture in the country and Prime Minister Narendra Modi promoting it too, the actress shared: "You know, I think all of us should be promoting a fitness culture or within ourselves and within spread it around our loved ones as well and encourage fitness because ultimately health is the ultimate wealth." "So it's very important, I believe, to lead a healthy and balanced life and to follow some kind of fitness routine. I think that, I mean, of course, it depends."

The actress was in the National Capital for the launch of a new store of the brand. The 37-year-old actress said that her association has been amazing. "I have been wearing Asics even before I became their brand ambassador and I think a partnership like that is more special when you genuinely believe in the brand and their philosophy of sound mind and sound body." "I don't think anybody nails sports shoes the way it does. I know so many people who are also in my family and my friends circle who are crazy Asics fans and I am one of them."

Karan Johar is blown away by teaser of 'Baby John', calls the film 'helluva ride'

Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Karan Johar recently took to social media to express his excitement after watching the teaser for "Baby John", a highly anticipated film starring Varun Dhawan and Jackie Shroff.

The first teaser of "Baby John", released alongside "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3" and "Singham Again", was leaked online. The intriguing teaser shows Varun in a never-seen-before avatar. Not just fans, even Karan Johar, can't stop gushing over the actor, calling the film a "helluva ride". He said he is completely "blown away" after watching Varun's performance. Taking to his Instagram stories, KJo shared a note that read, "Blown away by the Teaser of Baby John!!! Wow!!! This is going to be one helluva ride in the cinemas!!! XMAS Blockbuster Alert!!!!"

The nearly two-minute teaser shows a young girl narrating a story about how even the smallest creatures, like ants, can



take down a mighty elephant. This sets the stage for the intense glimpses that follow of Varun as Baby John, in various avatars: a fierce cop, a relentless action hero, a skilled cook, and, most tenderly, a devoted father to his little girl. The teaser also showed a glimpse of Wamiqa Gabbi, Keerthy Suresh, and Jackie Shroff, who will portray antagonist in the movie.

The makers of 'Baby John' issued a special note to audiences as exclusive taster cut releases in cinemas on November 1. An excerpt from the post read, "We're excited to

announce that we will be releasing an exclusive Taster Cut of Baby John for the very first time which will be exclusively running in cinemas from 1st November and digital worldwide from 4th November.

This is a special moment for us, and we can't wait for you to witness the storm of revenge and power that awaits. We appreciate the enthusiasm surrounding the film and kindly request that audiences respect our hard work by refraining from posting or recording content that could contribute to piracy."

Shruti Haasan binges on Indian sweets only on Diwali

Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Actress-singer and musician Shruti Haasan is all set to celebrate Diwali with friends in Mumbai and said that it is the only time she binges on Indian sweets otherwise she sticks to her diet.

Talking to IANS about her plans on celebrating Diwali, Shruti said: "Diwali this year is quiet and simple with friends and in Mumbai ! Nothing major, just enjoying time around good food and good hearts."

When it comes to indulging, Shruti likes to keep her calories in check but Diwali is the time when she likes to binge. "I try to stick to my diet but I never can because I have a major sweet tooth and Diwali sweets are my favourite only at that time of the year I binge on Indian sweets," said the actress, who is the daughter of veteran star Kamal Haasan and Sarika. Known for her goth looks and her love for the black and grey hues, Shruti said that this time of the year, she likes to soak in the festivities with a sprinkle of colour on her. "I like to change up colour out of my usual black and grey during Diwali because it is festive but you'll never see me go too crazy with colour if it's my personal choice," said the 38-year-old actress.

Shruti has girly moments with just a sparkler and is not a "big fan" of crackers. "I'm not a big fan of noisy polluting crackers I'm usually still the stand in the corner with one sparkler and be done girl," said Shruti, who will next be seen in the film "Coolie" starring Rajinikanth.



Talking about "Coolie", an action thriller, directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj. It also stars Nagarjuna, Soubin Shahir, Sathyaraj and Upendra. Shruti was last seen in "Salaar: Part 1 - Ceasefire," a Telugu-language epic action thriller film directed by Prashanth Neel. The film stars Prabhas, Prithviraj Sukumaran, Jagapathi Babu, Bobby Simha and Sriya Reddy.

Why does Anil Kapoor say it's worth staying away from home on Diwali?

Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Anil Kapoor, who is busy shooting for his next project, "Subedar", reveals why staying away from home this Diwali was worth it.

The actor spent the festival of lights on the sets of his upcoming actioner. On Friday, Anil shared a series of images where he is seen celebrating Diwali with the team of "Subedar."

