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BJP's manifesto outlines path ahead for 'Bharat'

Day to forget for India at wrestling Olympic qualifiers

PRICE - Rs 2 /-

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RNI Regn No. JHAMUL/2016/75465

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The Researchers'

NEWS BOX

Five high school students injured in shooting in park in Maryland

Greenbelt. Gunfire broke out at a park in Greenbelt, Maryland, where hundreds of high school students had gathered while skipping school on Friday, wounding five males aged 16 to 18, police said. One victim was in critical condition and the others were in stable condition, Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers told a press conference. Police were searching for one suspect but there may be others, Bowers said. No motive had been established. "There's absolutely no reason that this occurred. It is senseless, it is chronic in our society, and we have to do something to stop it," Bowers said. "It's maddening, honestly." here have been 120 such mass shootings in the United States in the first 110 days of this year, when defined as an incident with four or more people shot or killed, not including the shooter, according to the Gun Violence Archive. An estimated 500 to 600 students from at least two high schools converged on the park in what is known as senior skip day, when students in their final year of high school ditch their classes, Bowers said. About 20 officers had been on scene for about 15 minutes, having responded to the sudden gathering convened on social media, before the shooting broke out, Bowers said. They were able to render first aid before ambulances arrived. "That could be the difference between somebody making it to the hospital and somebody not," Bowers said. Greenbelt is a city of about 24,000 people some 13 miles (21 kilometers) northeast of Washington.

Iran-Backed Militia Coalition Alleges US Airstrike Targets Base In Iraq

New Delhi: An airstrike targeted the base utilized by the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF), a coalition of Iran-allied militias in Iraq, as per a statement from the group reported by the Associated Press on Saturday. Allegedly, three members of the PMF were injured in the attack on the Kalsu military base. Formerly a US post, the base was transferred to the Iraqi military in 2011. This recent airstrike follows a suspected Israeli strike in Iran the day before. However, the party responsible for the reported attack has not been definitively identified. Unnamed officials speak to the agency attributed the strike to US forces, although they were not authorized to speak to the media. Meanwhile, a US official has refuted any such allegations.

The PMF is primarily comprised of Shiite, Iran-backed armed groups that united to combat the Islamic State extremist group following its seizure of significant parts of Iraq in 2014. In 2016, the Iraqi government officially recognised the Popular Mobilization Forces as an "independent military formation" within the Iraqi armed forces.

In recent months, certain factions within the PMF have launched attacks on U.S. forces stationed in Iraq and Syria. They claim these actions are in retaliation for Washington's support of Israel during its conflict with the Hamas militant group in Gaza.

US Imposes Sanctions On 4 Companies Aiding In Pakistan's Ballistic Missile Programme

WORLD. The United States on Friday enforced sanctions on four companies providing missile components to Pakistan. Among these is a Belarus-based firm, and the other three are based in China and responsible for supplying items to aid Pakistan's ballistic missile programme. "The Department of State is designating four entities pursuant to Section 1(a)(ii) of Executive Order 13382, which targets proliferators of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. These entities have supplied missile-applicable items to Pakistan's ballistic missile program, including its long-range missile program," reported ANI, citing a statement from the US Department of State.

The sanctioned entities comprise three Chinese companies: Xi'an Longde Technology Development Company Limited, Tianjin Creative Source International Trade Co. Ltd., and Granpect Company Limited, alongside the Belarus-based Minsk Wheel Tractor Plant.

Due to today's action, any assets or belongings of the mentioned individuals in the United States or held by U.S. individuals are frozen and must be reported to the Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), asserted the statement.

As per the order, if any individuals or entities are owned, either directly or indirectly, by 50 percent or more of blocked persons, they are also considered blocked. Any transactions involving property or interests in property of designated or blocked persons by U.S. individuals or within the United States are not allowed unless permitted by a license from OFAC or exempt. This includes giving or receiving contributions, funds, goods, or services to or from blocked persons.

According to the US Department of State's statement, the Belarus-based firm used to supply special vehicle chassis that are used as launch support equipment for ballistic missiles. Meanwhile, Granpect Company Limited has supplied missile-related equipment, including a filament winding machine. Granpect Company Limited has also collaborated with Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) to furnish equipment for testing large-diameter rocket motors. The firm also partnered with Pakistan's NDC to supply equipment for testing large-diameter rocket motors.

