Two-phase Bihar polls on Nov 6 & 11; counting on 14

Polling this time will be shortest for the state in over a quarter century

Polling for the Assembly elections in Bihar will take place in two phases, on November 6 and 11, and the votes will be counted on November 14, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar on Monday announced.

The two-phase polling is the shortest in Bihar in over a quarter century, at least since the state was split to carve out Jharkhand. The CEC described the polls as the "mother of all elections" for the number of electors (74.3 million) and the people on poll duty (850,000).

The Assembly polls five years ago, in 2020, were conducted over three phases. The state had polls across five phases in 2015, six phases in 2010, and four and three phases in October and February of 2005, respectively. Kumar attributed the EC's decision to hold polls across fewer phases to electors' awareness, an improved law and order situation, and the availability of central armed paramilitary forces. During the poll panel's visit to Bihar on October 4 and 5, political parties requested holding polls in fewer phases.

Ever since the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, which were a prolonged affair because of an intense heat wave and had led to the deaths of dozens of poll officials and also contributed to a lower voter turnout, the EC has tried to shorten the poll schedules in the subsequent Assembly elections.

The term of the current Bihar Assembly expires on November 22. It will be the first elections to be held after the EC conducted the "special intensive survey", or SIR, in Bihar, which led to the deletion of 6.85 million voters from the state's electoral rolls and later an addition of 2.153 million electors.Kumar said the EC had decided to conduct the SIR in the rest of the country, and the poll panel would meet to decide the schedules for the other states, and



The CEC attributed the decision to hold polls across fewer phases to electors' awareness, improved law and order situation, and the availability of central armed paramilitary forces

'Mother of all elections'

Polling	Nov 6 (121 seats) Nov 11 (122 seats)
Counting	November 14
Total seats	243 (including ST – 2, SC – 38)
Total electors	74.3 mn
20-29 age group electors	16.3 mn
First-time electors	1.40 mn
Polling stations	90,712
Source: ECI	

Union territories. The next hearing in the petitions challenging the EC's SIR in the Supreme Court is on Tuesday.

On the deletions from the electoral rolls, Kumar attributed these to voters who were deceased, those who couldn't prove their citizenship, people with two entries in the rolls, and those who had migrated from Bihar. He, however, did not give the numbers for each category.

The CEC referred to Supreme Court judgments to point out that the Aadhaar was not a proof of date of birth or domicile or citizenship. According to the poll schedule, of the 243 Assembly constituencies, 121 will go to the polls on November 6 and the rest on November 11. It is the first election after Kumar took over as CEC.

On postal ballots, Kumar said: "It is mandatory to complete counting postal ballots before the last two rounds of vote counting." To questions on the EC sharing the CCTV footage of polling booths, Kumar said such footage was shared by the high court concerned, where an election petition was filed against the result of a particular poll. According to the Conduct of Election Rules, Form 17A, which carries the names of the electors who have voted at the polling station, is not shared with anyone except courts. The CCTV footage of voting centres is considered an electronic extension of the form and is not shared to protect the identity of those who voted and those who did not

The CEC argued such information could be used against electors. He recalled that some petitions were filed at the Bombay High Court, seeking such footage, but they were rejected, citing a previous Supreme Court order. Subsequently, the top court too had upheld the order of the Bombay High Court.

In December, the government tweaked an election rule to prevent public inspections of certain electronic documents, such as CCTV camera and webcasting footage as well as the video recordings of candidates to prevent their misuse.

Based on the recommendations of the EC, the Union law ministry amended Rule 93(2)(a) of the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, to restrict the type of "papers" or documents open to public inspection.

ALL IN A DAY

6 killed as fire ravages Jaipur's SMS hospital, relatives allege negligence

A massive fire blazed through the neuro ICU of Jaipur's staterun Sawai Man Singh (SMS) Hospital in the dead of the night, killing six patients on critical care support, officials said on Monday. Eleven patients were being treated in the ICU at the time, said trauma centre in-charge Dr Anurag Dakhad. The fire, which erupted in the storage area around midnight, is suspected to have been caused by a short circuit.

