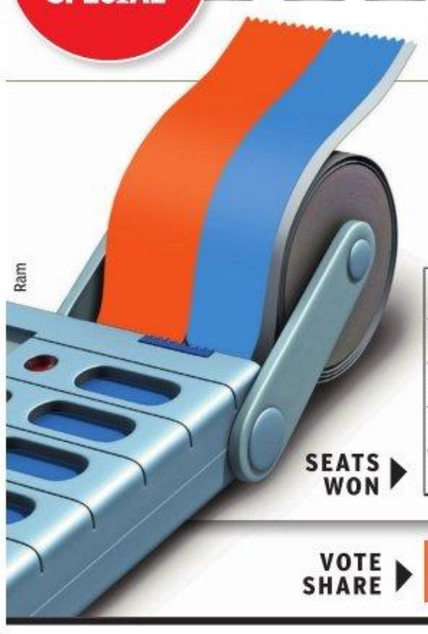
BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | Estd. MDCCCXXXVIII | VOL. 75 NO. 134 | NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024

2024 ELECTION SPECIAL

THE TIMES

INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) |



18TH LOK SABHA

NDA	INDIA	Others
291	234	18

At 1AM

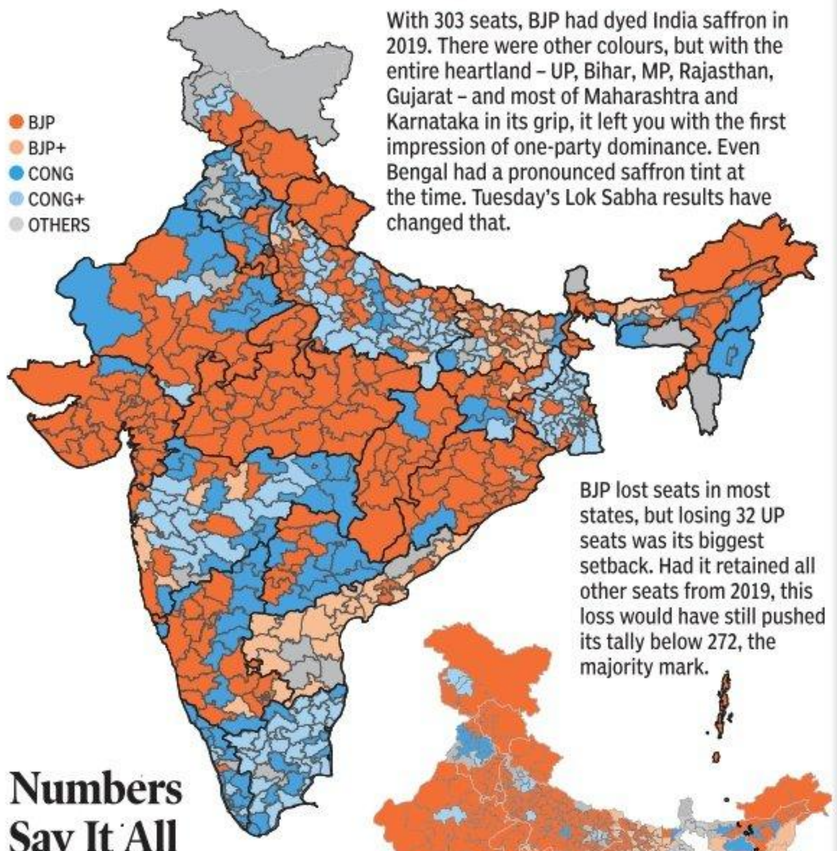
SEATS WON

BJP	240	▼63	Cong	99	▲47	BSP	0 ▼10
TDP	16	▲13	SP	37	▲32	ADMK	0 ▼1
SS	7	▼6	TMC	29	▲7	BJD	0 ▼12
JDU	12	▼4	DMK	22	▼2	YSRCP	4 ▼18
LJP	5	▼1	SS(UBT)	9	▲4	SAD	1 ▼1

VOTE SHARE

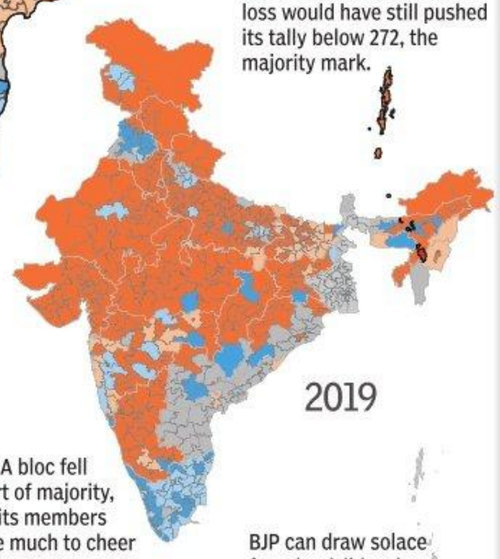
NDA	INDIA	Others
42.9% ▼3.2%	41.1% ▲6.9%	16.0% ▼3.7%

LS Constitution Has Changed



With 303 seats, BJP had dyed India saffron in 2019. There were other colours, but with the entire heartland – UP, Bihar, MP, Rajasthan, Gujarat – and most of Maharashtra and Karnataka in its grip, it left you with the first impression of one-party dominance. Even Bengal had a pronounced saffron tint at the time. Tuesday's Lok Sabha results have changed that.

BJP lost seats in most states, but losing 32 UP seats was its biggest setback. Had it retained all other seats from 2019, this loss would have still pushed its tally below 272, the majority mark.



INDIA bloc fell short of majority, but its members have much to cheer about. SP, Congress, SS (UBT), NCP (SP) improved their scores, and DMK played an anchor's role in the south.

BJP can draw solace from landslide wins in Odisha, in both Lok Sabha and assembly polls. It has secured 19 of 21 LS seats there with over 45% vote share.

Numbers Say It All

317
Seats retained by parties

47
Most seats gained by a party (Cong)

63
Most seats lost by a party (BJP)

23.6cr
Votes polled by BJP. The party won about 70 lakh more votes than in 2019

1.8cr
Votes gained by Congress over 2019. It won a total of 13.7 crore votes

10.1L
Highest win margin (Dhubri, Assam)

48
Lowest win margin (Mumbai Northwest)

BJP Loses 53 In 5 Biggest States

In Uttar Pradesh, INDIA has 37 more seats than in 2019. In Maharashtra, the bloc has 21 more. Bihar and Bengal have added 14 extra seats to its tally. This has taken a major toll on BJP's score.

UTTAR PRADESH | 80

SP	37	▲32
BJP	33	▼29
Cong	6	▲5
RLD	2	▲2
BSP	0	▼10

MAHARASHTRA | 48

Cong	13	▲12
BJP	9	▼14
Sena (UBT)	9	▲5
NCP (SP)	8	▲5
Sena	7	▼6
NCP	1	

TAMIL NADU | 39

DMK	22	▼2
Cong	9	▲1
VCK	2	▲1
CPI	2	▲2
ADMK	0	▼1

WEST BENGAL | 42

TMC	29	▲7
BJP	12	▼6
Cong	1	▼1

BIHAR | 40

BJP	12	▼5
JDU	12	▼4
LJP	5	▼1
RJD	4	▲4
Cong	3	▲2

What This Verdict Means

HOUSEKEEPING CHALLENGE

Short of a majority, dependent on two allies who may not always share BJP's priorities, and faced with a resurgent opposition, BJP will find Parliament a far more difficult place to navigate. With a less than 60-seat difference between NDA and INDIA, and with the need to onboard Naidu and Nitish on every key legislation, lawmaking will represent a challenge the previous two Modi Sarkars hadn't faced

NITISH-NAIDU TEST

Nitish and Naidu are past masters at extracting concessions from big alliance partners. They will want to have a say when portfolios are allocated. They will also want a say when key policies, including the upcoming budget, are formulated. Special status for Bihar and Andhra, which BJP had refused to give earlier, look more than likely. BJP's pet projects like a central law on uniform civil code will likely be on hold for some time

BJP WILL LOOK FOR A REBOOT

Election results will force a relook at BJP's organisation. Tough questions loom. Who will be party president after Nadda? Can state units that are overly dependent on Modi-Shah to do the strategic heavy-lifting think on their own again? Will RSS be back as an influencer, now that BJP has to recover lost ground in key states?

MODI NEEDS MAGIC BACK

Opposition will hammer at the point that Modi has lost much of his magic. To prevent that from gaining popular currency, Modi may have to come up with some eye-catching gestures, which grab headlines and targets key social groups. Women and Dalits, for example, may soon get special policy attention

MAHA CHALLENGE IN 3 STATES

Maharashtra, Haryana and Delhi elections are coming up. In the first two, BJP plus allies are the incumbent, and in both, BJP's LS performance is sub-par. And Delhi is a prestige battle, as always – and AAP has won the last two state elections even as BJP has swept LS in 2014 and 2019. The party will have to perform better in these elections, to avoid the impression that it's in a not-so-slow decline

DANCE of DEMOCRACY
BUMPER EDITION

From Ahmedabad to Azamgarh and Vadodara to Varanasi, **TOI** brings you the most comprehensive coverage of Verdict 2024 in this Special Election Issue

- Sharp-perspective stories and analyses on what worked for parties and their bosses and what didn't
- Reports from swing states and critical/sensitive constituencies
- A detailed study of the impact of caste, Ram Mandir and society on the results
- Informative and insightful graphs and charts that crunch big data and capture the changing face of elections, candidates and MPs
- An in-depth look at how your city and state voted
- Fascinating accounts of ambitions realised and aborted, giant-killers and humbled legends
- A listing of all 543 new MPs with details of their age, wealth and gender
- Opinion pieces by some of the best minds on politics and economics
- Verdict in 11 graphs, and lots more...



THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024

DANCE of DEMOCRACY

KNOW YOUR PARLIAMENT



Older House	Lower Assets	Share of Women
56yrs	₹18.8cr	14%
AVERAGE AGE	AVERAGE ASSETS	SHARE OF TOTAL
2019 54yrs	₹20.9cr	14%

The new House will have three MPs aged **25 years**: Shambhavi from Bihar, Pushpendra Saroj and Priya Saroj from UP.

Despite India's GDP growth over the past 5 years, the average assets of MPs declined marginally.