Sharing the images, the 'Mr. India' actor wrote in the caption, "Chaliye is Diwali ki kahaanisunte hain...Is baar Diwali ghar se door zaroorhai, par apno se door nahi. Issgharmein mere 300 apnerchte hain aur hum sab aapkeliye ek sensational kahaani banana mein din raat ek karrahe hain. Thank you to the entire crew for choosing us as your family this year



;) Can't thank you enough." Kapoor added, "Let's make a story that we can all be proud of, a story that's worth staying away from home for. SUBEDAR TAIYYAR! Happy Diwali!"

In one of the pics, Anil is seen lighting a phuljhadi, a traditional sparkler that symbolizes the festive spirit of Diwali. Other shows him posing with the

team of "Subedar." Anil is seen sporting black-coloured kurta pyjama.

On a related note, "Subedar" began filming on floors on October 30. The film will star Anil Kapoor in the titular role, while Radhikka Madan plays his daughter Shyama. Produced by Vikram Malhotra, Anil Kapoor and Suresh Triveni, the action thriller, will be directed by Suresh Triveni, who is known for helming films like "Jalsa" and "Tumhari Sulu." "Subedar" takes place in the heart of rural India, centering around Subedar Arjun Maurya as he struggles to adapt to civilian life after his military service. He faces the difficulties of a fractured relationship with his daughter while also confronting various societal issues.

Jackie Shroff, Neena Gupta's impromptu duet stole the show at Diwali party

Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Veteran Bollywood stars Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta performed a duet on an old track called "Nain So Nain Nahi Milao" at a Diwali party, which was attended by names such as Mallika Sherawat, Poonam Dhillon, Anu Ranjan and Shashi Ranjan.

Actress Mallika Sherawat took to her Instagram stories, where she shared a video of Jackie and Neena, who have worked together in projects such as "Khujli" and "Mast Mein Rehne Ka", singing the number, which has been originally voiced by late legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar from the 1955 film "Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baje" directed by V. Shantaram. The other guests looked enchanted as the two started singing the old song.

Jackie looked dapper in an all black ensemble while Neena too twinned with the actor in black. To add some glitter, the actress wore gold earrings.

Talking about Jackie, his latest release is "Singham Again" directed by Rohit Shetty. The actor will be seen playing an antagonist in the movie, which has been given a spin of Ramayana. The film also stars Ajay Devgn, Kareena Kapoor, Tiger



Shroff, Akshay Kumar, Ranveer Singh, Tiger Shroff, Deepika Padukone and Arjun Kapoor. 'Singham Again' went on floors in September 2023, and wrapped up in September 2024. The film was shot in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kashmir and Sri Lanka. It is scheduled to be released on Diwali 2024.

Meanwhile, Neena recently became a grandmother. On October 14 she shared a picture and said "meri beti ki beti".

Neena was seen holding her designer daughter Masaba Gupta's newborn lovingly in her arms. The actress was seen smiling as she looked at the baby.

3rd Test: India slump to 86/4 after Jadeja, Sundar bowl out New Zealand for 235 on Day 1

Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shubman Gill shared a half-century partnership but India wasted the opportunity to end Day 1 of the third Test at 86/4 after Ravindra Jadeja claimed his 14th five-wicket haul and Washington Sundar bagged a four-fer to bowl out New Zealand for 235 at the Wankhede Stadium here on Friday.

Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shubman Gill had shared a half-century partnership for the second wicket, with the Mumbai opener surviving some anxious moments and scoring 30 off 52 balls, hitting four boundaries. He and Gill added 53 runs for the second wicket before Jaiswal fell to Ajaz Patel, getting bowled while attempting a reverse sweep. India's troubles compounded when nightwatchman Mohd Siraj was trapped LBW by Patel for a golden duck and Virat Kohli ran himself out for four.

At stumps, Shubman Gill was batting on 31 with Rishabh Pant on 1 as India dug themselves into a hole.

Playing on home turf, opener Jaiswal and skipper Rohit Sharma survived some anxious overs before India lost their first wicket with 25 runs on the board. Rohit, who was put down by William O'Rourke near the fine-leg boundary, was caught by his counterpart off a thick edge as he shaped up to play defensively to a length ball just outside off-stump by Matt Henry. Rohit scored a run-a-ball 18, hitting three boundaries.