The flames spread fast and rescuers could pull out only five patients. "Six people, two women and four men died, and five are undergoing treatment," Dhakad said. "Fourteen other patients were admitted in a different ICU, and all were successfully evacuated to safer locations," he added.

SC notice to Centre, Ladakh on plea challenging Wangchuk's detention

The Supreme Court on Monday sought response from the Centre and the Union Territory of Ladakh on a writ petition filed by activist Sonam Wangchuk's wife Gitanjali J Angmo, challenging his detention under the National Security Act and seeking his immediate release.

A Bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and NV Anjaria, however, refused to pass any order on her plea for providing her the grounds of detention and posted the matter for hearing on October 14. "Something has been done for now," the Bench said. Wangchuk was detained under the National Security Act on September 26, two days after violent protests demanding statehood and Sixth Schedule status for Ladakh.

ACCENT REGION

UTTAR PRADESH

Industrial push: Govt shifts focus to smaller towns

VIRENDRA SINGH RAWAT Lucknow, 6 October

towns still lag behind.

To usher in balanced development, the Uttar Pradesh government is focusing on driving industrial growth beyond its major cities, pushing Tier- II, -III towns

into spotlight. While industrial hubs such as Noida, Ghaziabad, Agra, Lucknow, Meerut, Kanpur already have a robust industrial and commercial ecosystem, the smaller

To bridge this gap, the UP State Industrial Development Authority (UPSIDA) has taken up the task for promoting an equitable industrial growth across the state. Since UP is targeting to become a \$1 trillion economy by 2030 and a \$6 trillion economy by 2047, fostering industrial and economic expansion in smaller regions

industrial growth in the Tier-II, III towns chal (Eastern UP) region.

to boost the state's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and spur employment as well as self-employment opportunities," UPSIDA CEO Mayur Maheshwari told Business Standard.

UPSIDA has built a robust inventory of industrial grade land in smaller towns for investors. The authority manages 176 industrial areas across 75 districts, covering almost every potential pocket in the land-locked state. Land allotment is carried out through a transparent single window clearance system, while the Nivesh Mitra portal provides quicker resolution of grievances, he added.

In the FY24 and 25, UPSIDA allotted 698 and 798 plots. In FY26, nearly 324 plots have already been allotted, sustaining the momentum. At the UP Ground Breaking Ceremony (GBC) 4.0 in Lucknow in February 2024, about 374 industrial projects worth about ₹35,700 crore were launched "We have the mandate to promote in the comparatively backward Purvan-

CHHATTISGARH

has become crucial.

Coal India's 1st all-woman-operated central store unit opens at SECL

Raipur, 6 October

In a major step towards women empowerment, South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL), on Saturday inaugurated the company's first fully woman-operated central store unit at its workshop in Korba.

"The initiative, launched under the Government of India's Special Campaign 5.0. follows the successful establishment of CIL's first all-woman-operated dispensary at Vasant Vihar, Bilaspur, earlier this year, and reinforces the company's ongoing commitment to nari shakti se rashtra shakti," the company spokesperson said. The new unit will handle the supply of spare parts and inventory man- atives across the company.

agement through a team of eight women officers and staff, led by Sapna Ikka, senior manager (E&M) and alumna of IIT (ISM)

Dhanbad, the spokesperson said. He added that store operations will be conducted through a modern SAP-based digital management system, ensuring

efficiency and transparency. Harish Duhan, chairman & managing director (CMD) of SECL, said: "The initiative marks a new chapter in SECL's journey of inclusion. After the successful launch of Coal India's first woman-operated dispensary in Bilaspur, we are proud to inaugurate another pioneering step in Korba."

