

Central Chronicle

Founder: Late Shri Ramgopal Maheshwari
Inspiration: Late Shri Prafulla Kumar Maheshwari

EDITORIAL

Challenges of alliance

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's NDA government is likely to be formed on Sunday. This time he will face the challenges and compulsions of alliance. For the first time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will run the government with an alliance. He has run the government with full majority thrice as the Chief Minister of Gujarat and twice as the Prime Minister. Obviously, it will be interesting to see how he runs the government in coordination with the alliance in the new political situation. Anyway, despite anti-incumbency against the government for two consecutive terms, BJP emerging as the largest party cannot be called a very bad performance. But the way BJP ran the government with an overwhelming majority in the last two Lok Sabha elections was possible only due to a sufficient majority, only then BJP was able to take many transformative decisions. The latest election results have once again brought back the coalition era in the country. The kind of political instability that has been there in the last two decades of the last century can never be said to be in the interest of the country. While frequent elections have been a huge economic burden on the country, it has also had an adverse effect on the country's image in the world. In the last decade, due to a strong government in the country, India has had an effective role in many international matters. A glimpse of which was seen in the form of the successful organization of the G-20 conference.

On the other hand, after the big historical and transformative decisions of the NDA government, the kind of resistance that was feared did not come up at the international level. Similarly, despite Pakistan's strong resistance in many matters of India, we were successful in isolating it in the international community. At the same time, the reality is also that a large majority always gives the rulers an opportunity to behave autocratically. The beauty of democracy lies in the fact that the logical point of every small or big opposition political party is heard. Instead of taking unilateral decisions in the policies of governance, it is the need of a democratic country to include the opposition in it. In true sense, a strong opposition plays the role of a whip

in a country, provided the majority government gives priority to its opinion. However, one truth of the results of the 18th Lok Sabha elections is that now the country will be governed by a coalition government. Although, the participation of different parties standing on different political grounds in power and opposition is the beauty of democracy in a sense. But if the parties involved in the coalition keep the minority government under constant pressure for their unreasonable demands and political interests, then it will not be called in the interest of democracy. It is quite possible that the political parties involved in the coalition government talk about working together externally and keep constant pressure on the government for their demands internally. At the root of this, the bitterness that had come in the relations in the past can also play a role.

In such a situation, coordination and reconciliation prove to be effective. Now it is a reality that in view of the current mandate, forming a coalition government has become a compulsion for the largest party. Certainly, there is a big difference between running a government with allies with an absolute majority and running a government with allies in a minority. The question is being raised whether the BJP, which has taken decisions freely in two terms with an absolute majority, will be able to feel comfortable in ruling under pressure from alliance partners? Just as major transformative decisions were taken in the previous terms, will the party be able to take such decisions in its third term? Can the BJP be seen in a position to compromise with its allies on its core issues? The coming time will tell to what extent the BJP will compromise with its allies in the implementation of its remaining agenda. Also, will the BJP make any major changes in its strategy regarding the elections to be held this year in some states of the country? Now it will also have to be seen to what extent the India Alliance, which has returned with a large public support, builds cooperation and harmony in the Parliament. However, the path of the NDA government is not going to be so easy considering the attitude of the opposition alliance.

Thank you "Non-Starter"!

by Kajal Chatterjee
Rahul Gandhi is such a "non-starter" indeed that it seemed the Who's Who of the BJP/NDA government have turned Rahul-bashing as its only "mission"! If they were so dismissive of the "Pappu", why did they relentlessly track every movement action comment of the latter and religiously belittle him! Why didn't they dare to ignore such a "non-starter" instead of getting startled on the mere mention of Rahul or the surname Gandhi only!

Since Rahul Gandhi represents the force of sanity in the country who desire to see secularism democracy and federalism be reinstated at its highest glory; his detractors are always in wary of the Congress leader and so relentlessly stalk the much-maligned "Pappu" and consistently character-assassinate him, thereby providing direct testimony actually who is/are in relentless fear of Rahul Gandhi!