Jaiswal, who was beaten off successive balls by O'Rourke in the fourth over, struck Glenn Phillips for back-to-back boundaries on the leg-side as he and Shubman Gill took India past fifty surviving some testing moments. The absence due to injuries of Tim Southee and Michell Santner was in their

Jadeja's fiery five-wicket haul matches Abdul Qadir's record



Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) Ravindra Jadeja brought his A-game to the third and final Test between India and New Zealand at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium on Friday, equalling the record of Pakistan's Abdul Qadir for most five-wicket hauls by a

favour as Ajaz Patel, Glenn Phillips and Ish Sodhi could not make a breakthrough. Gill, who survived a chance as an edge off

spinner in home Tests.

Jadeja's performance matched the legendary Abdul Qadir, as both now hold 12 five-wicket hauls at home—a milestone that places them joint-eighth on the all-time list of Test spinners led by Sri Lanka's Muttiah

his bat struck keeper Tom Blundell on the helmet, struck Ajaz Patel for back-to-back fours and jumped out to hammer Phillips for

playing the Test, took all ten wickets against India in 2021.

Jadeja's outstanding spell of 22-1-65-5 dismantled New Zealand's batting lineup, bundling the Black Caps out for 235 in 65.4 overs after the visitors chose to bowl first.

a fine six. He and Jaiswal reached fifty of their second wicket partnership off 58 balls. Earlier, Ravindra Jadeja bagged his 14th

Muralitharan with 45 five-wicket hauls from 73 Tests.

The five-fer, his 12th at home, took him past a few other legends, including Kapil Dev, Glenn McGrath and Waqar Younis.

Among all spinners, only seven players are ahead of him on the list.

Among active cricketers, only R Ashwin (29) and Shakib Al Hasan (14) have more home five-fors.

Incidentally, Jadeja became the tenth left-arm spinner to take a Test five-for at the Wankhede stadium. At the same ground, Ajaz Patel, also

five-wicket haul and Washington Sundar claimed four wickets as India bowled out New Zealand for 235, 42 minutes after tea.

Battling to avoid a 0-3 whitewash, the Indians opted for a rank turner and Jadeja and Sundar strangled the New Zealand innings as the ball turned square on the first day itself.

Jadeja claimed 5-65 landing double strikes twice while Sundar bagged two wickets apiece in the morning and evening sessions for his 4-81 as the Indian bowlers exploited the turning track to the fullest. They shared nine wickets between them while Akash Deep claimed 1-22 in five overs as Ravichandran Ashwin went wicketless (0-47 in 14 overs)

New Zealand have to thank Will Young and Daryl Mitchell for helping them to a decent total as they shared an 89-run partnership for the fourth wicket. Young scored a patient 71 while Mitchell top-scored with 82 off 129, hitting three fours and three sixes. Only four of New Zealand's batters reached double figures as the visitors lost six wickets for 76 runs.

New Zealand, who were 92/3 at lunch, added 100 runs for the fall of three more wickets, all picked by Jadeja, as they reached 192/6 in the afternoon session. Jadeja and Sundar claimed two wickets apiece after tea as New Zealand were bowled out for 235.

Brief scores:

At stumps, Day 1: New Zealand 235 all out in 65.4 overs (Daryl Mitchell 82, Will Young 71; Ravindra Jadeja 5-65, Washington Sundar 4-81) lead India 86/4 in 19 overs (Shubman Gill batting 31, Yashasvi Jaiswal 30; Ajaz Patel 2-33) by 149 runs.

IPL 2025 retentions: Netizens welcome Dhoni after CSK retain 'Thala'

New Delhi, Oct 31 (IANS) Cricket fans on social media expressed their delight after MS Dhoni -- the 43-year-old legendary wicketkeeper-batter -- was retained for INR 4 crore by the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) on Thursday.



For the records, barring 2016 and 2017 when he played for Rising Pune Supergiant when the Super Kings were going through a suspension period, Dhoni hasn't moved from CSK.

"What a super Diwali for Dhoni fans. He will be there in IPL 2025. Great dedication to play," one fan wrote. Another fan said, "Hero is back. Legend Dhoni will rule again."

Dhoni holds the record for playing most matches in the history of the IPL. In 264

matches since his debut back in 2008, Dhoni has scored 5243 runs at an average of 39.12 with a top score of 84 not out. Apart from the IPL, the veteran also led CSK to glory in the Champions League T20.

Earlier on Thursday, CSK decided to exercise the infamous 'uncapped player' rule to retain Dhoni as they also decided to keep hold of captain Rituraj Gaikwad and Ravindra Jadeja for 18 crores, Matheesha Pathirana for 13 and Shivam Dube for 12.

All the ten Indian Premier League franchises have announced their list of retained players ahead of the 2025 auction. Notably, three major captains Rishabh Pant, KL Rahul and Shreyas Iyer will be entering the auction.