The unit is expected to become a model of inclusive growth in the core industrial sector and inspire similar initi-

RAJASTHAN

State to spend ₹23 cr to boost religious tourism

The state's finance department has approved about ₹23 crore for the renovation, beautification, and development of religious tourist destinations, according to a tourism department official.

The finance department has also granted approval of over ₹4.35 crore for the conservation, restoration, and development of Nahargarh and Amer as iconic tourist destinations, for promoting heritage tourism in Jaipur, they

"We want to give a further boost to religious tourism, and for this, we plan to improve the facilities and services for millions of pilgrims and spiritual tourists. The government aims to undertake holistic development of temple towns and temples and the surrounding area by creating pilgrim waiting areas, parking areas, pathway development, pilgrim facilities and amenities," the official said.

According to the plan, the funds approved by the finance department would be used on renovation and beautification work at various religious sites.

"For the safety and convenience of tourists and devotees, the finance department has granted financial approval of around ₹2 crore for tourism development at the Trinetra Ganesh Temple in Ranthambore, Sawai Madhopur district," he said.

According to the plan, the tourism department will construct a convenient road from Hammir Mahal to the Trinetra Ganesh Temple. Public amenities such as drinking water facilities among

others will also be provided for devotees. Similarly, financial approval of over ₹1 crore has been granted for development work at the famous Dwarkadhish Temple in Raisamand district, This will include the construction of a food court, public amenities in the parking lot, painting, and electrification of the complex. Rajasthan attracts millions of domestic tourists and pilgrims every year to its famous temples and religious destinations.

Lawyer tries to hurl shoe at CJI in courtroom; PM condemns incident

BHAVINI MISHRA New Delhi, 6 October

A lawyer who on Monday hurled an object at Chief Justice of India (CJI) B R Gavai in the courtroom was suspended

by the Bar Council of India (BCI).

Justice CJI was hearing the morning mentioning of lawyers' pleas.

In a post on X, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Spoke to Chief Justice of India, Justice BR Gavai Ji. The attack on him earlier today in the Supreme Court premises has angered every Indian. There is no place for such reprehensible acts in our society. It is utterly condemnable. I appreciated the calm displayed by Justice Gavai in the face of such a situation. It highlights his commitment to values of justice and strengthening the spirit of our Constitution."



After the incident, Chief Justice of India Justice BR Gavai continued with the day's proceedings

removed his shoes and hurled them at the CJI. Kishore was also heard shouting that India would not tolerate disrespect for Sanatana Dharma. After a brief inter-The incident happened in the ruption, Justice Gavai continued with the Supreme Court at around 11:35 am, when day's proceedings. Asking the next Advocate Rakesh Kishore allegedly lawyer to make submissions, the CJI

remarked, "Don't get distracted. We are not distracted by this.'

In its suspension notice, the BCI said Kishore's conduct was "inconsistent" with its rules and the dignity of the court and therefore he was being immediately suspended. Later in the day, Kishore, 71, was allowed to go after being questioned by the Delhi Police for more than three hours.

The Supreme Court registrar, on the instructions of the CJI, refused to press charges against him, sources said.

What Kishore did is said to be in response to the CJI's remarks in a case related to the restoration of a seven-foot beheaded statue of Lord Vishnu in Khajuraho. CJI Gavai had supposedly asked the petitioner to "go and ask the deity itself" to do something about the missing head.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta supported the CJI, saying that the statement was blown out of proportion.

AI widely used in **Op Sindoor: Army**

Military-specific large language model to be ready in 6 months

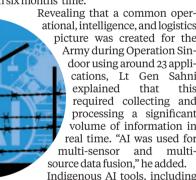
BHASWAR KUMAR

New Delhi, 6 October

Home-grown military software applications and artificial intelligence tools were extensively employed by the Indian Army during Operation Sindoor to accelerate decision-making and enhance battlefield awareness, a senior officer said on Monday, adding that these capabilities will be further upgraded with a military-specific large language model (LLM) expected to become functional within six months.