Tianjin Creative Source International Trade Co. Ltd., based in the People's Republic of China, has provided stir welding equipment (deemed by the United States as capable of manufacturing propellant tanks for space launch vehicles) and a linear accelerator system (viewed by the United States as suitable for inspecting solid rocket motors).

Donald Trump's jury set for hush money trial as he pleads not guilty to fraud

New York. The milestone on Friday in the first criminal trial of a former or sitting US President coincided with a man setting himself on fire outside the Manhattan courthouse. The self-immolation did not appear to have anything to do with Trump's case. Authorities said the man was in hospital in critical condition and had been carrying pamphlets referring to an unrelated conspiracy theory. The full jury of 12 New Yorkers and six alternates had just been completed when the incident occurred on the street outside the building where the ex-president and Republican candidate for November sat on the 15th floor. Judge Juan Merchan has said that opening statements in Trump's trial would start Monday. Trump has pleaded not guilty to 34 counts of business fraud as part of a plan to cover up hush money paid to a porn star so that the story would not come out just before the 2016 presidential election, in which he beat Hillary Clinton.

Impartial jury? The difficulty of choosing impartial jurors, who must also be able to set aside as much

as two months of their time, has been clear throughout the selection process this week. Two women in the pool of dozens of ordinary New Yorkers being vetted for the final jury slots Friday burst into tears as they answered probing questions from attorneys. "I'm sorry. I thought I could do this," said one who was quickly released by Merchan. "This is so much more stressful than I thought it was going to be." Trump delivered an angry statement in the morning about what he called the "very unfair" partial gag order imposed by Merchan to prevent him from using his powerful media presence to attack witnesses, prosecutors and relatives of court staff. "The judge has to take off this gag order," said Trump, who has a long history, including while president, of making threatening or insulting statements against private and public opponents. On departure, he again called his trial a "giant witch hunt." The court proceedings have disrupted Trump's 2024 campaign, but he has tried to use the press coverage to relay his claim to be the victim of a "hoax." On



Saturday, he will hold a rally in North Carolina. The Republican tycoon faces three other criminal cases, including on far more serious charges of attempting to overturn his 2020 election loss to President Joe Biden, but these have been repeatedly delayed.

Tight race against Biden Trump has framed his multiple legal woes as an attempt by his political opponents to thwart his bid to return to power. Latest polls show him largely neck and neck with Biden. In the trial in New York, Trump, 77, has pleaded not guilty to charges of falsifying

business records on the eve of his 2016 election victory to hide an alleged sexual encounter with porn star Stormy Daniels. Potential jurors were this week grilled by prosecutors and defence attorneys about their media habits, political donations, education and whether they have attended a pro- or anti-Trump rally. Many potential panellists were excused after saying they could not be objective. One juror who had already been sworn in was excused because she had concerns her identity had been revealed, and another was let go following doubts about the accuracy of his answers during questioning. To protect the anonymity of those randomly selected for jury service, Merchan asked reporters to stop providing physical descriptions of jurors and not to identify where they work. A unanimous verdict will be required to convict Trump, who has been ordered by the judge to attend each day of the trial. If convicted, he could face prison but would more likely be fined.

Elon Musk's Visit To India, Meeting With PM Modi Postponed, Tesla CEO Says 'Unfortunately...'

WORLD. Tesla CEO, Elon Musk's visit to India has been postponed, he informed via a post on 'X'. However, the exact reason behind this rescheduling remains unclear, Musk cited important Tesla obligation for the rescheduling. He was slated to visit India on April 21 and 22, to meet the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The visit was expected to reveal his plans for entering the South Asian (Indian) market. In his post Musk also said that he may visit India later this year. Musk was expected to announce his investment



plan of over \$2 billion to establish manufacturing centres in India, reported Reuters. The development came after the Indian government in its latest industrial policy lowered the

tariffs on imported cars if the company invests locally in Indian Market. Meanwhile, on April 15, the announcement was made that Tesla would reduce its global workforce by over 10%. Also, Rohan Patel, a Tesla public policy executive reportedly involved in the company's plans to enter India, resigned this week. As per agency, Musk is waiting for regulatory approval from the Indian government to launch his Starlink satellite broadband services in India. Musk's expected arrival on Sunday was intended to coincide with the start of India's national election from April 19.