IPL 2025: Virat Kohli, Rajat Patidar and Yash Dayal retained by Royal Challengers Bengaluru

New Delhi, Oct 31 (IANS) Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) have announced that they have retained talismanic batter Virat Kohli (INR 21 crore), top-order batter Rajat Patidar (INR 11 crore), and uncapped left-arm fast-bowler Yash Dayal (INR 5 crore) ahead of IPL 2025.

"We're all too aware of the need to establish a strong Indian core to our team going into the 2025 IPL season, and we feel that our retention decisions are a significant step in the right direction. It's great to continue Virat's lengthy association with RCB, I'm confident that a new group of players will benefit hugely from his inspirational and infectious energy, and his commitment to high standards," said Mo Bobat, Director of Cricket at RCB. RCB have chosen not to retain their captain Faf du Plessis, all-rounders Glenn Maxwell and Will Jacks, as well



as fast bowler Mohammed Siraj. "It's also great to secure both Rajat and Yash, two excellent players that offer relatively unique skills and abilities. In Yash's case, as an uncapped player, he also represents outstanding financial value."

"It's always sad to release players, given the strength of relationships that are built and the many shared achievements and memories, and I wish all departing players well. As for us, we now commence our auction

preparations having retained top Indian talent, whilst also giving ourselves both options and flexibility with our three remaining RTMs, and a healthy available purse. It should be fun!" added Bobat. Speaking further on retaining Dayal, who's in India's T20I team for the upcoming series against South Africa and Patidar, who made his Test debut earlier this year, head coach Andy Flower explained the rationale behind it.

"We are thrilled to retain Yash Dayal, an extraordinary talent

whose career is on an upward trajectory. His unique ability as a left-arm bowler, capable of swinging the ball in both directions, adds a valuable dimension to our bowling attack-one that is increasingly rare in the auction landscape."

"Having witnessed Yash's impressive performance last season, we are eager to secure this crucial role and support his continued development as a key player for RCB. Rajat Patidar is a key member of our squad. His exceptional talent and resilience have already made a significant impact on our team, and he truly embodies the spirit of RCB. We are excited to see him continue to develop and shine in the upcoming season."

Anish Sarkar becomes youngest FIDE-rated chess player



New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Anish Sarkar, became the youngest-ever FIDE-rated player, after an impressive Elo rating of 1555 on Friday.

At just three years, eight months, and 19 days old, he has claimed the title of the youngest FIDE-rated chess player. Anish debuted at the 1st All Bengal Rapid Rating Open 2024, where he scored an impressive 5 points from 11 games.

Just weeks later, Anish had the incredible opportunity to play against

Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi, India's top player and world-ranked No. 4, during a rapid rating tournament. Though he initially did not qualify, a last-minute opening allowed him to participate as a substitute. This stroke of luck put Anish on a fast track, exposing him to high-level competition and igniting his drive to earn his first official rating.

Following his match with Erigaisi, Anish took on another significant challenge in the West Bengal State Under-9 Open Rating 2024, where he scored an impressive 5.5 out of 8 and secured 24th place out of 140 participants.

He showed his determination by defeating two rated players in the final rounds, a feat remarkable for someone his age and experience. In pursuit of his FIDE rating, Anish continued his participation in additional rated tournaments to meet the official requirements. His journey culminated in the West Bengal State Under-13 Open Rating 2024.

ITTF unveil 16 qualified teams for Mixed Team World Cup

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) With one month to go for Mixed Team World Cup 2024, the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) unveiled the 16 qualified teams that will battle for the Guoliang-Sorling Trophy from December 1-8 in Chengdu, China.

The elite lineup features Australia, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Japan, South Korea, Poland, Romania, Singapore, Sweden, the United States, and Hong Kong, representing five continents.

Defending champions China will face stern competition on home soil as they aim to retain their crown from the inaugural 2023 edition.

According to the ITTF, the tournament also features an innovative three-stage format, which will see a total of 52 matches across all stages (24 in Stage 1, 24 in Stage 2, and 4 in Stage 3).

In Stage 1, the 16 teams will be divided into four groups of four, where the highest-ranked teams are placed in different groups (1st in Group 1, 2nd in Group 2, 3rd in Group 3, and 4th in Group 4), with the remaining teams drawn two at a time in seeding order following a snake system. Each group will be played in a complete round-robin format.

In Stage 2, the top two teams from each Stage 1 group advance to form a single eight-team group. These teams then compete in another round-robin format, but with a strategic variation - teams that have already faced each other in Stage 1 won't play again, with their previous results carrying forward. This innovative approach ensures fresh matchups while maintaining the significance of early tournament performances.