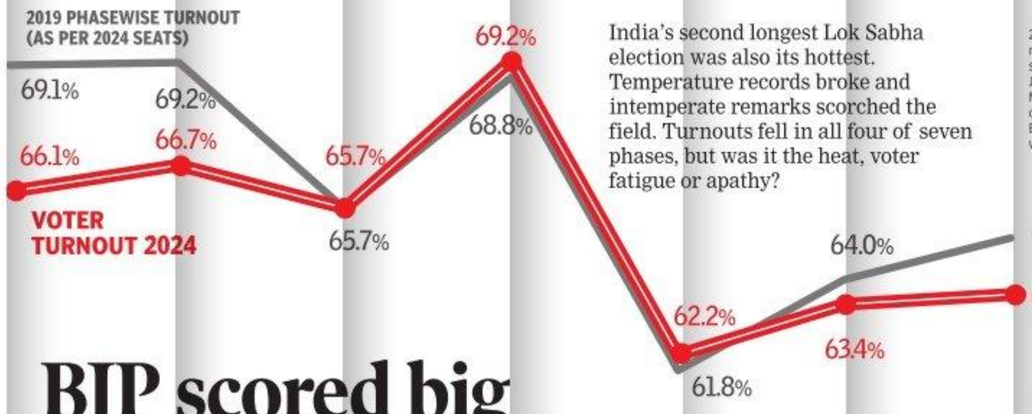
Guntur MP **Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani** is the richest this time with total assets of Rs 5,705 crore.

Share of women in Lok Sabha has stagnated at 14%. BJP has **33** women MPs, Congress **13** and TMC **11**.

HOW POLLS PROGRESSED OVER SEVEN PHASES

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
APR 19	APR 26	MAY 7	MAY 13	MAY 20	MAY 25	JUNE 1
102 SEATS	87 SEATS	94 SEATS	96 SEATS	49 SEATS	58 SEATS	57 SEATS
OVER TO THE PEOPLE	SOUTH SIZZLER, THAR THRILLER	THE WESTERN CLASICO	FINAL FACEOFF IN THE SOUTH	MAX CITY, MAHA YUDH	WAR FOR DELHI DURBAR	FIGHT TO THE FINISH

2019 PHASEWISE TURNOUT (AS PER 2024 SEATS)

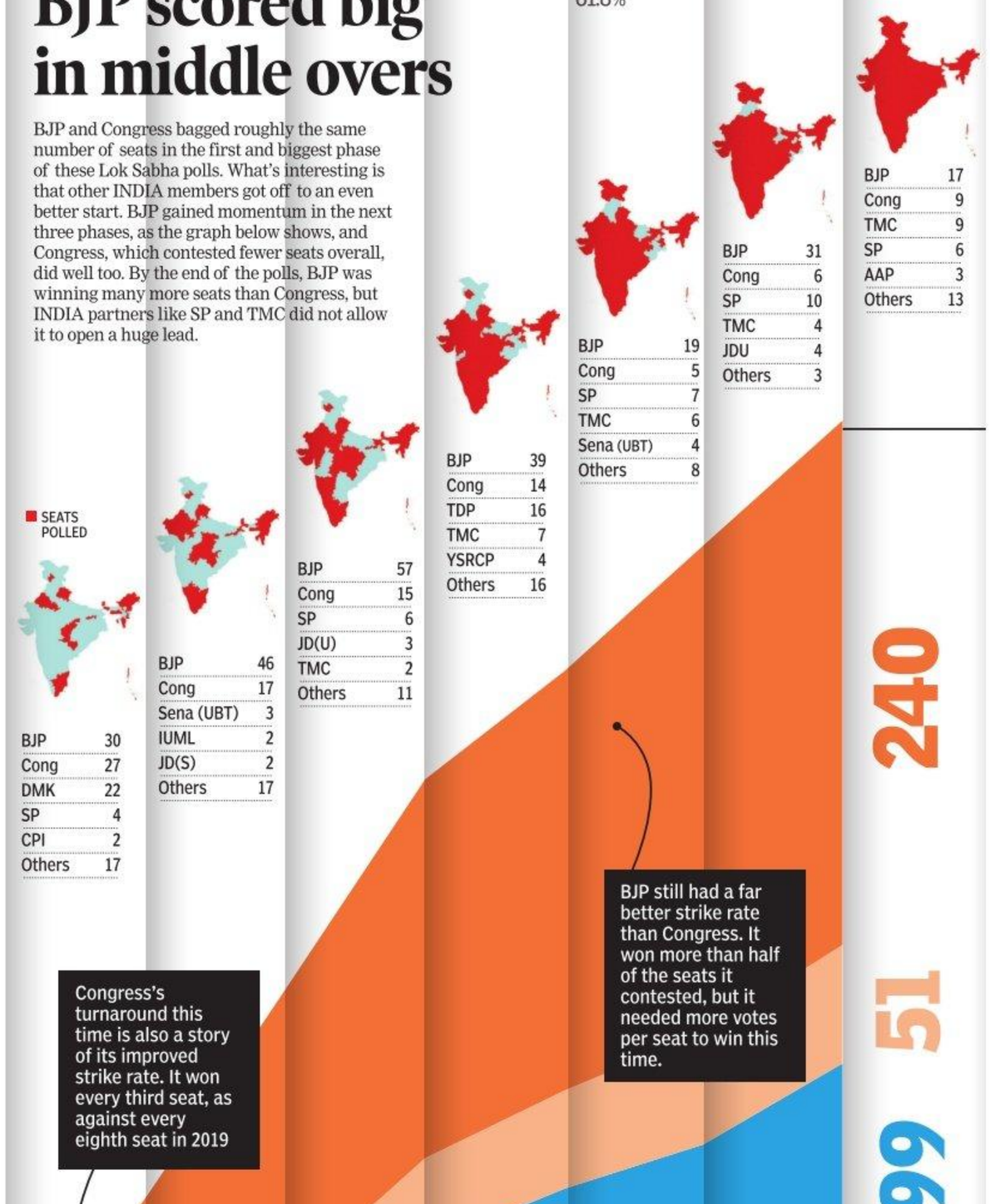


India's second longest Lok Sabha election was also its hottest. Temperature records broke and intemperate remarks scorched the field. Turnouts fell in all four of seven phases, but was it the heat, voter fatigue or apathy?

2019 turnout figures do not include delimited seats in Assam and J&K. Polls in Outer Manipur were spread over phases 1 and 2. BJP won Surat without a contest.

BJP scored big in middle overs

BJP and Congress bagged roughly the same number of seats in the first and biggest phase of these Lok Sabha polls. What's interesting is that other INDIA members got off to an even better start. BJP gained momentum in the next three phases, as the graph below shows, and Congress, which contested fewer seats overall, did well too. By the end of the polls, BJP was winning many more seats than Congress, but INDIA partners like SP and TMC did not allow it to open a huge lead.



PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	PHASE 4	PHASE 5	PHASE 6	PHASE 7
Biggest phase in terms of seats was also the gentlest in terms of messaging. Modi said DMK had neglected Tamil Nadu's development.	Low turnouts in first phase suggested it was a "waveless" election and the discourse quickly turned abrasive after that.	Major sex scandal involving BJP ally Prajwal Revanna surfaced in Karnataka; poll campaign turned communal.	Arvind Kejriwal got bail to campaign, and Modi attacked Rahul Gandhi with Ambani-Adani: "Did he get tempo loads of black money?"	PM made Mandir an issue: "If SP and Congress come to power, they will send Ram Lalla back to the tent and bulldoze the temple."	Before Delhi voted, CM Kejriwal's aide Swati Maliwal made headlines by accusing another aide, Bibhav Kumar, of assaulting her.	Modi introduced 'vote jihad' in the last leg of the campaign. "Jihadis from across borders are supporting Congress and SP," he said.
TN CM Stalin called Modi 'vasool raja' (extortion-ist) in return	**Mangalsut-ras aren't safe rom the opposition, said Modi**	**Modi dared Congress to oppose religion-based quota**	**Rahul said Modi could press CBI and ED to investigate**	**Jagannanth temple in Puri not safe with BJD, Modi said**	**BJP's Sambit Patra said Lord Jagannath is Modi bhakt**	**He signed off with: "Let them do mujra for votes"**

BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | Estd. MDCCCXXXVIII | VOL. 75 NO. 134 | NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024 | PAGES 46 | CAPITAL | **INVITATION PRICE** ₹5.50; *₹9.50 WITH ET OR ₹10.00 (₹9.00 IN FARIDABAD EDITION) WITH NAVBHARAT TIMES

THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) | *APPLICABLE ONLY ON MONTHLY PURCHASE (IN DELHI NCR)

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER





4 SETS OF NUMBERS THAT EXPLAIN THE VERDICT

(At 12.30am, June 5)

1 SEATS WON

2019	BJP	303
	Congress	52
2024	BJP	240
	Congress	99

21% fall for BJP, 90% jump for Congress

2 VOTE SHARE %

2019	BJP	37.3
	Congress	19.5
2024	BJP	36.6
	Congress	21.2

BJP slipped by 0.7 and Cong gained over 2 %age points

3 % OF CONTESTED SEATS WON

2019	BJP	69.5
	Congress	12.4
2024	BJP	54.4
	Congress	30.3

BJP's strike rate still better, but Cong's more than doubled

4 AVG NO. OF VOTES FOR EACH SEAT WON

2019	BJP	7.6L
	Congress	22.9L
2024	BJP	9.8L
	Congress	13.8L

BJP still more efficient, but Cong improved substantially

AB KI BAAR, COALITION SARKAR: Exit polls had given NDA a huge majority, almost in line with Modi's 400-paar forecast – though ground reports suggested a much tighter race. With BJP on its own falling short of the magic mark, Modi – for the first time since he became Gujarat CM in 2001 — will have to depend on allies to form govt. **Nitish Kumar** and **Chandrababu Naidu**, who returned to NDA's fold just before the elections, have a track record of being fickle allies. For Rahul Gandhi and INDIA, the results brought back memories of 2004, when Sonia helmed Cong to an unexpected win over Vajpayee-led NDA, which was seen to be coasting to victory on the back of its 'India Shining' campaign

Hat-Tricky: NDA 272 Paar, INDIA Raises Bar

WINNERS

Illustrations: Uday Deb



RAHUL GANDHI | In the toughest election of his career, Gandhi emerged as a major winner and the biggest player within the INDIA bloc. His strategy, approach and campaign helped Congress mount a comeback that will establish him as the chief opposition to Modi. He backed a national alliance, plumped for big compromises in seat-sharing, and alongside Mallikarjun Kharge, formed a duo that ensured coordination with allies. His two Bharat Jodo Yatras took the party back to the people. His return as an MP from UP is likely to further help Congress in its bid to shore up its presence in the north