US Imposes Sanctions on Entities for Supplying Ballistic Missile Components to Pakistan

RNS: The United States has imposed sanctions on several entities for allegedly supplying ballistic missile components to Pakistan. The State Department announced on Friday that three Chinese entities and one Belarusian entity have been sanctioned for their involvement in supplying items related to ballistic missiles to Pakistan.

In a press release, US State Department Spokesman Matthew Miller stated, "The United States is committed to strengthening the global nonproliferation regime by taking action to disrupt procurement networks supporting proliferation activities of concern." He further added, "Today, we are designating four entities pursuant to Executive Order 13382, which targets proliferators of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery." According to Miller, the sanctioned entities have supplied missile-applicable items to Pakistan's ballistic missile programs, including its long-range missile program. The designated entities include Minsk Wheel Tractor



Plant, Xi'an Longde Technology Development Company Limited, Tianjin Creative Source International Trade Co Ltd, and Granpect Co. Ltd. Miller emphasized that these entities have engaged in activities or transactions that have materially contributed to, or pose a risk of materially contributing to, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction or their means of delivery, including any efforts to manufacture, acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer, or use such items, by Pakistan.

US sanctions Chinese, Belarus firms for providing ballistic missile tech to Pak

WORLD. The United States has imposed sanctions against entities supplying missile-applicable items to Pakistan's ballistic missile programme. According to an official statement by the US State Department, the entities included three Chinese companies and a Belarus-based firm. "The Department of State is designating four entities pursuant to Section 1(a)(ii) of Executive Order 13382, which targets proliferators of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery," the statement mentioned. "These entities have supplied missile-applicable items to Pakistan's ballistic missile program, including its long-range missile program," it added.

On the implications of the sanctions, the US said, "As a result of today's action, all property and interests in property of the designated persons described above that are in the United States or in possession or control of US persons are blocked and must be reported to the Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)."

THE SANCTIONED FIRMS Belarus-based Minsk Wheel Tractor Plant has worked to supply special vehicle chassis to Pakistan's long-range ballistic missile program. Such chassis are used as launch support equipment for ballistic missiles by Pakistan's National Development Complex (NDC), which is responsible for the development of Missile Technology Control Regime Category (MTCR) I ballistic missiles. People's Republic of China (PRC)-based Xi'an Longde Technology Development Company Limited has supplied missile-related equipment, including a filament winding machine, to Pakistan's long-range ballistic missile program that we assess was destined for NDC. Filament winding machines can be used to produce rocket motor cases. PRC-based Tianjin Creative Source International Trade Co Ltd has supplied missile-related equipment to Pakistan's long-range ballistic missile program, including stir welding equipment (which the United States assesses can be used to manufacture propellant tanks used in space launch vehicles), and a linear accelerator system (which the United States assesses can be used in the inspection of solid rocket motors). PRC-based Granpect Company Limited has worked with Pakistan's SUPARCO to supply equipment for the testing of large-diameter rocket motors. In addition, Granpect Co. Ltd.

"Our Next Response Will Be At Maximum Level": Iran Warns Israel Again

Tehran: Iran's foreign minister on Friday said Tehran was investigating an overnight attack on Iran, adding that so far a link to Israel had not been proven as he downplayed the strike. Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian told NBC News the drones took off from inside Iran and flew for a few hundred meters before being downed. "They're ... more like toys that our children play with, not drones," Amirabdollahian said.