When Rahul desired to contest from Wayanad in 2019; it was projected as "escape to the South" with the Kerala constituency getting communally maligned as "mini Pakistan" or "where the majority is in the minority" by those very personalities who are supposed to represent all Indians! Now when Rahul desired to contest from Rae Bareilly, it got projected as "escape from Amethi/Smriti Irani"!

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dependent upon the allies for survival of the regime!

2024 general polls was actually a battle between ideas and vision for India --- Secularism vs Communalism, Socialism vs

And all these qualities are deeply embedded within the persona of Rahul Gandhi as he not only represents the force of sanity, he also has no skeleton to hide in his cupboard with his talks always boosted with facts and figures.

Though Rahul has not yet accomplished his final mission; but his relentless fight and struggle by surviving against all odds, ridiculous Court cases, false allegations, character-assassination (reminding Rabindranath Tagore's clarion call of "Aekla Cholo Re") have at least succeeded in "gifting" huge crack on the walls of the citadel of intolerant and dark force.

Another valiant personality Magsaysay award winning journalist Ravish Kumar said "NOT ALL BATTLES ARE FOUGHT FOR VICTORY. SOME ARE FOUGHT TO TELL THE WORLD THAT SOMEONE WAS THERE ON THE BATTLEFIELD"!

Rahul Gandhi's every step and action endorses the spirit of the statement of Ravish Kumar and it goes without saying that in very near future the perseverance of Rahul will attain ultimate success.

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That Rahul didn't take these bankrupt statements of the hypocrite elements seriously and concentrated all energy and time to save the Idea of India resemble a great life lesson for all! No wonder why he has played an instrumental role in ensuring 99 seats for Congress from hardly 50-odd in 2019! And along with the allies in Samajwadi party NCP, he has succeeded in denying majority to the BJP in the Parliament who would now have to remain

Crony-capitalism, Freedom of speech vs Throttling of voice, Love vs Hatred, Compassion versus Indifference.

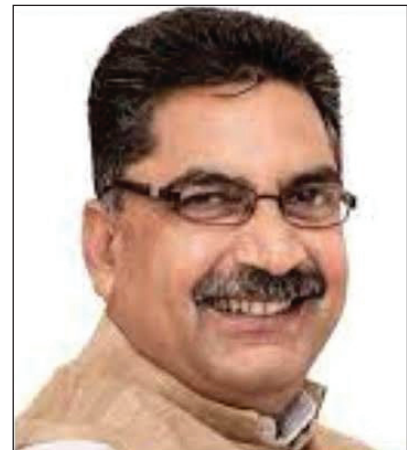
As for the much repeated challenging question "Who's the alternative"; the easiest answer remains that force of love/compassion is the alternative. Brotherhood/Bonhomie is the alternative. Democratic right of fearless expression is the alternative. Secularism, Idea of India and its integrity is the alternative. Humanity is the alternative.

Jabalpur seat became an impenetrable fort, vote share increased

Mahakaushal Notes
Avinash Dixit

Jabalpur Lok Sabha seat, the pivot of Mahakaushal, remains an impenetrable fort for BJP. Congress changed candidates and made many changes in political strategies, but none of its tricks worked. This time also a new face in the form of Dinesh Yadav was sent among the voters, but still it could not get success, on the contrary BJP has been successful in increasing its vote share every time. Whereas Congress has also failed to keep its vote share stable.

If we look at the vote sharing figures of elections from the year 2004 Lok Sabha elections till now, then in the 2004 elections, BJP's vote percentage was 54 percent, which crossed 68 percent in the recent Lok Sabha elections. In the 2009 general elections, BJP's vote percentage reached 54.29 per-



cent. In 2014 it was 56.34 percent and in 2019 it was 65.41 percent. Despite a decrease of about 8 percent in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, BJP candidate Ashish Dubey managed to win a record victory by more than 4 lakh 86 thousand votes. BJP's vote share was 68.03 percent.