AKHILESH YADAV | Finally ends his losing streak, which began with a rout in 2017. SP's strong showing — it's now the 3rd largest party in LS after BJP & Cong — restores his status as a powerful satrap with a national role. The fact that this success was made possible by support from non-Yadav OBCs and Dalits means he will be a strong challenger in the country's most politically important state



N CHANDRABABU NAIDU | The TDP chief is living proof of the folly of writing a politician's epitaph. Almost consigned to history after he left NDA in 2019, when he was roundly defeated by Jagan Reddy, Naidu, jailed by his bitter rival, is now back as CM of a state where he first earned his reputation as a good administrator and reformer. With BJP falling short of a majority in LS, Naidu can marshal his numbers to try to secure disproportionate returns on issues such as a special package for Andhra Pradesh and good portolios. May also combine with Nitish to restrain the Hindutva agenda



NITISH KUMAR | The political gymnast has landed on his feet yet again. Bihar's results have validated his much-mocked decision to switch sides before the elections. Not only did the defection not cost him votes, it may have also helped thwart the formation of a larger social coalition that embarrassed NDA in neighbouring UP. A ruthless practitioner of realpolitik, he is likely to leverage his numbers to push demands like special category status for Bihar, even a caste census. BJP is unlikely to ask for leadership of the Bihar coalition in 2025 when state polls are due



MAMATA BANERJEE | Many said this was her toughest challenge yet, with her back to the wall following repeated raids by central agencies and the Modi-Shah duo's focus on Bengal's 42 seats. But, as in the 2021 assembly polls, she has once again proved the prophecies of her decline to be vastly exaggerated. Contrary to exit poll predictions, she actually raised her LS tally from 22 to 29. A weaker BJP at the Centre could also mean less aggressive central agencies in Bengal



M K STALIN | A staunch ally of Rahul Gandhi through good times and bad, he has led DMK and its allies to a clean sweep in Tamil Nadu. His success in thwarting PM Modi's determined bid to expand BJP's presence in TN has bolstered his political standing. AIADMK seems to be in decline, another plus for him



UDDHAV THACKERAY | He has emerged as inheritor of Balasaheb Thackeray's political legacy. Success outside the stronghold of Mumbai without BJP's support has established his as the 'real Sena' — which could help lure back those who'd left him for Shinde. It will also strengthen his claim to be MVA's CM face in state polls



TEJASHWI YADAV | Braving scorching sun and recurring back pain, Tejashwi spearheaded the opposition campaign single-handedly against an array of senior BJP functionaries like PM Modi, Amit Shah and JP Nadda. With the Congress brass, including Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge busy elsewhere, it was left to Tejashwi to lead the show and eventually help RJD raise its Lok Sabha tally to 4 from zero in 2019. Addressing 251 rallies and hundreds of roadshows, he has set the stage for the 2025 assembly election in Bihar, where he will seek to further improve on RJD's impressive performance in the 2020 polls

LOSERS



YS JAGAN MOHAN REDDY | This rout in both LS and assembly is his biggest setback since he rebelled against Congress and charted his independent path. It must have come as a shock after the freebies he dispensed. The paltry numbers leave him vulnerable to a resurgent Naidu, whom he had jailed, and without any leverage with the Centre



NAVEEN PATNAIK | That he could not better P K Chamling's record as India's longest-serving CM will hurt. But it will pale before the agony caused by the double defeat on Tuesday. The loss of office in Bhubaneswar, and of the leverage he had with Delhi before the LS rout, come at a time when he is not in the best condition to mount a fightback. BJP's determination to consolidate its hard-fought gains can only cause more trouble for the veteran, who was once considered unbeatable in Odisha



ARVIND KEJRIWAL | The SC decision to grant bail to Delhi's CM was a major reprieve for AAP and the INDIA bloc. But the script began to unravel with the assault on RS MP Swati Maliwal by Kejriwal's assistant generating unwanted headlines. The cases against him and senior AAP members dominated elections in the capital. The party's failure to win a single seat in Delhi for the third time running is a big setback for Kejriwal, who turned the polls into a virtual referendum on his incarceration with his "jail ka jawab vote se" campaign. AAP's poor performance in Punjab in the LS elections soon after its landslide in the 2022 state polls could spell more trouble for the party and its chief



MAYAWATI | The BSP chief has been an enigma this election. After keeping away from any anti-BJP coalition, she bet big on the Muslim vote, giving 30% of her party tickets to the community. Yet, the BSP campaign floundered, with the SP-Congress combine garnering the bulk of the Muslim vote by virtue of being the stronger anti-BJP force. The non-Yadav OBCs and non-Jatav Dalits who were part of BSP's base have already drifted away, largely towards BJP. Now there are signs that even the Jatavs are dispirited by the party's waning prospects and Mayawati's erratic functioning, manifested in the dramatic sacking of her nephew midway through the campaign



YOGI ADITYANATH | Expected to deliver a handsome tally in UP on the plank of improved law & order and construction of the Ram Temple, the UP CM was unable to maintain the momentum the party had gained since 2014, when it won 71 seats. It is a personal setback for him as the saffron party suffered the maximum damage in eastern UP, his own turf. One of BJP's star campaigners, he will face a formidable challenge from a rejuvenated Akhilesh Yadav-led SP

Short Of Majority, BJP Has To Rely On Ambitious Allies

TEAM TOI

Narendra Modi is set to take over as PM for the third time in a row, but suffered a setback as an unexpectedly strong show by Congress, Samajwadi Party and Trinamool Congress denied him a Lok Sabha majority.

VICTORY MARGINS

Narendra Modi (Varanasi) **1.5L** (2019: 4.8L)

Amit Shah (Gandhinagar) **7.4L** (2019: 5.5L)

Shivraj S Chouhan (Vidisha) **8.2L** (2019: Did not contest)

Rahul Gandhi
Rae Bareli: **3.9L** (2019: Did not contest)
Wayanad: **3.6L** (2019: 4.3L)

Rakibul Hussain (Cong) Dhubri: **10.1L**

Shankar Lalwani (BJP) Indore: **10L** (NOTA 2nd, with 2.1L votes)

FULL COVERAGE: P 2-4, 6-20, FLAP INSIDE

▶**Verdict In 11 Graphs, P 18-19**

The drop of 60-plus seats was caused by losses inflicted by Akhilesh Yadav's SP in the saffron stronghold of UP, which had played a crucial role in Modi's previous two victories; smart teamwork by Congress, Uddhav Thackeray and Sharad Pawar in Maharashtra; and Mamata Banerjee's successful defence of her bastion in Bengal.

BJP managed to dodge a debacle because of its victory in Odisha, the sweep of Andhra Pradesh by its ally TDP and by saving its strongholds of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh from being breached. It also performed well in Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and, along with ally JD(U), retained its dominance in Bihar.

The failure to secure an absolute majority dampened celebrations of Modi's success in becoming the first PM to secure three consecutive terms since Nehru in 1962. BJP's score of 240, while distinctly underwhelming when viewed through the prism of the previous two single-party majorities and the 400+ target Modi had set for himself, is still a creditable performance for a govt facing 10-year incumbency.

The loss of majority leaves BJP dependent on allies — both bigger like TDP (16) and JD-U (12) as well as smaller ones like Chirag Paswan's LJP. All three promptly pledged support to Modi.

But both Chandrababu Naidu and Nitish Kumar are known for their transactional outlook and maximalist approach. The possibility of them using their leverage, encouraged further by feelers from Congress and others in the opposition, is going to be a constant worry for BJP.

▶**Continued on P 38**

SWING STATUS | 6 CHANGES FROM 2019 TO 2024

1 In 2019, **Cong had won just 15 of 190 seats, or barely 8%,** where it was in direct contest with BJP. This time, it won **61 or over 28%** of 214 such direct contests

2 In 2019, **BJP had 303 of NDA's 352 seats, a share of 86%** in the alliance and majority on its own. Now, it has **240 of 290 — slightly reduced 83%** — and no majority by itself

3 Four of the 5 states with most LS seats failed to deliver for BJP. Its tally in **UP** (total seats 80) almost **halved from 62 to 33, fell from 23 to 10** in Maharashtra (48), **from 18 to 12** in **Bengal** (42) and in **TN** (39) it **failed to open its account**. The 5th, **Bihar,** saw it **shed 5 seats** from its 2019 tally of 17, though NDA won 30 of the state's 40 seats

4 The **northeast**, where BJP had expanded massively in recent years, also dealt it a bit of a blow with both seats in **Manipur** going to Cong, as did the lone seat in Nagaland and 1 of 2 seats in Meghalaya. But BJP retained 9 seats in Assam and 2 each in Arunachal & Tripura

5 BJP had won **77 of 131 SC/ST seats** across the country last time, while Cong had won just 11. This time, BJP's **tally fell to 53,** while Cong upped its kitty to 33

6 BJP will form a govt in **Odisha for the 1st time,** ending the **24-yr tenure of Naveen Patnaik**, India's 2nd-longest serving CM

"People have placed their faith in NDA for a 3rd consecutive time! This is a historic feat... | **PM NARENDRA MODI'S** POST ON X

"The people of India have saved the Constitution and democracy | **RAHUL GANDHI'S** POST ON X





Photos: Tarun Rawat/Piyal Bhattacharjee

'Bold decisions' to define third term, says Modi, vows war against graft

TEAM TOI

Shrugging off celebrations in the opposition camp over BJP's loss of majority, PM Narendra Modi Tuesday declared his third term would be defined by bold decisions, signalled the likelihood of fresh initiatives specifically aimed at women, the poor and SCs/STs and declared his intent to press on with his drive against corruption.

"All Indians will walk together and make the country progress... the third term will be used to write new chapters of bold decisions and it is a guarantee of Modi," the PM said in his address to BJP cadres who had gathered to applaud the verdict that will lead to the third consecutive Modi-led regime.

If he was feeling disappointed over the results, Modi did not show it. Nor was there any indication that the reduced numbers would act as a restraint with the PM saying that his drive against corruption would continue.

"If the country has to progress in the 21st century, then we will have to wage a war against corruption," Modi asserted.

▶**Continued on P 38**

Big message is people don't want Modi, Shah running country: Rahul

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge termed the results a mandate against PM Modi and a "very big and damaging political and moral defeat" for him and BJP as "he sought votes in his own name everywhere".