"It has not been proved to us that there is a connection between these and Israel," he said, adding that Iran was investigating the matter but that media reports were not accurate, according to Tehran's information. Iranian media and officials described a small number of explosions, which they said resulted from air defenses hitting three drones over Isfahan in central Iran in the early hours of Friday. They referred to the incident as an attack by "infiltrators", rather than by Israel, obviating the need for retaliation. Amirabdollahian warned that if Israel retaliated and acted against the interests of Iran, Tehran's next response would be immediate and at maximum level. "If Israel wants to do another adventurism and acts against the interests of Iran, our next response will be immediate and will be at the maximum level," Amirabdollahian

said. The attack appeared to target an Iranian Air Force base near the city of Isfahan, deep inside the country, but without striking any strategic sites or causing major damage. Israel has said nothing about the incident. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the United States had not been involved in any offensive operations, while the White House said it had no comment.

Israel had said it would retaliate after a strike on April 13, the first ever direct attack on Israel by Iran, which caused no deaths after Israel and its allies shot down hundreds of missiles and drones. Tehran launched those attacks in response to a presumed Israeli airstrike on April 1 that destroyed a building in Iran's embassy compound in Damascus and killed several Iranian officers including a top general. Allies including the U.S. had pressed all week to ensure any further retaliation would be calibrated not to provoke more escalation, and Western countries tightened sanctions on Iran to mollify Israel. There was no word from Israel on Friday as to



whether further action might be planned. Apart from direct strikes on Iranian territory, it has other ways of attacking, including cyber attacks and strikes on Iranian proxies elsewhere. Violence between Israel and Iranian proxies across the Middle East has intensified throughout six months of bloodshed in Gaza, raising fears the longstanding foes' shadow war could spiral into a direct conflict. Israel's assault on Gaza began after Hamas Islamists attacked Israel on Oct. 7, killing 1,200, according to Israeli tallies. Israel's military offensive has killed

34,000 Palestinians in Gaza, according to the Gaza health ministry. As night fell on Friday, Israeli planes and tanks pounded several areas across the Gaza Strip, with air strikes hitting areas of Rafah where over half of Gaza's 2.3 million people are sheltering, according to residents. Hamas media and officials at the Hamas-run Gaza health ministry.

One strike hit two apartments in a residential building in the city, killing nine people, including four children, and wounding several others, health officials said. Air strikes also destroyed at least five houses in the Al-Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza, residents and Hamas media said. "They (Israeli security) phoned some residents and ordered them to evacuate their houses before planes bombed some buildings nearby," Abu Omar, a resident of Al-Nuseirat, told Reuters via a chat app. "Soon as we ran away explosions shook the ground," he added. Listen to the latest songs, only on JioSaavn.com

Amit Shah jabs Rahul 'baba' Gandhi over Kashmir: 'No guts to throw a stone'

Union Home Minister Amit Shah slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his past statements on the law and order situation in Jammu and Kashmir after the scrapping of Article 370. He said nobody had the guts to throw a stone today.

New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah took a dig at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his past remarks on the law and order situation in Jammu and Kashmir after Article 370 was scrapped in 2019. Addressing a gathering while holding a roadshow in Rajasthan's Udaipur, Amit Shah cited statements made by Rahul Gandhi on Jammu and Kashmir. He asserted that the situation was normal in the Union Territory and that nobody had the guts to throw a stone today. "In Kashmir, (People's Democratic Party chief) Mehbooba Mufti and (Congress leader) Rahul baba (Gandhi) used to say there would be bloodbath there once Article 370 is removed," he said.

Rahul baba, five years have passed (since the abrogation of Article 370). This is the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Leave alone the talk of bloodbath, No one has the guts to throw a stone there," he said. He asserted that the Congress would be wiped out in the Lok Sabha elections and exuded confidence that the BJP would win all 25 Lok Sabha seats in the state. Amit Shah held the roadshow in Udaipur in support of BJP candidate Mannalal Rawat. Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma was also a part of



the roadshow. Voting for 12 Lok Sabha seats in Rajasthan was held in the first phase of Lok Sabha polls on Friday. Elections in the remaining 13 constituencies are scheduled to be held on

April 26. Results are slated to be announced on June 4. In 2019, the BJP secured 24 of 25 Lok Sabha seats in the desert state. The remaining one seat was won by Rashtriya Loktantra Party leader Hanuman Beniwal.