Talking about Congress, in 2004, Congress's vote share was



37.12 percent in the total voting of 42.49 percent and in the 2009 elections it was 37.56 percent. In the elections held after this, the graph of the said vote share of Congress kept falling downwards. It fell to 35.52 in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections and 29.42 percent in 2019. In 2024 also, Congress candidate Dinesh Yadav had to face defeat by a huge mar-

gin of 4,86,674. Only in the 2004 elections, when Congress had made late Vishwanath Dubey its candidate, Rakesh Singh, who contested for the first time from BJP, won by just 99531 votes. After this, in the 2009 elections, Congress changed its candidate and fielded Rameshwar Nikhra, but he lost to Rakesh Singh by 1,06,003 votes.

The purpose of writing this is that even though this time BJP has done a lot of damage to the strength of Congress by implementing the strategy of changing sides, but such circumstances did not exist during the last 3 elections, then why was Congress not able to increase its vote base. Now that BJP has achieved its goal of clean sweep in the state, it will be even more difficult for Congress to increase its vote base. For this, attention will have to be paid to making radical changes from the regional organization of Congress to the block level.

Satire

Exit poll of bhakts failed



Friend said to me: At first glance, it would seem natural to describe the 2024 election verdict as a huge setback for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), or as a reminder that nobody is invincible in Indian politics. BJP leaders had for long been claiming that the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) would cross 400 seats this election. Even exit polls gave the NDA at least 350. The plunge from those heights to less than 300 for the NDA is indeed a setback. The more striking thing in this election is that the BJP has failed to secure a majority on its own. For the first time, Narendra Modi will have to contend with allies who will demand their pound of flesh. It's no secret that the two big NDA collaborators, the Nitish Kumar-led Janata Dal (United) (JD-U) and the Chandrababu Naidu-led Telugu Desam Party (TDP), have a history of flitting in and out of the bloc.

I said: The first reaction of poll pundits has been to theorise that the BJP has lost its magic in the Hindi heartland, with the big

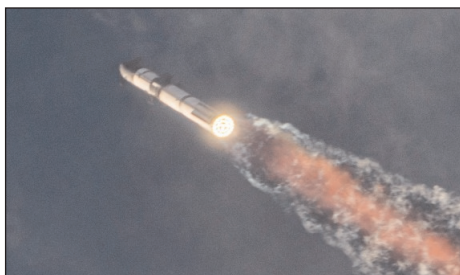
slides in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan being cited as proof. But then, most Delhi voters come from the same Hindi heartland, and the BJP has won all seven seats here. It also won all 29 seats in Madhya Pradesh and has almost swept Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand - in spite of the sympathy vote for Hemant Soren. Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand are also part of this landslide. Clearly then, the 'lost Hindi heartland' theory is a bit far-fetched.

Friend said: The second theory relates to voters' anger over unemployment and inflation. Serious concerns were expressed about these issues both before and during the elections. But if they did so decisively influence voting intent, how did the BJP do so well in the states mentioned above? Not just that, inflation and unemployment seem to have had little effect on voters in Odisha and Telangana. It's also not clear how and why the BJP finally succeeded in penetrating south India by gaining considerable vote shares as well as a few seats.

Science Fact

SpaceX's Starship survives return to Earth, achieves demo landing on fourth test

SpaceX's giant Starship rocket survived reentry through Earth's atmosphere on Thursday and splashed down in the Indian Ocean as planned during its fourth test mission after launching from south Texas. The two-stage spacecraft, consisting of the Starship cruise vessel mounted atop its towering Super Heavy rocket booster, broke apart during its last attempt in March to survive a blazingly hot reentry through Earth's atmosphere. But the craft survived its reentry on Thursday, a SpaceX livestream showed. "Despite loss of many tiles and a damaged flap, Starship made it all the way to a soft landing in the ocean!" SpaceX CEO Elon Musk posted on social media after the splashdown.