Clarifying that the tools were not directed at any specific country but developed to give the Army specific capabilities, Lieutenant General Rajiy Kumar Sahni, Director General of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (DG EME), added that they are meant to be deployed along all of the nation's borders.

"That capability, in equal measure and when required, will be deployed along all our borders," Sahni said. Speaking at a briefing in the national capital, the DG EME also underlined that these tools were indigenously developed and trained using data provided by the Army to meet its operational and doctrinal requirements. Underscoring that both the Army and the nation are steadily upgrading their capabilities, Lt Gen Sahni, who served as DG Information Systems before taking charge as DG EME, said, "Our military LLM will be fully functional, post testing and validation, in six months' time."



ational, intelligence, and logistics picture was created for the Army during Operation Sindoor using around 23 applications, Lt Gen Sahni explained that this required collecting and processing a significant volume of information in real time. "AI was used for multi-sensor and multisource data fusion," he added. Indigenous AI tools, including

small language models, were used to collate and analyse the data."Threat assessment, intelligence analysis, and (battlefield) situation review— what has transpired in the last three hours was conducted with the help of AI," said Lt Gen Sahni, adding that heat maps were also generated at the joint operational control centre to support resource prioritisation during the May 7-10 conflict with Pakistan. AI tools were also used in precision targeting during Oper-

ation Sindoor, with Lt Gen Sahni citing one app-developed by the Army's Directorate General of Information Systems (DGIS) in collaboration with the India Meteorological Department that provided 72-hour meteorological forecasts covering areas deep into adversary territory.

"This helped artillery engage with precision at extended ranges," he said. An electronic intelligence collation application, also developed by the DGIS, was employed during Operation Sindoor. Lt Gen Sahni explained that the AI model was trained using about 26 years of data collected by Indian agencies and armed services. "All of the adversary's sensors, their frequency and signature, where these systems have moved, which units they are with... We can track all of that. And we have achieved over 90 per cent accuracy."

However, Lt Gen Sahni underscored that the "human-in-theloop" approach — where humans remain actively involved in AI-enabled decision-making — was maintained throughout the operation. Responding to questions on Chinese support for Pakistan during Operation Sindoor and their respective AI capabilities, particularly that of Beijing, Lt Gen Sahni said that the Indian Army was focused on building capabilities, without targeting a specific country, and was fully aligned with the Centre's IndiaAI mission.

Cough syrup deaths: NHRC sends notices to MP, Rajasthan, UP

SANKET KOUL & PTI New Delhi, 6 October

States are stepping up vigil on prescribing and dispensing cough syrups to children after at least 14 of them died in Madhya Pradesh's Chhindwara district due to alleged intake of contaminated cough syrups. This comes after the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Monday issued notices to three states-Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, directing them to probe allegations of children's deaths due to contaminated cough syrup and immediately ban the sale of spurious medicines. The body also asked the Drugs Controller General of India to order an investigation into the supply of spurious drugs and instruct all regional labs to collect the samples of spurious drugs and submit test reports.

Authorities found contaminants such as diethylene glycol (DEG) in a sample of Coldrif cough syrup collected from MP. While the Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration has appealed people to stop the sale or use of a specific batch of Coldrif syrup, Telangana government directed all District Medical and Health Officers to sensitise the public on the alert concerning the particular batch. According to people in the know, several states are checking if the syrup from the indicated batch has been dispensed in their jurisdictions, with some even checking samples of all brands of cough syrup for contamination.