Chief Justice Of India's Appeal To Voters For 2024 Lok Sabha Elections

New Delhi: Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud has urged citizens not to miss the opportunity to vote in the general elections, saying that it is the "foremost duties" in a constitutional democracy. In a video message for the Election Commission's 'My Vote My Voice' mission for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, Justice Chandrachud said, "We are citizens of the world's largest democracy, which is our country."

"The Constitution gives us a multitude of rights as citizens but it also expects that each of us performs the duty, which is cast upon us. And one of the foremost duties of citizenship is to cast a vote in a constitutional democracy," he said. I will request every one of you please do not miss this opportunity to vote responsibly as citizens of our great motherland. Five minutes, every five years for our nation. It's doable, isn't it? Let's vote with pride. My vote, my voice," the CJI said. Justice Chandrachud said the citizens

have a participatory role in electing the government and that is why it is said that "this government is a government of the people, by the people and for the people".

He recalled his excitement as the first time voter and queuing up at the polling booth to exercise the franchise. "The ink on the finger when I vote allows tremendous feelings of patriotism and association with the nation..." he said. So our Constitution and our law provides for one citizen, one vote and one value.

I think that's the great tenacity and the power of our nation as a constitutional democracy," he said.

The CJI said he never missed that duty to cast his vote when he was a lawyer and had to run around for work. The Lok Sabha elections will be held from April 19 to June 1, 2024 to elect the 543 members of the 18th Lok Sabha. The elections will be held in seven phases and the results will be announced on June 4, 2024.

Constitution Was In Danger During Congress Rule": Ravi Shankar Prasad

Ravi Shankar Prasad said that there are indications that the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) will secure over 400 seats in the Lok Sabha elections.



constituencies spread over 21 states and Union Territories was held on Friday. Speaking at a press conference here, he said, "We talk of '400 paar,' and now there are indications that the figure can go even further...The opposition is showing signs of frustration at defeat; they say only one thing: the

Constitution will change. Who is talking about changing the Constitution?" The Prime Minister and all of us made it clear that this would not happen. The Constitution was in danger during the rule of Congress; when Congress imposed an emergency, the Constitution was in danger," he said. Further attacking the Congress, he said, "During the entire emergency, there was an effort to change the Constitution. This is their history. The Congress party made all the efforts to change the Constitution, and the leftist parties were with them; today, Lalu Yadav is with them. The Constitution is in danger not from Prime Minister Narendra Modi or the BJP but from them." Bihar will witness polling for 40 Lok Sabha seats across all seven phases. Voting on four seats--Jamui, Nawada, Gaya, and Aurangabad--was held in phase 1 on Friday. The state will witness polling on five seats from Phases 2 to 5. In Phases 6 and 7, elections will be held for eight seats each.

Ration Is Free In India While Pakistan Fights For Hunger: Yogi Adityanath



The BJP, in its Lok Sabha poll manifesto, has promised to continue to provide free ration to more than 80 crore people in the country for the next five years.

Amroha, UP: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath invoked Pakistan at a political rally on Friday and said while those in the neighbouring country are fighting hunger, "80 crore people in India are getting free ration". Addressing a poll rally in Amroha in western Uttar Pradesh, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader also said the "phir ek baar Modi sarkar" slogan of the saffron party is reverberating across the country. Mr Adityanath spoke before Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the rally that was organised in support of Kanwar Singh Tanwar, the BJP candidate from the Amroha constituency in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls. Pakistan, which has a population of hardly 23-24 crore, was formed after the partition in 1947 and is suffering from hunger today. This is also an example -- on one side, there is Pakistan, and on the other side, there is the promise of free ration to more than 80 crore people," the chief minister said. The BJP, in its Lok Sabha poll manifesto, has promised to continue to provide free ration to more than 80 crore people in the country for the next five years. Mr Adityanath said "only one slogan is being heard from every direction -- phir ek baar Modi sarkar".

Welcoming Modi to Amroha, he hailed him for bringing transformative changes in the country. Mr Adityanath addressed the rally as polling was underway in eight western Uttar Pradesh constituencies in the first phase of the Lok Sabha polls. Amroha will go to polls in the second phase on April 26.

Tanwar won the Amroha seat in 2014, but was defeated in 2019 by Danish Ali, who was with the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) then. Ali is again in the fray from Amroha on a Congress ticket.