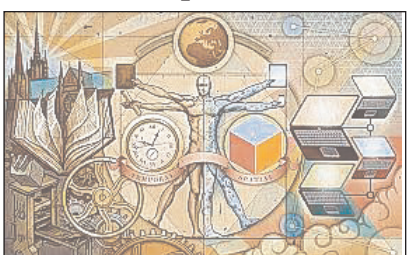
Starship, stacked atop its Super Heavy booster, blasted off Thursday morning from the company's Starbase launch site near Boca Chica Village on the Gulf Coast of Texas. It is the latest trial mission in the test-to-failure rocket development campaign of Elon Musk's company.

The rocket system's first stage, called Super Heavy, detached from the Starship upper stage three minutes into flight dozens of miles above ground, sending the Starship on its way toward space.

Spiritual

Fostering objectivity (vastu nistha) in the pursuit of truth

Objectivity (vastu nistha in Sanskrit) entails a lack of bias in one's thinking. It is being impartial and neutral in one's disposition. Objectivity is the basis of scientific thinking. Objectivity is required for all scientific inquiries. Without being objective no insights into any problem can occur. José Bastos Padilha Neto (1967-present), a contemporary Brazilian film director, producer, and screenwriter has said, "Science is based on the possibility of objectivity, on the possibility of different people checking out for themselves the observations made by others. Without that possibility, there is no empirical principle capable of deciding between different arguments and theories." Indeed experimentation, testing, and confirmability of any finding objectively and independently by different people helps in establishing the significance of that work. Objectivity is a very important attribute in life especially in the spiritual path or pursuit of truth.



The first step in developing objectivity is to accept the limitations of birth, old age, sickness, injuries, pain, pleasure, and all aspects associated with life and death. In the West people are so much engrossed in life that they seldom look at the reality of death. All efforts are made to prolong life, improve quality of life, aim at high-level wellness, and pursue other such pursuits. There are no models of old age in the West and people are generally seen seeking youthfulness. It can be said that generally, people in the West are biased toward life and living. So much so that at death it is called a "celebration of life." On the other hand, in the East people are more concerned about death. Life after death is often the focus in the minds of many people.

Quotes



Governments are responsible if people do not have access to basic facilities after decades of Independence.

Chandra Shekhar Aazad



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has advised the newly elected Congress MPs from Karnataka to be the voice of the state in Delhi.

DK Shivakumar



The opposition knows that the Election Commission is "completely Independent" but it does not believe this at times.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Tech

Microsoft, Google announce fresh round of layoffs; over 1,400 sacked in 1st week of June

It seems the spate of layoffs is set to continue in June too. While our previous report stated that there has been a reduction in layoffs—with 9,742 losing their jobs in May against the 21,473 reported in April—in the first few days of June, over 1,400 people lost their jobs.



From Google to Microsoft to Orcom and Oda, so far as many as 1,410 people have been handed the pink slip. Perhaps, the biggest layoff announcement came from tech-giant Microsoft, which said that it was slashing as many as 1,000 jobs from the departments working on HoloLens 2 and Azure Moonshots.

In the first six days of June, as many as seven tech companies announced layoffs. Here is a detailed look at the companies that have reduced their workforce between June 1 and June 6.

On Monday, Microsoft announced its fresh round of layoffs which could potentially impact around 1,000 employees. Reportedly, the layoff has affected the mixed reality department that has been working on HoloLens 2 along with domains like Azure for Operators and Mission Engineering.

The layoffs seem to be a part of the restructuring initiative currently underway at Microsoft's Mixed Reality wing. The latest round of layoffs comes after over a year, when the company laid off over 10,000 people. This was a time when CEO Satya Nadella said that the company was changing its hardware portfolio. The Azure for Operators and Mission Engineering departments were formed in 2021.

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