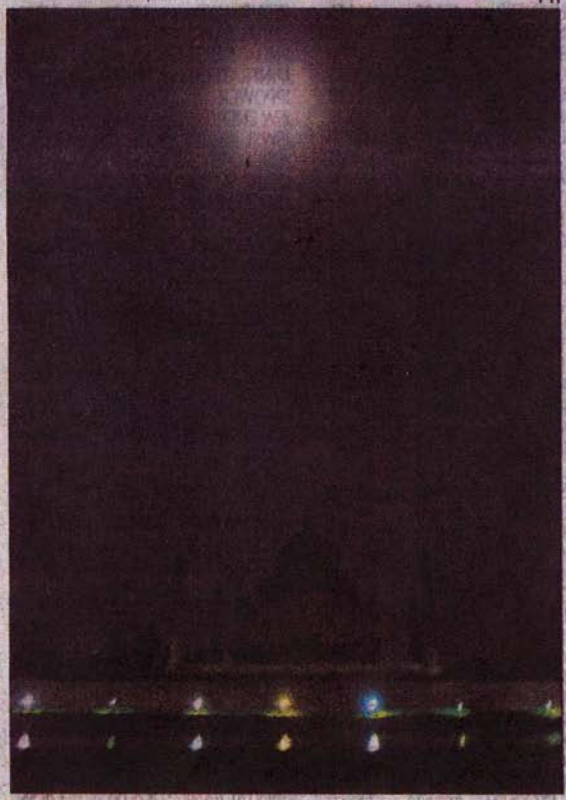


SAKAL TIMES, FRIDAY, 17 JUNE, 2011 PAGE No.9

Red Moon has sky enthusiasts spell bound

NEW DELHI: Moon's glow as an eerie, coppery red disk in the sky left the astro-enthusiasts spell bound during the century's longest and darkest total lunar eclipse in the small hours today. Stunning shades of orange and red flitted across the sky as the Moon dipped into the Earth's darker shadow leaving celestial observers captivated at the spectacle. Thousands of sky enthusiasts across the country gathered under the open skies, on roof tops and at planetariums to see the total lunar eclipse, which was the century's longest and darkest. The awesome spectacle of the moon being eclipsed was visible all over the country, including the national capital. In a clear sky over the national capital, the full moon slowly slipped into the earth's darker shadow starting just after 22:54:34 PM. As the moon's bright white glow gave way to a coppery, luminescent orange, amateur astronomers armed with telescopes and cameras camped at the Nehru Planetarium here and took photographs of the celestial phenomenon. "It was a great experience. I took the photographs and they are simply amazing," Prateek, an amateur astronomer said. PTI



ECLIPSED, FOR ONCE: A view of the partial lunar eclipse seen over Taj Mahal in Agra on late Wednesday night.