"BJP's '400-Paar' Film Flopped On Day 1 Of Polls": Tejashwi Yadav

Tejashwi Yadav said that there is no competition in the first phase as Bihar will give shocking results this time.

Patna: After the first phase of the Lok Sabha elections, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav on Saturday said that the BJP's "400 paar" film has become super flop on the first day itself. He Mahagathbandhan is winning all four seats in the first phase. We have held block-wise meetings and the feedback has been very good. The BJP's "400 paar" film has become a super flop on the first day itself. The people of Bihar are aware and will teach them a lesson," he said. Mr Yadav told ANI that there is no competition in the first phase as Bihar will give shocking results this time.



Now, the public is tired of their statements and false promises. We have promised that we will give a special package to Bihar along with special status," he added. The former deputy chief minister also

said that local issues hold the key in these elections.

The entire Mahagathbandhan and INDIA bloc are working together. Unemployment is the biggest issue in Bihar, besides inflation, poverty, and investment. Migration and floods are also issues. This time, the BJP is very worried. They say they will abolish the Constitution. Those who destroy the Constitution will themselves be destroyed," Mr Yadav said. According to the Election Commission, Bihar recorded a voter turnout of 48.88 per cent in the first phase of voting. Four seats - Jamui, Nawada, Gaya, and Aurangabad - had gone to polls on Friday.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP-led NDA, also comprising the JDU and LJP, had secured 39 out of 40 seats while the Mahagathbandhan managed to win just one seat.

After Amethi, Congress's "Sahabzade" Will Lose Wayanad Seat Too: PM Modi

Referring to Rahul Gandhi, PM Modi said, "After losing Amethi, the Congress' sahabzade will lose Wayanad as well. So he will have to look for a safe seat after April 26."

Nanded, Maharashtra: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today took a swipe at Rahul Gandhi, saying that in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections, "Congress's sahabzade" will also lose from Wayanad constituency in Kerala and he will have to look for a safer seat after that.

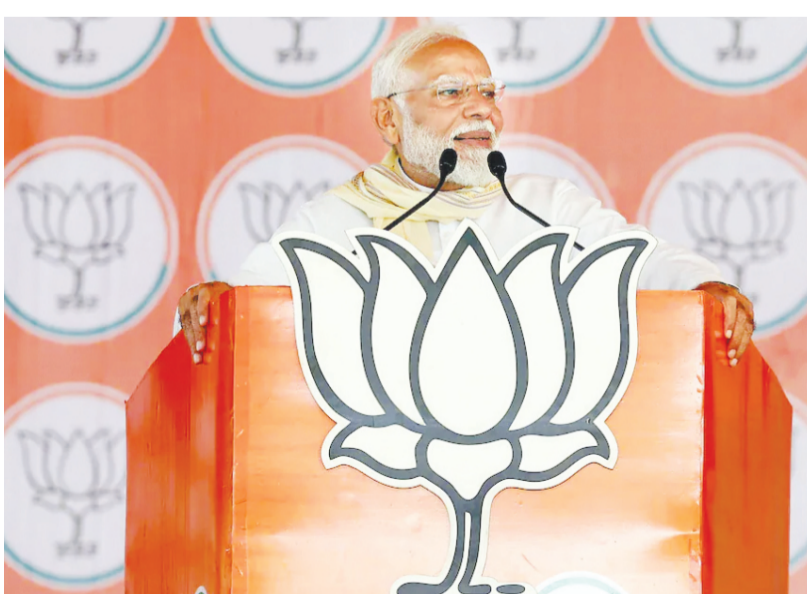
Addressing a rally at Nanded in Maharashtra to campaign for BJP candidates from Nanded and Hingoli seats, PM Modi said the information available for the first phase of Lok Sabha polls indicates that there has been a one-sided voting in favour of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). Referring to Rahul Gandhi, PM Modi said, "After losing Amethi, the Congress' sahabzade will lose Wayanad as well. So he will have to look for a safe seat after April 26."