Ranchi to host state badminton championship from Nov 15

Dhanbad, November 1: Ranchi District will host Yonex Sunrise Jharkhand Badminton Championship cum selection trial for senior men and women and 2nd Ranchi district major ranking badminton championship for boys and girls from November 15 to 17. Giving this information secretary of Ranchi District Badminton Association (RDBA) N K Dey said that besides it, veterans matches of all categories (above 35 years to 75 years will be also held. "All matches will be played at Thakur Vishwanath Shadedo Indoor Stadium, Khel Gaaon, Ranchi. Over 400

players are likely to participate in these three-day tournament.

On the basis of performance in the tournaments, players of Jharkhand teams would be selected for nationals", said N K Dey.

Ranchi District Badminton Association secretary N K Dey further said that in junior categories of boys and girls under-9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and under-19 events will be held. In double boys and girls under-13, under 15, 17 and under 19 while in mixed doubles under-15, 17 and under -19 events would be held.

Ruben Amorim appointed head coach of Manchester United till June 2027



Manchester, Nov 1 (IANS) Manchester United have announced the appointment of highly sought after manager, Ruben Amorim as the side's new head coach on a two and a half year contract which has tied him at Old Trafford till June 2027.

"Manchester United is delighted to announce the appointment of Ruben Amorim as Head Coach of the men's first team, subject to work visa requirements.

"He will join until June 2027 with a club option of an additional year, once he has fulfilled his obligations to his current club. He will join Manchester United on Monday 11 November," read

the statement by Manchester United.

Ruben will be replacing the current interim manager Van Nistelrooy, who was appointed after the sacking of Erik Ten Hag, after the November international break on November 11.

"Ruben is one of the most exciting and highly rated young coaches in European football. Highly decorated as both a player and coach, his titles include winning the Primeira Liga twice in Portugal with Sporting CP; the first of which was the club's first title in 19 years.

Ruud van Nistelrooy will continue to take charge of the team until Ruben joins," the statement added.

Ajit Chavan stars as U Mumba clinch thrilling win vs Jaipur Pink Panthers

Hyderabad, Oct 31 (IANS) U Mumba battled hard and overcame the challenge from the Jaipur Pink Panthers, to pick up a thrilling win at the GMCB Indoor Stadium, here on Thursday.

U Mumba won the contest with a scoreline of 39-37. For U Mumba, it was Ajit Chavan who scored the most points with 14 to his name, while Neeraj Narwal got 12 for the Jaipur Pink Panthers. Rinku and Amirmohammad Zafardanesh also added 4 points each for the U Mumba side.

Ajit Chavan's early flurry of points ensured that the U Mumba would have a good start against the Jaipur Pink Panthers, who took time to get going. And in the initial phase of the contest, the U Mumba side had the better of the



Jaipur Pink Panthers.

Neeraj Narwal and Vikash Kandola were leading the charge for the Jaipur Pink Panthers and by the 10th minute they turned things around, and brought the

contest to level terms. For the U Mumba side, Ajit Chavan Rinku were doing most of the heavy lifting early on. Around the 12th minute, the U Mumba inflicted an ALL OUT on the

Jaipur Pink Panthers, and got themselves some breathing space. As the half wore on, U Mumba kept their opposition at bay, and at the half-time break, they led 19-16.

The second half saw both teams start cautiously in the initial minutes. Early on though, a solid defensive performance saw the Jaipur Pink Panthers cut down the deficit to 1-point. And 7 minutes into the half, the Jaipur Pink Panthers' Lucky Sharma landed an important ALL OUT and got their noses out in front of U Mumba. At the half hour mark, the two sides were tied at 27-27. And while Ajit Chavan had reached 12 points for U Mumba, Neeraj Narwal and Arjun Deshwal were leading the way for the Jaipur Pink Panthers.

Kannada Rajyotsava celebrated with much fervour in Karnataka, PM, HM, CM greet people

Bengaluru, Nov 1 (IANS) Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated with great fervour across the state of Karnataka on Friday as the state government organised major events to mark the day.

Kannada Rajyotsava is observed on November 1 every year to commemorate the formation of the state of Karnataka after Independence.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister Shivakumar and BJP National President JP Nadda, among others, extended their greetings to the people of the state and commended its contributions to the country.

The Karnataka state came into existence on November 1, 1956. The state that was at that time called Mysuru was later renamed Karnataka in 1973.

CM Siddaramaiah greeted the people of the state and hoisted the flag in a public function organised at the Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru to mark the 69th Kannada Rajyotsava.