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, at the same press conference in Delhi on Tuesday, said that "the main message in this election is that people have unanimously and clearly said, 'we don't want Narendra Modi and Amit Shah involved in the running of this country'." TEAM TOI

▶**Related report, P 30**

Will decide today whether to talk to TDP, JD-U, he says

Though NDA is past the majority mark, Rahul Gandhi said INDIA members would meet Wednesday and decide whether to approach ex-partners JD(U) and TDP, both part of NDA now, in a bid to try and form govt. Sena (UBT)'s Uddhav Thackeray, part of INDIA, said, "We need to stake claim to form govt. Cong netas and others are talking to Naidu and Nitish. All possibilities are open." **P 28**

Saffron sweeps all 7 Delhi seats for 3rd time in row, takes Ggn, Noida, Gzb too

TEAM TOI

It was once again capital punishment for the opposition. Brought together by the compelling need to avoid splitting of votes, AAP and Congress – after many hiccups and ignoring the lack of enthusiasm of their cadres – had worked out a seat-sharing arrangement but at the end of the day couldn't make any dent in the BJP fortress. The saffron party sailed through blithely, winning all seven seats and securing a vote share of 54.4%, albeit down by 2.3% from its 2019 vote share. AAP and Congress together polled 43.1%.

Having been pragmatic enough to replace all its sitting MPs, except for Manoj Tiwari, BJP turned out to be the winner who took all. From Tiwari, who defeated Congress' Kanhaiya Kumar by 1.4 lakh votes to debutant Bansuri Swaraj, who trounced AAP's Somnath Bharti by 78,370 votes, BJP steamrolled the opposition. The biggest margin was in North West Delhi where Yogendra Chandoliya defeated Congress's Udit Raj by 2.9 lakh+ votes.

BJP also swept Delhi's neighbourhood, with two-time MP Mahesh Sharma scoring a hat-trick in Noida with the biggest victory margin (5.6 lakh) in UP and Atul Garg winning Ghaziabad by 3.3 lakh votes.

The party also retained Gurgaon, where Rao Inderjit Singh won a record sixth term, and Faridabad, where K P Gurjar scored a hat-trick. **P 11-13**

THE WINNERS

North East Delhi: M Tiwari | **BJP** (by 1.4L votes)	Chandni Chowk: P Khandelwal | **BJP** (by 89.3K)
New Delhi: Bansuri Swaraj | **BJP** (by 78.3K)	South Delhi: Ramvir Singh Bidhuri | **BJP** (by 1.2L)
North West Delhi: Y Chandoliya | **BJP** (by 2.9 lakh votes)	East Delhi: H Malhotra | **BJP** (by 93.6K)
West Delhi: K Sehrawat | **BJP** (by 2L)	
Ghaziabad: Atul Garg | **BJP** (by 3.3L)	**NCR** — GB Nagar: M Sharma | **BJP** (by 5.6L) — Gurgaon: Rao Inderjit Singh | **BJP** (by 75K)

Naidu's back with a bang in Andhra, new disha in Odisha

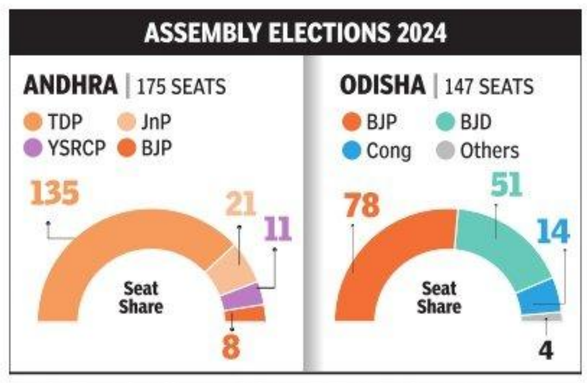
TEAM TOI

Amidst the excitement of LS elections, the two big assembly polls saw major upsets as BJP uprooted Naveen Patnaik's BJD, ending an unbroken 24-year stint in Odisha, and N Chandrababu Naidu made a dramatic comeback in Andhra Pradesh with his TDP-led alliance ousting YSRCP's YS Jagan Mohan Reddy.

BJP rode anti-incumbency sentiment against Naveen, harping on emotive issues like Odia asmita and identity. Till 10pm, BJP had won 65 (and was leading in 13 more), BJD 51 and Congress 14 in the 147-strong assembly. Naveen lost in Kantabanji, one of the two seats he contested.

In AP, Naidu would be the first CM to get a fourth term. While the alliance won 164 seats (TDP 135, Jana Sena 21, BJP 8) in the 175-member assembly, Jagan lost the status of leader of opposition as YSRCP, with just 11 seats, could not win the minimum 18 required for the status. **P 20**

ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS 2024



Sena beats Sena by 48 votes in see-saw thriller



In a nail-biting finish, **Ravindra Waikar** of the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena narrowly defeated Shiv Sena (Uddhav Thackeray)'s Amol Kirtikar from the Mumbai Northwest constituency by just 48 votes, the lowest margin in India. Uddhav said his party will challenge the result. UBT's Kirtikar had been leading the EVM count for much of the afternoon. But the mood changed soon after as his lead shrank to one vote. And when the postal ballots were added, the lead swung in Waikar's favour. **P 27**

Sensex suffers biggest-ever loss of 4,390 pts, ₹31L cr investor wealth wiped out in a session

TEAM TOI

Mumbai: Investors, globally, do not like surprises. They also prefer status quo. Surprisingly, both these elements were missing during Tuesday's trading on Dalal Street. The result: A never-seen-before 4,390-point crash in sensex and Rs 31-lakh-crore wealth destruction in just six-and-a-half hours.

On Tuesday, contrary to exit poll predictions of a resounding election mandate for BJP, voters left the governing party 31 short of the majority mark and made it dependent on allies such as TDP and JD(U).

As a result, investors now expect that the new govt will not be able to take some of the bold policy decisions to push the economy along the strong economic growth path that it's already on. As the initial poll results trickled in, sensex opened 200 points down but then heavy selling pulled it down by over 6,000 points.

▶**Continued on P 25**

BIGGEST FALL IN % TERMS SINCE COVID CRASH



- Sensex loses 4,390 points, its biggest plunge ever. Previous record was 3,935-pt loss on Mar 23, 2020 (Covid crash)
- Biggest fall in % terms since Covid crash in Mar '20: At 5.7%, sensex dives the most in over 4 years in % terms
- Worst result-day for mkt since '04: In last 5 polls, sensex closed lower only twice — '19 & '24 — this yr being the worst with a 5.7% drop
- Investors lose most in absolute terms in a day: BSE m-cap falls by ₹31.1L cr to ₹401.2L cr. Biggest loss before this on Mar 23, '20 (₹14L cr)

11 Adani co stocks crash, group m-cap plunges ₹3.6L cr

Investors in Adani group companies were left poorer by a massive Rs 3.6 lakh crore on Tuesday as stock prices of all the 11 companies crashed on the back of a depleted mandate for the BJP-led NDA coalition. The group's combined m-cap fell from Rs 19.4 lakh crore on Monday to Rs 15.8 lakh crore, BSE data showed. Group flagship Adani Enterprises led the slump. As the stock crashed 19%, its market cap worth Rs 80,416 crore eroded. **P 25**

FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS

- **BJP cedes Ram temple seat Faizabad to SP**, barely 4 mths after shrine's inauguration, along with all 4 other seats in Ayodhya division | **P 7**
- **Cong wrests back Amethi** as Gandhi loyalist K L Sharma defeats Union minister **Smriti Irani** by 1.7L+ votes | **P 7**



- **Cong bags 2 of 2 in restive Manipur** as both warring groups — Kukis in hills and Meiteis in Imphal valley — vote for it | **P 27**
- **BJP opens its account in Kerala** as **Suresh Gopi**, 'Modi's man' & actor-turned neta, wins Thrissur



- **Sandeshkhali row has little impact** on Basirhat verdict as TMC's Nurul Islam beats BJP's Rekha Patra, the face of protests, by 3.4L votes | **P 28**
- Shunned by both BSP and SP, **Chandrashekhar Azad** successfully projects himself as a **Dalit icon** and wins UP's Nagina by 1.5L+ votes



- **Jailed pro-Khalistan preacher** Amritpal Singh & Sarabjeet Singh Khalsa, **son of** Indira Gandhi's assassin **Beant Singh, win** in Punjab. In J&K's Baramulla, **Engineer Rashid, jailed under UAPA, defeats Omar Abdullah** | **P 31**
- **Cong** wins Banaskantha, **denies BJP hat-trick of clean sweeps in Gujarat** | **P 29**
- **SP wins all 5 seats contested by members of Yadav 1st family:** Kannauj (Akhilesh), Mainpuri (Dimple), Badaun (Aditya), Farrukhabad (Akshay), Azamgarh (Dharmendra)



BJP Other NDA Cong Other INDIA Others For comparison, 2014 and 2019 results are visualised with current NDA and INDIA alliances



UTTAR PRADESH | 80 SEATS

Samajwadi surge

India's largest state gave BJP its biggest shock of the LS polls, the saffron double engine of Modi and Yogi derailing before the INDIA bloc pairing of Akhilesh Yadav and Rahul Gandhi. With 37 seats, Samajwadi Party emerged as the star performer of the Congress-led alliance, putting in its best Lok Sabha performance. Seen as overwhelming favourite, BJP fell to 33 seats (also losing Ayodhya) and NDA to 36 from 64 (BJP 62) in 2019. Its vote share fell from nearly 50% to around 43% while SP's jumped from 18% in 2019 to 33.5 %. Congress won six seats (its vote share rising from 6.5% to nearly 10%), giving INDIA bloc a total of 43.



MAHARASHTRA | 48

Cong, Uddhav & Pawar play

The 'real Sena, real NCP' question has been settled by the people. Uddhav Thackeray and Sharad Pawar have emerged on top of the bruising political slugfest that saw their parties split, Thackeray unseated as CM and Pawar dislodged from NCP by nephew Ajit. With Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) bagging 29 of the state's 48 seats, not only have Pawar and Uddhav reasserted themselves as mass leaders, they have also gained an advantage ahead of Assembly polls this Oct. It's Congress that's the biggest gainer, though, having risen from one seat in 2019 to 13 and emerging as the single-largest party.



WEST BENGAL | 42

Didi No. 1 again

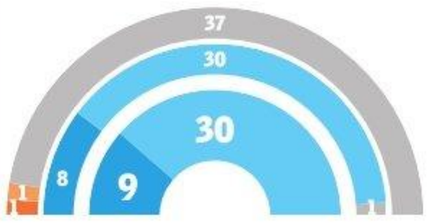
With just 12 seats for BJP, Bengal's voters dealt a blow to the saffron party as well as pollsters. The LS poll script was similar to the 2021 Assembly elections. BJP's loss was Trinamool's gain. As BJP fell from its 2019 mark of 18 seats, Mamata Banerjee's party raised its tally from 22 in 2019 to 29. Women, minority and tribal voters seem to have contributed to the Trinamool show even as the party retained its urban base. BJP's Sandeshkhali pitch didn't work, neither did CAA make an impact.