GOKAK TEXTILES LIMITED

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Email: secretarial@gokaktextiles.com Website: www.gokaktextiles.com

SPECIAL WINDOW FOR RE-LODGEMENT OF TRANSFER REQUESTS OF PHYSICAL SHARES In accordance with SEBI circular no. SEBI/HO/MIRSD/MIRSD-PoD/P/CIR/2025/97 dated July 02

2025, shareholders of Gokak Textiles Limited are hereby informed that a special window has been opened from July 07, 2025 to January 06, 2026, for re-lodgement of transfer deeds. Shareholders are to note that this window is only for re-lodgement of transfer deeds, which were lodged prior to the deadline of April 01, 2019 for transfer of physical shares, and rejected/ returned

not attended to due to deficiency in the documents/process/or otherwise The shares re-lodged for transfer will be processed only in dematerialized form during this window Eligible shareholders may submit their transfer request along with the requisite documents to the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent (RTA) Mis MUFG Intime India Private Limited, C 101, Embassy 247, L.B.S Marg, Vikhroli (West) Mumbai - 400083 or email to

For Gokak Textiles Limited

Bengaluru, October 06, 2025

Rakesh M. Nanwan

OSBI

State Bank of India (Constituted under the State Bank of India Act, 1955) Corporate Centre, 14th Floor, State Bank Bhavan, Madame Cama Road

Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400021 Website: https://bank.sbi Email: investor.seva@sbi.co.in Phone No.:022-2274-2403/0844/0843

Special Window for Re-lodgement of **Transfer Requests of Physical Shares**

It is to inform our esteemed shareholders that in terms of SEBI Circula SEBI/HO/MIRSD/MIRSD-PoD/P/CIR/2025/97 dated July 02, 2025, special window to facilitate re-lodgement of transfer requests of physica Shares has been opened for a period of six months from July 07, 2025 to

The special window is available for transfer deeds / documents which were odged prior to the deadline of 01.04.2019 and rejected/ returned/ no attended to due to deficiency in the documents/ process/ or otherwise but could not be re-lodged by 31.03.2021. The concerned investors may re-lodge the necessary documents afte

rectification of deficiencies, to the Bank's Registrar and Transfer Agen i.e. KFin Technologies Limited at Selenium Tower B. Plot 31 & 32. Financia District, Nanakramguda, Hyderabad, Telangana, 500032. Email einward.ris@kfintech.com; Toll free: 1800 309 4001; website

We also request all the shareholders to update KYC details including PAN email id, address, mobile number and bank account details with the DP (i shares are held in demat form) or with RTA (if shares are held in physica form), to ensure the ease of communication and seamless payment o

Shareholders holding shares in physical form are requested to demat their shares, by submitting share certificate of face value of Re.1/- to thei Depository Participant.

Date: 07.10.2025

Manoj Kumar Sinha



बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda



NVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) IN RESPECT OF SALE/ASSIGNMEN OF STRESSED LOAN EXPOSURE OF DISTRIBUTION LOGISTICS INFRASTRUCTURE PRIVATE LIMITED ("DLI") TO THE PERMITTED ENTITIES UNDER SWISS CHALLENGE METHOD

METHOD

Bank of Baroda ("BoB"), on behalf of consortium of lenders comprising of Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, Bank of India, Asset Reconstruction Company India Limited and State Bank of India (collectively "Lenders" or "Consortium Lenders") invites Expression of Interest ("EOI") from eligible AROs / Banks / NBFCs / All India Financial Institutions or any other transferees (collectively "Permitted Entitles" or "Bidders") eligible/permitted in terms of the Master Direction - Reserve Bank of India (Transfer of Loan Exposures) Directions, 2021, as amended from time to time ("RBI Master Directions") and any other directions issued by the Reserve Bank of India.

M/s. Distribution Logistics Infrastructure Private Limited ("DLI" or "Company") has availed debts from Lenders led by Bank of Baroda ("Lead Bank") having Fund Based outstanding amount of Rs. 695.27 Crore (Rupees Six Hundred and Ninety-Five Crore and Twenty-Seven Lakh only) as on August 31, 2025.