He also paid floral tributes to the idol of goddess Bhuvaneshwari and later hoisted the Indian Tricolour and Kannada flags.

He also inaugurated the cultural programmes mirroring the local



culture and heritage on the occasion.

The grand function was attended by Dy CM and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Minister for Education Madhu Bangarappa.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi taking to social media stated, "Kannada Rajyotsava is a very special occasion, recognising the exemplary culture and traditions of Karnataka. This state is blessed with outstanding people, who are powering growth and innovation across sectors. May the people of Karnataka always be blessed with

happiness and success."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said, "Heartfelt greetings to our sisters and brothers in Karnataka on the occasion of Rajyotsava. As proud inheritors of a glorious heritage, the people of Karnataka have contributed immensely to enhancing the nation's pride."

Praying for the state's continued progress, BJP National President J.P. Nadda stated, "I extend my greetings to the people of Karnataka on its Rajyotsava. Karnataka Rajyotsava is a reminder of the rich history,

diverse culture, and the spirit of unity that defines the state. Its people have always had an affinity towards innovation and enterprise. May the people of this state be blessed, happy and prosperous always."

Dy CM Shivakumar extended Deepavali and Kannada Rajyotsava greetings to the people of Karnataka on Friday.

"My heartfelt greetings to all the Kannadigas around the world on the occasion of the 69th Kannada Rajyotsava. Kannada is not just a language; it is an emotion," he stated.

BJP, Shiv Sena-UBT engage in war of words over MNS event



Mumbai, Nov 1 (IANS) The BJP and Shiv Sena-UBT on Friday engaged in a war of words on social media over the celebration of Deepotsav at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park by the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS).

The trigger was SS-UBT's move to approach the state Chief Electoral Officer on Thursday citing the violation of the model code of conduct by MNS. The party has also demanded that the expenses for the celebration of Deepotsav be included in the poll expenditure incurred by the MNS nominee and the party chief Raj Thackeray's son Amit Thackeray from the Mahim Assembly constituency.

The Mumbai BJP headed by Ashish Shelar in its post on X targeted the SS-UBT saying, "Chhatrapati Shivaji

Park, a historical place in Mumbai a testimony to the legacy of Swargiya Balasaheb Thackeray's historical speeches on Hindutva. Such a downfall to the legacy being tainted by his own son @OfficeofUT as UBT has gone to Election Commission complaining over Diwali Celebrations at Shivaji Park. Are Hindu Festivals hurting Aurangzeb Fan Club?"

SS-UBT shot back at the BJP in its defence. "Using Hindutva for dirty politics is what you get. It is clear that the opposition is not to 'Diwali' but to its political use. But by continuously telling lies and spreading 'Fake Narrative', even now you have shown your 'Chunavi Hindutva!'," remarked SS-UBT.

Further, the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena

reminded the BJP, "Like you used Ram Mandir also for election. The temple was inaugurated before it was even completed and Lord Ramchandra was taken to the half-built structure. The result was the same, Shriram also showed you your place. Wherever Sri Ram lived, it became BJP-free! Now Maharashtra will be 'BJP free!'"

The verbal duel took place amid growing bonhomie between the BJP and MNS. BJP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis and Mumbai unit chief Ashish Shelar have been arguing that the MahaYuti should support the MNS nominee Amit Thackeray from the Mahim constituency on the ground that the MNS chief Raj Thackeray had extended his support.

Three generations of a family killed in Diwali night clash in Andhra Pradesh

Amaravati, Nov 1 (IANS) A man, his son, and grandson were killed in a clash between two groups in Andhra Pradesh's Kakinada district, police said on Friday.

The incident occurred in Salapaka village of Kajuluru mandal during Diwali celebrations on Thursday night.

Two groups attacked each other with knives, sickles and other sharp-edged weapons, police said, attributing the triple murder to an old rivalry between the groups.

Three generations of one family were wiped out in the shocking incident. Police found the bodies of the victims lying in a pool of blood with their heads smashed and sickles in their hands.

Preliminary investigations by the police suggest the attack was sparked by old rivalries and derogatory comments made by the victims towards the families of the accused. A police officer said both groups

were drunk and attacked each other following an argument over the comments made by one group against the other.

The victims were identified as Bathula Ramesh, his son Bathula Chinni, and grandson Bathula Raju.

Senior police officials rushed to the village, which was tense after the incident. The bodies were shifted for autopsy. Police personnel were deployed in the village to prevent further violence.

Police have registered a case and taken up investigations. The assailants fled after the attack and the police formed special teams to arrest them.

Meanwhile, two more incidents of group clashes have been reported from Guntur and Prakasam districts. Two youths were injured in a clash between two groups at a fast food centre in Guntur district.