BIHAR | 40

Nitish, Chirag light up NDA

NDA put up another good show, with the governing coalition winning 30 seats. CM Nitish Kumar's JD(U) led from the front, winning 12 seats. BJP won 12 and LJP (RV) of Chirag Paswan five, while Jitan Ram Manjhi won from Gaya. NDA had swept in 2019, bagging 39 seats. INDIA bloc made inroads but the massive crowds seen at Tejashwi Yadav's rallies didn't quite translate into votes for RJD, which won just 4 seats. Congress, its alliance partner, won 3. What seems to have worked is Modi's repeated reminders about RJD's "Jungle Raj".



TAMIL NADU | 39

DMK wins it all

MK Stalin's stock rose in national politics as he led the INDIA bloc to a clean sweep, doing better than the impressive 38 out of 39 the DMK alliance won in 2019. The alliance's regional and caste dynamics and DMK govt's big welfare push blew the opposition – regional rival ADMK and BJP – away. For ADMK, which had been a BJP ally, and especially Edappadi K Palaniswami, the defeat of state BJP chief K Annamalai was the high point. A conversation gaining momentum now is whether ADMK and BJP will continue to contest future polls as rivals.

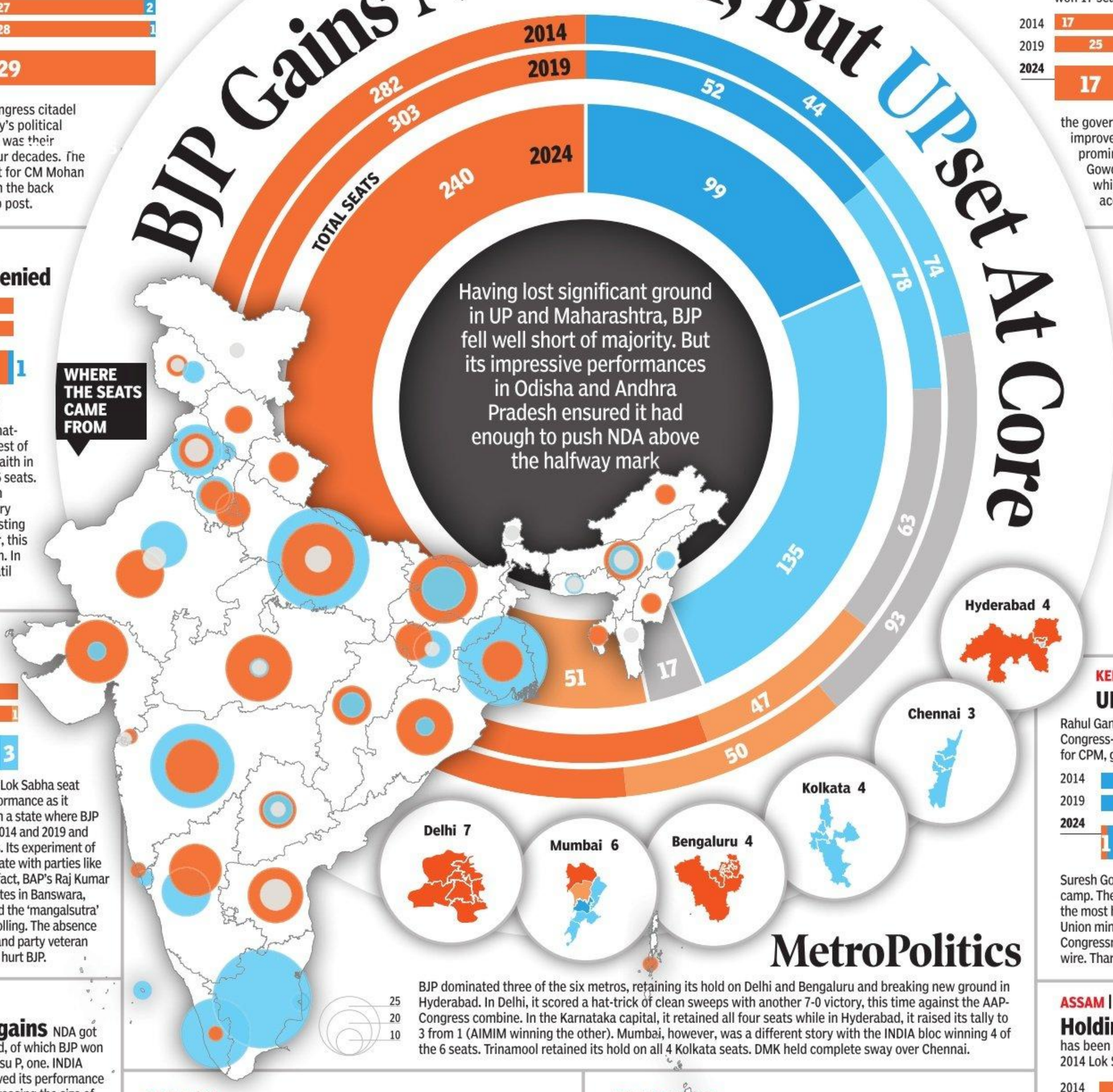
MADHYA PRADESH | 29

Saffron fortress intact

After this bruising victory, as the saffron camp gets into damage-assessment mode, this is one state it needn't worry about. Building on the momentum of the 2023 Assembly polls, BJP swept all 29 seats, finally breaching the Congress citadel of Chhindwara. The Nath family's political fortunes were at stake in what was their impregnable stronghold for four decades. The 29-0 scoreline was also a boost for CM Mohan Yadav, who was propelled from the back benches of state BJP to the top post.



BJP Gains New Turf, But UPset At Core



MetroPolitics

BJP dominated three of the six metros, retaining its hold on Delhi and Bengaluru and breaking new ground in Hyderabad. In Delhi, it scored a hat-trick of clean sweeps with another 7-0 victory, this time against the AAP-Congress combine. In the Karnataka capital, it retained all four seats while in Hyderabad, it raised its tally to 3 from 1 (AIMIM winning the other). Mumbai, however, was a different story with the INDIA bloc winning 4 of the 6 seats. Trinamool retained its hold on all 4 Kolkata seats. DMK held complete sway over Chennai.

KARNATAKA | 28

Cong gain is BJP loss

Karnataka has seen a repeat of the 2014 LS polls, when Modi became PM. Ten years later, BJP has again won 17 seats. With ally Janata Dal (S) winning 2 more, the NDA tally is a solid 19. However, this is a decline of 8 seats from NDA's 2019 tally. Congress, the governing party, won nine seats, a huge improvement from its 2019 tally of 1. Among prominent contestants, former PM H D Deve Gowda's son-in-law C N Manjunath won while his grandson Prajwal Revanna — accused of sexual abuse — lost.



ANDHRA PRADESH | 25

Runaway Naidu



The last-minute electoral patch-up with BJP and a return to the NDA fold brought about a windfall for TDP. It also reinforced the fact that TDP wins big whenever it goes to polls in alliance with other parties. In fact, TDP president and CM-in-waiting N Chandrababu Naidu has also emerged as a kingmaker for the NDA, with BJP falling short of majority. While YSRCP, which fought the polls alone, won 4 seats, TDP and its partners won 21. Of this, BJP won three and Jana Sena two, marking the latter's debut in Parliament.

GUJARAT | 26

BJP clean sweep denied

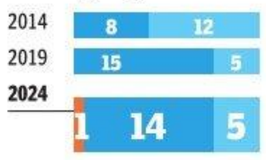


Congress's sole win, ending its decade-long losing streak — in Banakskantha — denied BJP a hat-trick of clean sweeps, but the rest of the state reposed unwavering faith in Modi, with BJP bagging 25 of 26 seats. Union home minister Amit Shah rewrote his 2019 electoral victory margin record of 5.6 lakh by posting a thumping win in Gandhinagar, this time with a 7.4 lakh-plus margin. In Navsari, state BJP chief C R Paatil bettered his 2019 record.

KERALA | 20

UDF sweeps, BJP debuts

Rahul Gandhi comfortably won Wayanad and Congress-led UDF swept up 18 seats along with 1 for CPM, giving the INDIA bloc a near whitewash. But Kerala brought smiles as well to BJP, which won a seat here for the first time — Thrissur, where actor Suresh Gopi made it a historic day for the saffron camp. The battle for Thiruvananthapuram, one of the most high-profile of these LS polls — between Union minister Rajeev Chandrashekhar and senior Congressman Shashi Tharoor —went down to the wire. Tharoor scraped through by 15,000 votes.



RAJASTHAN | 25

Cong sees revival



Congress ended its decade-long Lok Sabha seat drought with an impressive performance as it wrested 11 seats (3 with allies) in a state where BJP had made two clean sweeps in 2014 and 2019 and recently won assembly elections. Its experiment of forming its first alliance in the state with parties like RLP, BAP and CPM paid off — in fact, BAP's Raj Kumar Roat won by more than 2 lakh votes in Banswara, the place where the PM delivered the 'mangalsutra' speech after the first phase of polling. The absence of strong state-level leadership and party veteran Vasundhara Raje from the scene hurt BJP.

ASSAM | 14

Holding their positions

BJP has been on a winning spree here since the 2014 Lok Sabha polls but failed to improve on its 2019 performance, its tally stuck at 9. Its two allies, AGP and UPPL, won a seat each, taking NDA's count to 11. Congress, too, maintained its 2019 tally of three, but it turned out to be a giant killer, with two seats coming at the expense of BJP and AIUDF.



JHARKHAND | 14

NDA leads, INDIA gains

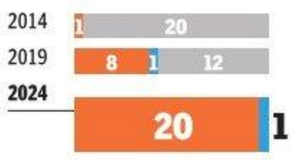
NDA got nine seats out of 14 in Jharkhand, of which BJP won eight and its alliance partner, Ajsu P, one. INDIA improved its performance by increasing the size of its kitty from two to five. All tribal-reserved seats went with INDIA, in a show of resentment over ED action against former CM Hemant Soren. JMM successfully tapped into tribal sentiment against central govt refusing a separate Sarna code in the Census register.