The Lenders propose to sale/assign the outstanding debts owed by the Company to the

The Lenders propose to sale/assign the outstanding debts owed by the Company to the Lenders together with all associated rights, benefits and security interest created in thei avour ("Lenders" bebt") in terms of the RBI Master Directions to the Permitted Entities.

In terms of the RBI Master Directions, the Lenders will undertake a Swiss Challenge Bid Process ("the Bid Process") on "All Cash" basis only. The transfer of Lenders' debt to Successful Bidder shall be on an "as is where is", "as is what is basis", "as is how is," 'whatever there is" and "without recourse basis" without any representation, warranty or ndemnity by the Lenders, based on existing offer in hand ("Anchor Bid"). Considering that the auction is under "Swiss Challenge Method", with the Anchor Bid being the Base Bid, the Anchor Bidder shall have specific preferential rights as set out in Bid Process Document and further have right to match the highest bid in the manner as elaborated in Bid Process Document.

Jocument. To conduct the Bid Process, the Lead Bank (on behalf of Lenders) has mandated BOE Japital Markets Limited ("BOBCAPS" or "Process Advisor") to assist and advise the Lenders on the Bid Process and matters incidental thereto. BOBCAPS, on behalf of the ead Bank, hereby invites EOI from eligible Permitted Entities to acquire the Lenders.

Regd. Off.: 113, 1st Floor, Shyam Kamal B Society, 27 Tejpal Road, Vile Parle East, Mumbai – 400057,

| Maharashtra | Last date for submission of EOI | October 10, 2025 at 5 PM | Details of Dealing Officer/s | Mr Binod Kumar, Assistant General Mana | Email: armban@bankofbaroda.com Other Terms and Condition

Other Terms and Condition

The Deal Summary containing the format of EOI, other documents is available on the Lead Bank's website www.bankofbaroda.bank'in and Process Advisors website www.bobcaps.in. Interested Bidders should submit the duly completed EOI (along with duly executed annexures) electronically via email to armban@bankofbaroda.com & logistics@bobcaps.in and physically at K/A – Mr. Vinay Tibrewal, Assistant Vice President, BOB Capital Markets Ltd, Office Unit no 1704, 8 Wing, Parinee Crescenzo, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East, Mumbai 400051. The deadline for submission of same is October 10, 2025 by 5.00 PM (IST). Upon submission of duly completed EOI (along with duly executed annexures) as available on Lead Bank's/Process Advisor's website, the Eligible Bidders will be shortlisted and the shortlisted Eligible Bidders would be allowed access to Virtual Data Room ("VDR") for further information including the Information Memorandum (if any) for commencing due diligence in the account of DLI. This will be followed by participation in the E-auction to be conducted on October 27, 2025 from 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. wherein the Bidders will be required to submit their irrevocable binding bids in accordance with the terms and timeline set out under the Deal Summary and the Bid Process document.

Please note that Bid Process envisaged in this advertisement shall be subject to the final approval of the Competent Authority of the Lenders. Lead Bank', Lendersy Process Advisor (on instruction of the Lenders) reserves the right to cancel/modify/withdraw the Bid Process and / or disqualify any Bidders without assigning any reason and without any liability. This is not an offer document and nothing contained herein shall constitute a binding offer or commitment to sale any debt/ asset. Any of the terms and conditions of the EOI and Bid Process Decument may be ammended or changed or the entire Bid Process and be amended or changed or the enter Bid Process Moteous assigning any reason or assuming any liabil

BOBCAPS For further details contact
1) Mr. Vinay Tibrewal - AVP; Phone: +91 9820146186;
2) Mr. Jatan Joshi - SM; Phone: +919426726294; Email: logistics@bobcaps.in

detailed Terms & Conditions of the bid process, Please refer to the link provided on nk of Baroda website: https://bankofbaroda.bank.in/ or BOBCAPS website

Date : October 7, 2025

Sd/-Mr. Binod Kumar, AGM Bank of Baroda ZOSARB Branch, Bengaluru