Names changed in land records, says K'taka ex-Dy CM

Bengaluru, Nov 1 (IANS) Former Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister and BJP MLA C.N. Ashwath Narayan on Friday criticised the Congress government's decision to transfer the land of farmers and citizens to the Waqf board, alleging that by issuing notices and making land record changes has snatched away the rights of people and farmers.

Speaking to media at the BJP state office, Jagannath Bhavan in Bengaluru, he said that these attempts by the Congress government are condemnable.

India, Pakistan border troops exchange Diwali sweets near Jaisalmer

Jaipur, Nov 1 (IANS) Indian and Pakistani troops posted on the border exchanged sweets on the occasion of Diwali near Jaisalmer in Rajasthan, continuing the tradition of greeting each other on the festival and displaying the flag of peace, an official said on Friday.

Border Security Force officials gave sweets to Pakistani Rangers and the Pakistani Ranger also greeted them by saying "Happy Diwali" and offering sweets.

The exchange of sweets and greeting took place near the Zero line, said the official.

The BSF jawans posted



in the desert area under the Rajasthan Frontier celebrated the festival of lights by giving the message of unity and security to the countrymen and lighted diyas at forward posts of the border and distributing sweets.

Women jawans also

made rangoli, adding to the celebratory Diwali atmosphere on the border.

In 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had celebrated Diwali with soldiers here. He flew to Longewala Post in Rajasthan and rode on a tank during his visit.

PM Modi continued his

tradition of celebrating Diwali with the Indian armed forces this year as well and spent time with soldiers at Lakki Nala in Gujarat's Sir Creek on Thursday.

Extending his wishes, he lauded the commitment and dedication of soldiers stationed at the challenging border area.

"On this sacred land near Sir Creek, it is my privilege to celebrate Diwali with you. When I celebrate with you, the joy of Diwali multiplies. This Diwali is special as Lord Ram has finally returned to his temple in Ayodhya," he said, noting the symbolism of this year's festival.

Bihar CM asks officials to set paddy procurement target at district level

Patna, Nov 1 (IANS) Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Friday emphasised the efficient and timely procurement of paddy to support farmers across the state.

In a review meeting with the cooperative department, attended by Cabinet Minister Prem Kumar and other senior officials, the Chief Minister instructed departments to establish district-wise procurement targets based on estimated paddy production.

Kumar underscored the need for vigilance against any irregularities in the procurement process and stressed that officials should work diligently to prevent issues that could disrupt or delay assistance to farmers.

"The paddy procurement should proceed swiftly and smoothly to ensure that farmers face no difficulties in selling their produce," Kumar said.

The Chief Minister also reiterated the government's commitment to assisting farmers and ensuring that all those involved in agriculture are supported without inconvenience, particularly during the paddy procurement season.



This approach aims to provide stability to the agricultural sector and prevent distress among the farming community.

During the review meeting on paddy procurement, Kumar was joined by key officials, including Principal Secretary to the CM Deepak Kumar, Chief Secretary Amritlal Meena, and Principal Secretary Dr. S. Siddharth.

K Sarwanan, Secretary of the Food and Consumer Affairs Department, provided an update on the procurement process for the

Kharif marketing year 2024-25, highlighting important details such as the MSP for general-grade paddy has been set at Rs 2,300 per quintal this year, ensuring fair compensation for farmers.

He also pointed out that the procurement window is scheduled from November 1, 2024, to February 15, 2025, offering ample time for farmers to sell their produce.

The state aims to procure 45 lakh metric tonnes of paddy, a goal that aligns with the increased production capacity and demand.

He also said that the number of operational parboiled rice mills has grown to 360, bolstering the state's processing capacity.

Dharmendra Singh, Secretary of the Cooperative Department, outlined the action plan for procurement.

The phased approach began on November 1 in 19 districts, with the remaining districts set to initiate procurement on November 15. This staggered approach is expected to streamline operations and accommodate regional production variations, benefiting farmers across Bihar.

PM extends wishes as Kerala marks 68 yrs of statehood

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov 1 (IANS) As Kerala celebrates its 68th formation day on Friday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi wished the state on the occasion.

"Kerala Piravi greetings! Kerala state is known for its mesmerising landscapes, vibrant traditions and hardworking people. People from Kerala have made their mark all over the world, across different fields. May the people of the state keep progressing in the times to come," said PM on his social media account.

The state of Kerala was created on 1 November 1956. Prior to 1956, Kerala had been divided into four regions: South Canara (Kasaragod region), Malabar, Cochin, and Travancore.