ODISHA | 21

Saffron wave washes away Naveen

This was BJP's biggest victory outside its strongholds of these general elections as the party decimated BJD to win 20 seats, up from just 8 in 2019. Naveen Patnaik's party, which has been governing for five consecutive terms and had won 12 seats in 2019, was wiped out with anti-incumbency finally catching up with the BJP chief, who has had a smooth run in the eastern state. Congress had another disappointing performance, ending up with just one seat.



TELANGANA | 17

It's a Cong-BJP match now

For the first time since its formation in 2014, Congress and BJP have become the dominant political forces in Telangana, both sharing the spoils with eight seats each as BRS was decimated and its vote share shifted in equal parts to the two national parties. From one seat (Secunderabad) in 2014 to four in 2019 and doubling it this time, BJPs growth here is impressive. The result strengthens CM A Revanth Reddy, who had said the LS polls were a referendum on Congress's five months in office in the state.



UTTARAKHAND | 5

Juggernaut rolls on

There were no surprises, with BJP clinching all five seats with comfortable margins for the third straight time. Former CM Trivendra Singh Rawat, contesting his first Lok Sabha election, won comfortably in Haridwar.



PUNJAB | 13

Fractured verdict

Multi-cornered contests in all 13 seats of Punjab threw up a fractured verdict as governing party AAP upped its tally to 3, Congress won 7 seats. Congress and AAP were not in alliance here. Jailed pro-Khalistan Sikh preacher Amritpal Singh (Ind), won Khadoor Sahib by nearly 2 lakh votes, the state's highest margin. Sarabjit Singh, son of PM Indira Gandhi's assassin Beant Singh, won Faridkot by over 70,000 votes.



HARYANA | 10

Resentment shows

In a Modi-versus-public battle in Haryana, BJP's reliance on the Modi magic did not pay off. Having won all 10 seats in 2019 with record votes, the saffron party managed to keep only 5 seats, that too with massively reduced margins. The campaign led by former CM Manohar Lal Khattar, replaced to beat anti-incumbency, faltered in the face of farmers' anger, resentment over unemployment, the Agnipath scheme and the old pension scheme.



JAMMU AND KASHMIR | 5

Valley surprise

The first LS polls after the abrogation of Article 370 and bifurcation of J&K into two UTs five years ago delivered unexpected results, with former CMs Omar Abdullah of NC and Mehbooba Mufti of PDP conceding defeat before counting concluded. The BJP stronghold was intact: Union minister Jitendra Singh, seeking a third straight term, won Udhampur while party colleague, MP Jugal Kishore, retained Jammu. In 2019, NC had secured all three seats in the Kashmir valley, while BJP won both Jammu seats.



HIMACHAL PRADESH | 4

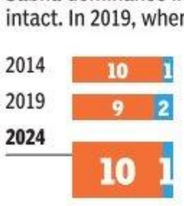
3 in a row for BJP

The saffron party has now scored a hat-trick of clean sweeps in the state. Actor Kangana Ranaut emerged victorious in Mandi, defeating Congress legislator Vikramaditya Singh, a setback for Himachal PCC chief Pratibha Singh.

CHHATTISGARH | 11

Saffron sweep again

BJP's Lok Sabha dominance in Chhattisgarh remains intact. In 2019, when Congress was flush from its assembly poll victory, BJP had bagged 9 seats. This time, it's done better with 10, a win that was significant to its national numbers. The result also puts first-time CM Vishnu Deo Sai, the first tribal to hold the position, on a stronger footing.



All results based on wins & leads at 11pm. Source: EC

NORTH-EAST STATES

Cong trips NDA In this bloc, NDA's tally fell below that of 2019 by 3 seats, a sharp contrast to predictions of every exit poll. Individually, BJP lost four of the 17 seats it contested — 2 in Assam and one each in Manipur and Mizoram. NDA's tally fell from 18 in 2019 to 15. Congress surpassed its 2019 tally of 4, winning 7, including 3 in Assam. BJP's biggest dent was in conflict-hit Manipur, where it was rejected in the Meitei-dominated Imphal valley.

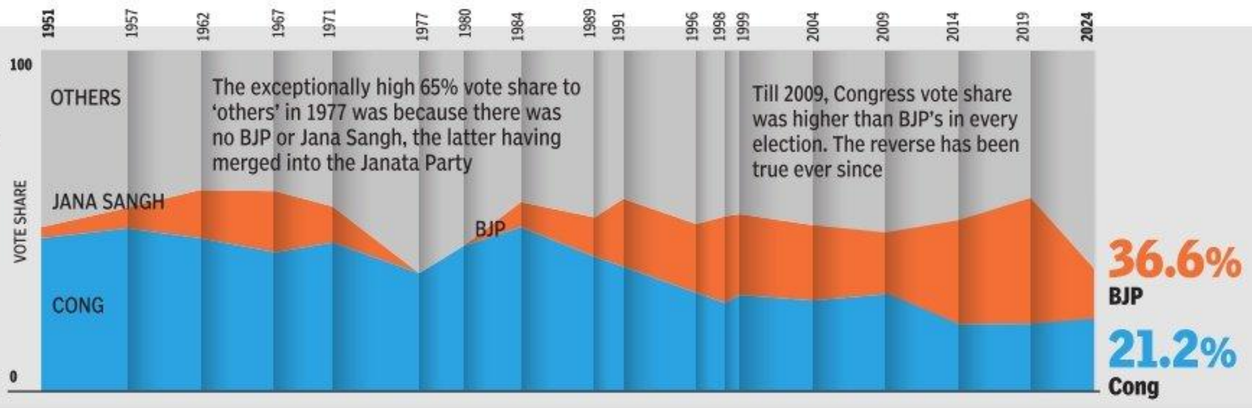
	2014	2019	2024
Arunachal Pradesh	2		
Manipur	2		
Meghalaya	2		
Tripura	2		
Mizoram	1		
Nagaland	1		
Sikkim	1		

UNION TERRITORIES

	2014	2019	2024
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1		
Chandigarh	1		
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	2		
Ladakh	1		
Lakshadweep	1		
Puducherry	1		

Cong's Loss Had Been BJP's Gain

BJP's vote share (Jana Sangh till 1971) didn't touch the 20% mark till 1991, the year when Congress's share fell below 40% for only the second time. By 2019, BJP was close to 40% and Congress had fallen below 20% for the first time ever



No Party Has Ever Won 50% Of Votes

In 12 years between 1984 and 1996, vote share of the largest party in Lok Sabha fell by 29 percentage points — 49% to 20%. In the first nine parliamentary elections, the largest party secured a minimum of 40% votes. No party has recorded such vote share since 1989



Behind The Numbers, Beyond The Headlines

What were voters saying, as they denied Modi's BJP majority, but still made it, by some distance, the single largest party? What was the message behind Rahul-powered Congress regaining its mojo? How can a govt running an economy that's growing at 8.2% suffer electoral reverses? ***TOI*** *looks at the key takeaways from an election that had exit pollsters running for cover*

NOTHING SHINES FOREVER, NOT EVEN BRAND MODI

Modi led BJP's campaign. He was BJP's campaign. And that was the problem. No political brand is immune to voter fatigue. Modi's wasn't either. BJP's rising vote share since 2014 was rightly attributed to Modi. The fall in its vote share must also mean Brand Modi has lost some lustre. Without doubt he's still a leader who commands substantial support. But, equally without doubt, that support wasn't enough to carry BJP beyond the finish line when voters had many questions for Modi Sarkar. Talking up growth rates when jobs are scarce, and prices pinch or talking up India's standing in world when rural incomes and consumption are under stress — Modi's key pitches were judged as out of whack with reality by many voters. The best demonstration of this came from UP. The state Modi made his political home gave BJP its biggest shock. Also, given that Modi's entire electoral record was built on delivering clear BJP majorities whenever he's on the ballot, his inability to take BJP past 272 will affect his brand post-results. Modi the Invincible can't apply if Modi runs a coalition govt, whose survival depends on mercurial allies like Nitish Kumar and Chandrababu Naidu. Modi has seen a different kind of India. Will India see a different kind of Modi?

RAHUL TALKED THE WALK, MANY VOTERS LISTENED

Written off any number of times since 2014 — often derisively called 'Pappu' and 'Shehzada' — Rahul Gandhi still refused to listen to party insiders who advised him to take a less combative stance. He doubled up on it and pushed many INDIA partners to join him in taking the attack to Modi. He stuck to a theme that emphasised bread-and-butter issues of ordinary voters. The two Bharat Jodo Yatras were built around these themes, and they were repeated by Rahul in rally after rally. He correctly divined that a substantial number of voters were a receptive audience for his message — even in Modi citadels like UP. It's largely to Rahul's credit that Congress is back as a player of note in the North, where BJP reigned supreme for 10 years. To be sure, Rahul has a long road to walk to reach a position where they can take BJP head on across the North. In MP and Chhattisgarh, for example, Rahul's message clearly didn't work as much it did in, say, UP. But a door has opened for Congress, and the party has its de facto leader to thank for it.

WHEN THERE'S NO WAVE, POLITICS GOES LOCAL

Pundits say no one catches an electoral wave as it's happening, all identification is with hindsight. But this time, to observers on the ground, it was clear there was no Modi wave, not even in UP. When pan-national issues don't capture voter imagination, local concerns dominate voter thinking. Micro caste calculations come back into play, livelihood concerns become paramount, candidate selection assumes huge



HINDUTVA PITCH DIDN'T WORK AS WELL AS HOPED FOR

importance — in short, politics reverts to the small things that affect voters, not an abstract big idea that fires them up.

WHO'S THE BOSS OF INDIA? KING CONG, OBVIOUSLY

When the INDIA alliance was formed, heavyweights like Mamata were sceptical of the idea that Congress can lead the opposition. The alliance had other big netas, Sharad Pawar, Uddhav Thackeray, Akhilesh Yadav, MK Stalin, all of whom looked at Congress not as the leader of the group, but as a party that had lost badly in two LS elections. But it was always true that for BJP to fall short of a majority, Congress had to do much better. So, the Grand Old Party was always the key player in INDIA. Now that Congress has nearly touched the three-figure mark in LS, with excellent performances in UP and Maharashtra, there's no question who leads INDIA. Opposition regional heavyweights now need Congress to lead future fights against BJP, in Parliament and in elections.

KINGMAKERS ARE BACK WITH A BANG

Coalition politics was for losers, was the mantra in 2014 and 2019. Coalitions are lifesavers, is the message from 2024. Chandrababu Naidu and Nitish Kumar, both pre-poll alliance partners of BJP, are the reason a BJP-led govt can come to office. That, reportedly, both these politicians, who have been in every kind of alliance, got calls from both sides of the political divide tells us that the old story of Indian politics — parties with few seats can make or break a govt — is firmly back. Just like in 1996, 1998, 2004 and 2009, kingmakers will demand the king does them special favours. Just like in those years, the big party — BJP in this case — will have to carefully consider allies' views before taking certain kinds of policy decisions. And, in another repeat, kingmakers will play a crucial role when it comes to allocating portfolios.