In an apparent reference to Sonia Gandhi, he said some INDIA bloc leaders left the Lok Sabha and moved

to the Rajya Sabha as they have no courage to contest elections. "For the first time, the family will not vote for a Congress candidate in the constituency where they live as there is no party candidate there," he said. PM Modi said he has spent 10 years fixing the bad governance of the Congress regimes. "A lot of work needs to be done," he added. The Congress has been a barrier in the development of farmers and poor people, he alleged.

"The agriculture crisis did not happen now. It happened because of the flawed policies of Congress," PM Modi said. Targeting the INDIA bloc, he said it has no face to project and people do not know whom to entrust the country's future.

"They may claim anything, but the reality is that Congress leaders have accepted defeat even before the announcement of polls," he said. He termed the opposition alliance a



grouping of selfish people who have come together to protect their corrupt practices. He appealed to voters to

come out in large numbers to exercise their voting right in the Lok Sabha elections. "You are not doing any

favour by voting. you are securing the country's future. I want to boost the morale of the party workers from the opposition. You (opposition leaders) are sure to lose the polls, but you will get a chance some day. But you must appeal to voters to vote," he said. PM Modi said the INDIA bloc constituents were contesting the elections against each other in 25 per cent seats. "After (the election results on) June 4, they will be fighting more with each other," he said.

He said that without the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, what fate would have befallen Sikhs who came from Afghanistan.

The NDA under PM Modi is seeking a stronger majority for a third consecutive term, while the constituents of the opposition INDIA bloc are hoping for a rebound after facing reverses in the 2014 and 2019 elections.



Anasuya Bharadwaj

Seeks Suggestions From Fans For Her Solo Trip



Anchor and actress Anasuya Bharadwaj is one of those celebrities who successfully transitioned from television to the film industry. The actress is also quite active on social media. She regularly updates her fans about her trips, movies and various other projects. The actress recently conversed with her fans through a live session on Instagram where she asked her fans to suggest some locations for the solo trip. It was not well-received by her trollers. Anasuya Bharadwaj is a travel freak. She spends most of her time on vacations with her husband and family. The actress got married to Susank Bharadwaj in 2010 and gave birth to two children. Citing her love for trips, one of the fans reportedly asked her during the latest live session, "Can you plan a trip alone?" Responding to this question, the actress said that she is scared to go anywhere alone. "But think now, where better to go?" Anasuya asked her fans as quoted by Asianet Telugu. To this, her fans said that her presence in any part of the world would be like a festival. However, apart from her ardent fans, the actress also has a fair amount of trolls against her. After her statement to go on a solo trip, a few netizens reportedly started criticising her for leaving her husband for the trip. Anasuya has not reacted to these negative criticisms yet.

Anasuya Bharadwaj gained fame through anchoring skills in the Telugu comedy TV show Jabardasth. After three years of her impressive stint at the show, the anchor got her first break in the movie Kshanam. It was directed by Ravinath Perepu and starred Adivi Sesh and Adah Sharma in the lead roles. The actress got her first blockbuster with the movie Rangasthalam which was written and directed by Sukumar in 2018. It starred Ram Charan and Samantha Nath Prabhu in the lead roles. Having cemented her position in the film industry, Anasuya Bharadwaj will be next seen in Pushpa 2.

Vidya Balan Wants To Do A Romantic Film With Shah Rukh Khan And We Can't Keep Calm