On 1 November 1956, the taluk of Kasargod in the South Canara district of Madras, the Malabar district of Madras, and Travancore-Cochin, without four southern taluks (which joined Tamil Nadu), merged to form the state of Kerala under the States Reorganisation Act.



Then soon came the first Assembly election and that too was a record of sorts when the now legendary Communist E. M. S. Namboothiripad-led government became the first elected Communist government in the world.

More popularly known as Kerala Day in English and Kerala Piravi in Malayalam, the day is celebrated every year on November 1 to commemorate the establishment of the state of Kerala.

On a broader note, this day is also seen as one to spotlight Kerala's progress, achievements, and cultural heritage on a global stage.

Complete failure of Centre: AAP on double murder in Delhi's Shahdara on Diwali night

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) As a 40-year-old man and his teenage nephew were shot dead and a ten-year-old boy was injured in Delhi's Shahdara on Diwali night, AAP leader Saurabh Bharadwaj on Friday criticised the BJP-led Central government for the worsening law and order situation in the national Capital and termed it a complete failure of the Union government.

The shocking double murder took place while the victims were celebrating Diwali outside their house in the Farsh Bazar area around 8 P.M. on Thursday night.

A video of the incident that went viral on social media, shows Akash Sharma (40) and Rishabh Sharma (16), both wearing yellow kurtas, preparing to burst firecrackers, when the accused reached the spot on their scooter.

According to the family and eyewitnesses, the men came on a scooter and touched Akash's feet, before they opened fire on him and the others standing there. Krish Sharma, the ten-year-old son of Akash Sharma suffered injuries during the shooting.

As they fled on their scooter after committing the murder, Rishabh Sharma ran after the assailants but was also shot



by them.

Talking to IANS, Saurabh Bharadwaj said, "The law and order situation in Delhi has been quite distressful for the last few days. Big gangs are now active. We used to hear about such crimes in Mumbai, but, the situation of Delhi has really worsened. There were also reports of over 60 rounds fired in Delhi's Welcome area recently."

"On the day of Diwali, two members of a family were shot dead in Delhi in front of everyone. The Centre is responsible for the worsening law and order situation of the national Capital," he added.

He further asserted that the Centre has failed in controlling the law and order in the national Capital.

LoP Rahul Gandhi shares special Diwali moments with painters, potter family

New Delhi, Nov 1 (IANS) Rahul Gandhi, Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, celebrated Diwali in a special way, sharing moments with artisans and painters in the run-up to the festival of lights and appreciating their contribution towards bringing joy to others.

On Friday, LoP Gandhi released videos on his social media handle X, giving his storyline a heading in Hindi - 'A Diwali with those whose labour lights up India.'

One of the nine-minute videos shows Rahul Gandhi himself joining the painters at his bungalow in carrying out repairs on walls and roof using a metal 'patti' and putty.

He is also seen complaining about a burning sensation in eyes, highlighting the everyday challenges the workers overcome to earn a living.

"It is our collective responsibility to bring light and prosperity in the lives of these people," says Rahul Gandhi in one of the posts, carrying a collage of photos showing him painting a wall and sharing a cup of tea with



the workers in the bungalow's courtyard.

In another video section, he is seen sitting on a potter's wheel and picking up a few tricks from a woman head of the family, Ramrati, who lives in West Delhi's Uttam Nagar.

From preparing the clay to shaping the pot on the potter's wheel, a collage of photos and videos posted on Gandhi's X handle carry the message, "These

artisans and workers have limited opportunity for prosperity and experience uncertainty in work."

"They can improve their economic condition and earn laurels for the country if they are provided adequate opportunities," says Rahul Gandhi's post.

The video also prominently features Rahul's nephew, Raihan Vadra, son of Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and looks to capture the spirit of Diwali as both walk down the driveway of the bungalow

with hundreds of lamps and lights glittering in the dark background.

In the section focussed on painters, one of the videos also carries bytes of the painters - Saqib and Umesh - appreciating the down-to-earth gesture of "sahib" (Gandhi) in joining them in painting the house.

They also appreciated the helping hand lent to them by Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi.

The videos also showcase moments between LoP Gandhi and Raihan in which the Congress leader, while taking a stroll in the driveway of the lit-up bungalow is heard explaining his logic behind roping in his nephew for the painting exercise.

"Youngsters these days spend most of their time on WhatsApp, cell phone and iPad. I want them to see what goes into such an effort," says Rahul Gandhi, referring to the painted bungalow, beautifully lit by the diyas.

In the subsequent conversations, Rahul Gandhi even asks Raihan if he found the work easy.