HINDUTVA CAN'T ALWAYS WIN HINDUSTAN

The consecration of the Ram temple in January was supposed to be the icing on the Hindutva cake that BJP had been carefully baking since 2014. That in UP, the home of the mandir, BJP was beaten in LS seat count by INDIA shows that voters, while not unresponsive to Modi's messages on the majority community's cultural revival, are not prepared to entirely subsume their material concerns under Hindu 'garv'. It's not that the mandir and the larger Hindutva messaging by themselves cost BJP Hindu community votes. It's more that these campaign pitches got trumped, in crucial states, by a range of factors: fracturing of BJP's social coalitions in states like UP, angst over stagnant rural incomes in states like Maharashtra. Also, in some big states like Bengal and Tamil Nadu, which answer to cultural identities distinct from that of the North, the temple consecration didn't win significantly more support for BJP.

SCARING THE MAJORITY CAN'T GET A MAJORITY

The incumbent party made several attempts at polarising voters via subtle and not-so-subtle communally coded messaging, whether in rallies or on social media. Congress, as BJP suggested, would open the cash till for minorities, and Hindus would suffer. It didn't work in UP, where polarisation has been a tried and tested tactic. Nor in Bengal, where BJP was banking on what it saw as Hindu voters' disgruntlement over Mamata Banerjee's 'Muslim appeasement'. It didn't quite work in Karnataka, which hosts quite a few strident Hindu right politicians. Or in Rajasthan, home to many communal clashes.

MINORITIES CAN MAKE MORE THAN A MINOR DIFFERENCE

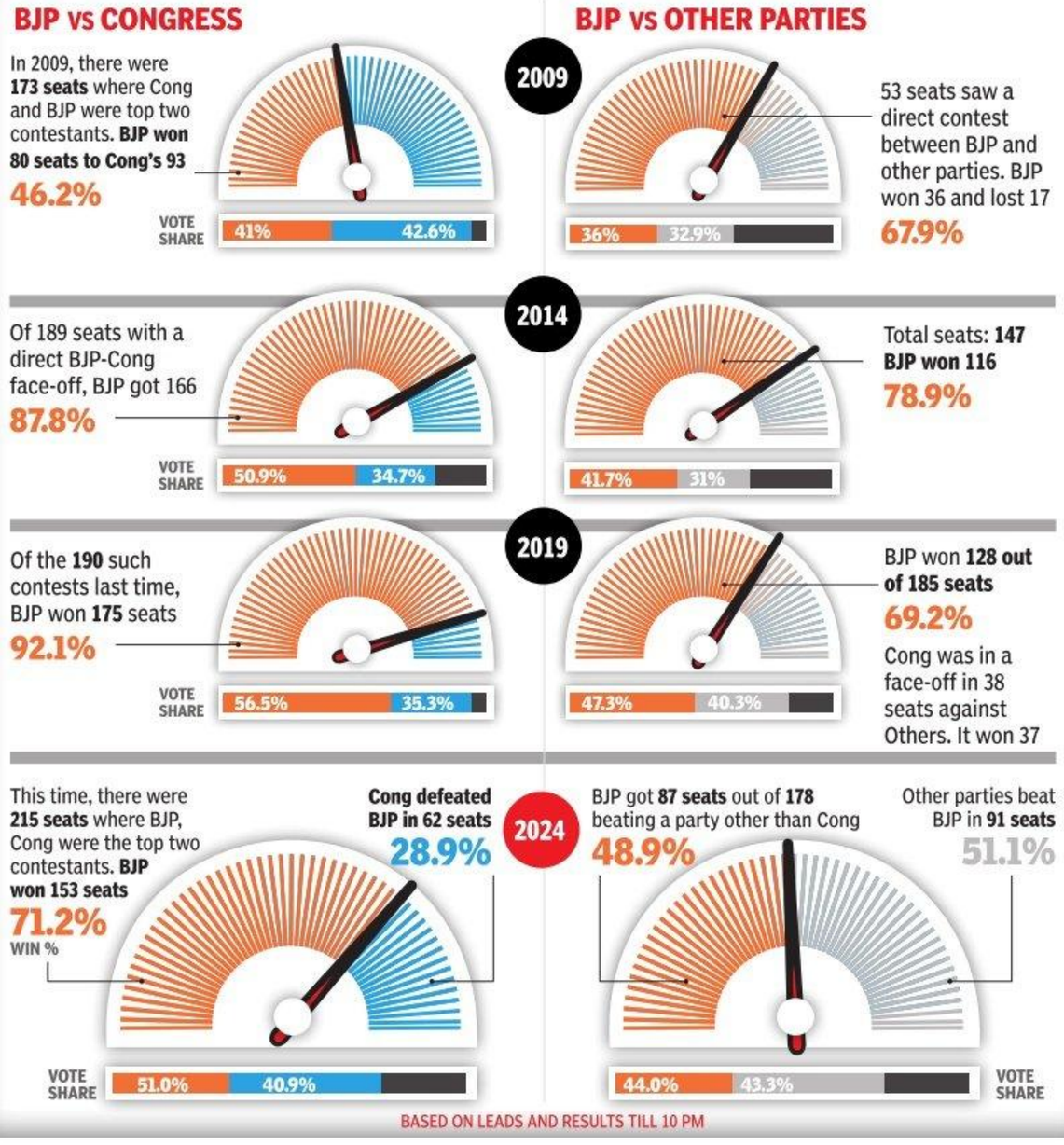
BJP and everyone else knew Muslim votes would go against it. What the party perhaps didn't reckon with was that Muslims would vote in a way that made a difference between BJP winning and losing seats, as happened in UP, where the Congress-SP alliance profited greatly. In Bengal, with Muslims solidly behind Mamata, Trinamool could concentrate on keeping its non-Muslim vote bank as intact as possible. That BJP lost seats in both states compared to 2019 showed that marginalising the minority can be a risky strategy when other negative factors are also in play.



AGNIVEER TRIPPED UP NOT JUST MANY YOUNG ASPIRANTS BUT ALSO PROVED A HURDLE FOR BJP IN HARYANA, PUNJAB

This Time, Congress Did Better In Straight Fights Against BJP

How did the BJP fare when its main opponent was Congress? And how did it do when other parties (in the India alliance or out of it) were the primary rivals? We looked at seats where BJP finished winner or runner-up to answer those questions. This does not include seats where BJP ended up third or worse. For instance, in Kerala, BJP may have contested most seats but the main contest was between UDF and LDF except in a couple of cases. This time, Congress made a sharp recovery, securing a win percentage of close to 30% against BJP in straight fights



BASED ON LEADS AND RESULTS TILL 10 PM

EVEN MODI'S BJP NEEDS THE SANGH

Reports from key states like UP, Maharashtra, Karnataka had indicated RSS karyakartas were not enthusiastically participating in BJP's campaign. Bear in mind that UP is home to the mandir, Maharashtra hosts RSS HQ and Karnataka is BJP's biggest southern base. Why the Sangh behaved in this fashion remains unclear. But RSS staying aloof seems to have made a difference to BJP's final performance. Significantly, BJP president JP Nadda had said during an interview, when asked about his party's relationship with RSS, that BJP, having grown up as an organisation, doesn't need RSS as a crucial support system. Not quite true, perhaps.

PICK YOUR FRIENDS BY ASSESSING YOUR ENEMY

Both NDA and INDIA played this smart. BJP bigshots listened to their Odisha and Andhra local units that, respectively, wanted no alliance with BJD and wanted a tie-up with TDP, not YSRCP. Those calls paid rich dividends. As did BJP's decision to woo Nitish back to the NDA fold just months before polls. Had BJP stuck with ADMK in Tamil Nadu, it might have been in a better position post-results. On the other side, SP tying up with Congress in UP produced this election's biggest upset. And, in Maharashtra, MVA — Congress plus NCP, Shiv Sena splinters — didn't lose heart even when it lost its govt, and it gave BJP the second biggest LS shock.

AND PICK YOUR CANDIDATES BY CONSULTING LOCAL UNITS

Observers had pointed to BJP's candidate selection in UP as a handicap. In Maharashtra, the BJP-led Mahayuti struggled to nominate candidates in some seats till the last moment. Results for BJP in both states show the wisdom of adopting a more democratic, and less centralised, way when choosing candidates. BJP has the most powerful high command. But the writ of party HQ doesn't always produce results that party bosses want.

DON'T TALK ABOUT TINKERING WITH THE CONSTITUTION

Sometime after campaigning began in earnest, BJP took to reassuring voters it had no plans to change the Constitution, no plans to tinker with reservations. It was forced into this by a successful opposition campaign, which took advantage of some BJP netas' statement that 400-paar will give the party a chance to refashion the Constitution. That INDIA campaign, centered around the theme that BJP wanted to take away SC/ST reservations, clearly worked, as results especially in UP show. BJP's carefully built social coalition in the state splintered because a sizeable number of Dalits took the 'threat' to quotas seriously. BJP tried to change the game by talking about Congress's 'plans' to take away SC/OBC quotas for Muslims. But it didn't work.

IT'S THE ECONOMY, EVEN WHEN GDP IS ON A HIGH

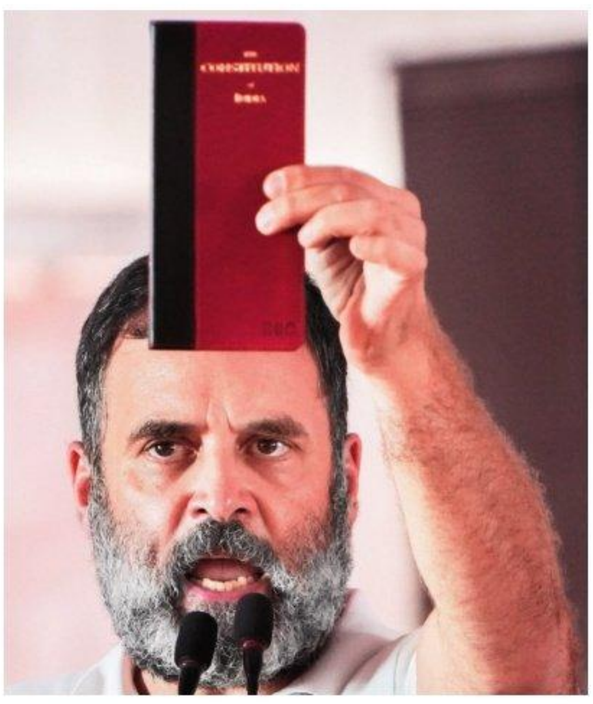
In a country with steep income and wealth inequality, a fast-growing economy must create enough decent jobs for the macro numbers to positively impact lived realities of most citizens. That this wasn't happening was clear even from govt data, which showed self-employment and unpaid housework were two big chunks of total employment. Almost every ground report from constituencies, especially in big states like UP and Maharashtra, captured the angst of the jobless young. In Haryana and Punjab, the jobs question was sharpened by BJP govt's introduction of 4-year stints for army jawans. Agniveer is one 'reform' that cost BJP clearly. Add to all this a rural economy that had to support, post-pandemic, more people who couldn't find jobs in factories and cities, as well as a general complaint about inflation. You then have the perfect storm of dissatisfaction.