Shah Rukh Khan is widely known as the 'King of Romance' in Bollywood. He has starred in countless successful romantic movies, charming audiences for decades with his charisma, wit and sizzling on-screen chemistry with his leading actresses. It is no secret that many Bollywood divas dream to romance Shah Rukh Khan in a lovey-dovey movie. And recently, Vidya Balan too shared the same and we are not joking! Vidya Balan, who is currently on a promotional spree for her upcoming movie Do Aur Do Pyaar, recently shared her desire to do a love story with Shah Rukh Khan. During an interview with an entertainment news portal, the actress recalled that they have always made cameo appearances in each other's films. The Jawan actor made a special appearance in a song in her 2007 comedy film Heyy Babyy, which starred Akshay Kumar, Riteish Deshmukh, Vidya Balan and Fardeen Khan. King Khan's entry in the Mast Kalandar song was indeed a magical moment that remains a fan favourite till date. While she had made a small appearance in King Khan's Om Shanti Om in the same year. But now, she wishes to do a romantic film with King Khan in the future. During a recent interaction with India Today, when the actress was asked about stars she would like to cast together for the first time, the Tumhari Sulu actress happily shared that it would be Shah Rukh Khan, as they have not done a full-fledged film before. Speaking to the media outlet, Vidya expressed, "I had a very small role in 'Om Shanti Om.' But I would like to do a nice love story with him." Talking about her professional commitments, Vidya Balan is gearing up for the release of her upcoming film, Do Aur Do Pyaar. Directed by Shirsha Guha Thakurta, the romantic comedy is centred around married couples who embark on a journey where love knows no boundaries. Besides Vidya Balan, the film boasts a star-studded ensemble including Pratik Gandhi, Ileana D'Cruz, and Sendhil Ramamurthy. Mark your calendars! The film will hit the silver screens on April 19.

Sushant Singh Rajput Became a 'Gate To Misery Porn' After Death, Dibakar Banerjee Says 'There Was No Grief'



Sushant Singh Rajput's sudden demise in June 2020 left everyone shocked and numb. His death was followed by a series of controversies. While some alleged that the actor died by suicide, others claimed that it was a murder. During the investigation, several other angles including drug consumption was also probed. In a recent interview, director Dibakar Banerjee also talked about the events following Sushant's death and argued that it opened "gates to misery porn". Banerjee worked with SSR on the 2015 film Detective Byomkesh Bakshi. Dibakar Banerjee was speaking to Siddharth Kannan when he recalled Sushant as somebody who would "get invested in everything" and said, "He used to speak about everything, about science, sociology. He used to keep asking questions. I really liked that part of him. Everybody just loved being with him." The director argued that he feels sad because after Sushant passed away no focus was given to mourning the loss of a young actor. He stated that people were more interested and gossips and that there was "no grief". "After he passed away, the kind of news that followed made me shirk away from everything. I was hearing so many things but no one was talking about how a young actor passed away. There was no grief, people were looking for some gossip in the story. After seeing that... I had to walk away from the situation because no one was saying that we are missing Sushant," he said. Dibakar questioned everyone for not talking about Sushant's achievements and asked, "Where is that prayer meet? Where is that retrospective of his films? People who loved him, we could host a screening for his films, talk about the good memories, where is all of that?" Sushant Singh Rajput was found dead in his Mumbai apartment in June 2020. While some suspected to be a case of death by suicide, others had alleged foul play.

Parineeti Chopra

Says Bollywood Roles Need More Than Merit: 'You Have To Be In Cliques And Camps'

Parineeti Chopra, who is being praised for her role in Imtiaz Ali's Amar Singh Chamkila as the late singer Amarjot Kaur, waited nearly a decade for such an opportunity. In a recent interview, she opened up on the challenges she faced due to a lack of opportunities and career decisions she had taken in the past. Parineeti said that she avoids industry events where roles are often discussed and prefers directors and producers to recognise her work directly. "I don't go to dinners and lunches or attend parties where work opportunities are created in Bollywood or those roles are discussed. I want directors and producers to call me for my work because I am willing to work hard. I won a National Award for Ishaqzaade 10 years ago. I am still the same actor," she told Bollywood Hungama. After the success of Netflix's Amar Singh Chamkila, Parineeti expressed her gratitude on Instagram. She wrote, "Parineeti is back. These words are ringing loud. Hadn't thought of this. Yes, I am back, and not going anywhere!" She also talked about the challenges in Bollywood, saying and said that getting roles isn't just about talent. "Getting work in Bollywood doesn't only depend on merit or acting, you have to be in cliques and camps to get roles. I am not present at the right place at the right time. I am not getting papped every day. My PR game sucks," she added. The actor believes that many talented



artists miss out on roles because they're not social butterflies at glamorous events. She said, "I want to be the voice for actors who aren't parts of cliques and camps. I hope we break this system of lobbying in Bollywood because I want equal opportunities and work. I may have done the wrong films, but I am the same actor who started 10 years ago and is in search of the right platform."