FREEBIES ARE NOT A FREE PASS IN ELECTIONS

BJP had its free foodgrain scheme, Congress promised to top it, Jagan Reddy promised the moon, so did some others — but there's no evidence that welfare schemes and/or freebies decisively impacted results anywhere this time. It's not that low-income voters don't like schemes and free stuff, it's just that once assured of delivery, more of the same gives diminishing political returns to parties. A party without promises like these would surely suffer. But when every party promises variations of the same, no one party gains substantially.

POLITICAL WASHING MACHINES DON'T ALWAYS SELL

BJP made great play of the fact that numerous opposition leaders were under corruption investigations. Two problems. One, many voters thought investigative agencies were being used in a partisan fashion by BJP's govt. Second, voters also noticed that BJP, for all its talk on being an staunch enemy of corruption, had no problem



CONSTITUTION BECAME KEY TO CONG NARRATIVE

welcoming politicians whose CVs were dominated by graft charges. That many defectors to BJP failed to win their seats is one indication that BJP's anti-corruption rhetoric didn't convince enough voters in states where they lost out most. Maharashtra and Bengal results best exemplified this.

DON'T MAKE BIG PLANS BEFORE YOU KNOW THE RESULTS

BJP heavyweights made big statements about what their govt would do once voted back to power with a majority — uniform civil code and one nation/one poll were the two big items on a future agenda. With BJP short of a majority and the opposition charged up, it can be safely assumed neither is happening anytime soon. Even for legally mandated delimitation, BJP will find the going difficult. One ally, Nitish in populous Bihar, would want it. Another ally, Naidu, from the South, wouldn't want it.

WHATSAPP ELECTION TO YOUTUBE ELECTION

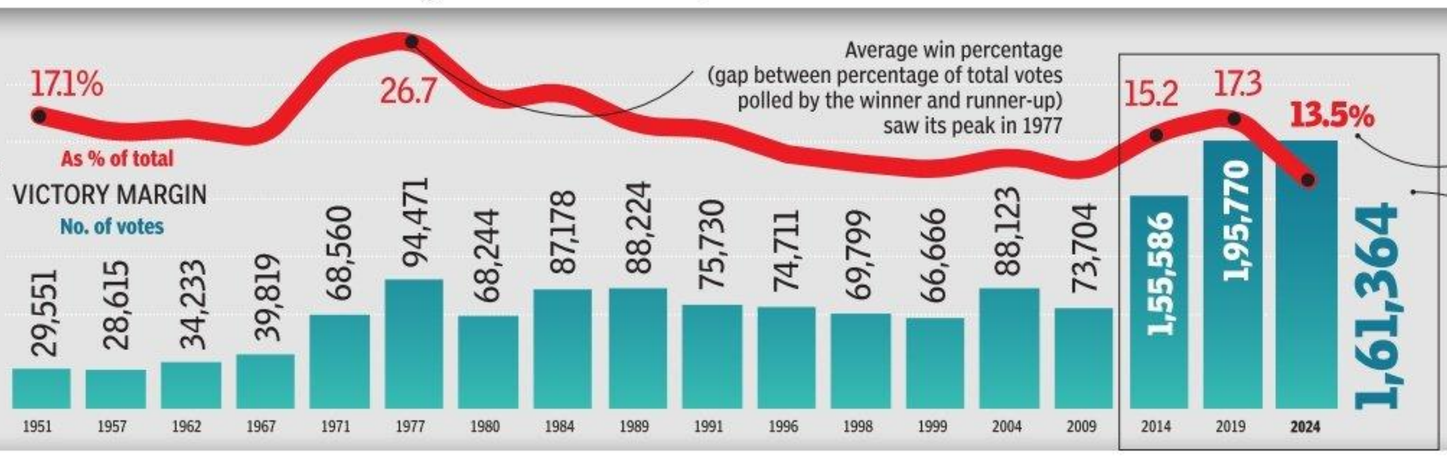
Social media, of course, played a big role in every party's campaign. But it wasn't hundreds of campaign messages in their phones that voters were hooked on. It was hundreds of videos. YouTubers, some of them with a backup team, some lone rangers, some for BJP, and, crucially, some for opposition, were the big hit in these polls. BJP's overwhelming presence on news TV, which went live almost every time the party's brass was holding a rally, was countered by anti-BJP YouTubers.

EXIT POLLSTERS HEAD FOR THE EXIT

Almost every exit poll run by news TV channels gave BJP a majority bigger than 2019's and NDA a larger number of seats. Axis My India, on India Today, predicted 401 seats for NDA as the outer limit. That its head, Pradeep Gupta, broke down on live television said it all about what actual results did to the credibility of pollsters. Psephologists can get it wrong, of course. But when so many exit polls get it so spectacularly wrong, serious questions about methodology are bound to come up. News TV channels who ran these exit polls perhaps should do their own introspection.

Why 1977 & 2019 LS Polls Stand Out

Victory margins needn't be big in a first-past-the-post system. But the picture can change in case of a wave. Average win margins are a barometer of the political mood in the country. They shot up in 1977, when there was an overwhelming mandate against Emergency, and breached 1.5 lakh in the Modi wave election of 2014. They peaked at nearly 2 lakh in 2019, when Modi won a second term



MIND THE GAP: The average win margin in each seat underlines how narrow or wide Lok Sabha victories are. In 2019, when there were about 11 lakh votes cast on average in each seat, the mean difference between the winner and the second-best was 17% of votes

RIDING THEIR LAKH: Amid mostly bipolar contests between the NDA and INDIA alliances, the average margin in 2024 LS polls touched 1.6 lakh but the average per cent margin dipped from 2019

How small drop in BJP vote share led to big dent in tally

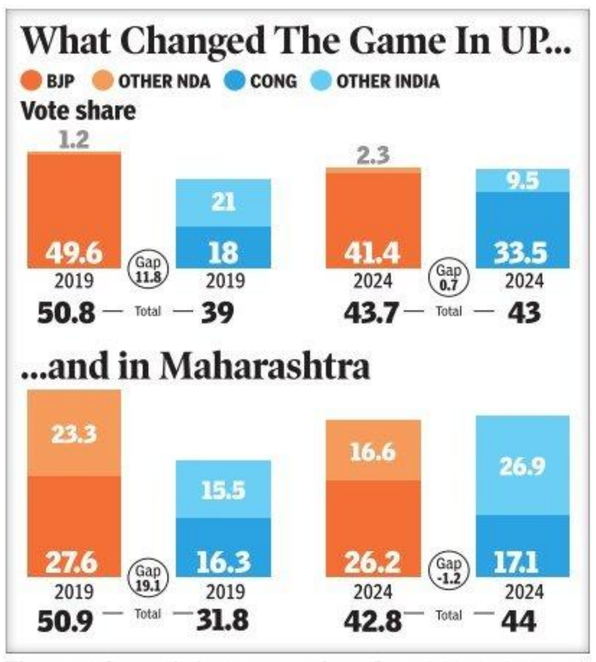
TEAM TOI

BJP saw its national vote share fall marginally from 37.3% in 2019 to 36.6% in 2024, but its seat tally dropped by 63 from 303 to 240, putting it well below the halfway mark. In contrast, Congress raised its vote share a bit from 19.5% last time to 21.2%, but that was enough to nearly double its seat tally from 52 to 99.

How could such minor changes in vote share have caused such a large variation in seat tallies? That's because the national vote share is an aggregation of states, and a party may gain vote share in a state where it is starting from such a low base that adding votes doesn't translate into winning seats while losing the same amount in a highly competitive state could cost many seats.

That is precisely what happened to BJP this time. For instance, its vote share in Tamil Nadu rose from 3.6% in 2019 to 11.2% this time, but that added nothing to its seat tally. Similarly, it went from 9.6% to 18.6% in Punjab, but in the absence of any alliance, that was not enough to win any seats, so it ended up losing the two it had.

On the other hand, a drop of about three percentage points in Bihar, from 23.6% to 20.5%, cost it five seats, while a drop of a mere 1.6 percentage points in West Bengal meant it dropped six seats.



The most dramatic instance, however, was in Maharashtra, where BJP's share dropped by just 1.4 percentage points from 27.6% to 26.2%, but that led to its winning less than half the seats it had last time (10 versus 23).

Congress presented almost a mirror image of this. In Maharashtra, a rise in vote share of less than one percentage point, from 16.3% to 17.1%, saw its seat tally jump from one to 13. In Rajasthan, it upped its vote share from 34.2% to 37.9%, and that meant winning eight seats instead of none. In UP, a rise in vote share from 6.3% to 9.5% saw its seat tally go from one to six.

The third largest party, SP, achieved its highest tally ever of 37 in the Lok Sabha by significantly raising its vote share from 18% to 33.5%. Combined with Congress' 9.5%, the INDIA bloc in the state had a 43% vote share, making it a neck-and-neck battle with the NDA. Last time, the SP-BSP combine's 37.3% was a far cry from the NDA's 50%-plus vote share. It's this dramatic closing of the gap, which few had anticipated in the absence of BSP from the opposition alliance, that was the game changer in UP.

Where contests were direct, victory margins were the narrowest

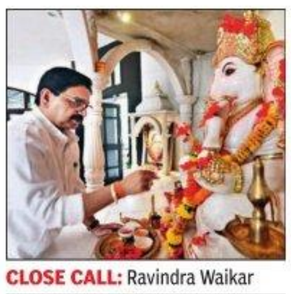
TEAM TOI

The average margin of victory in 2024 Lok Sabha polls was about 1.6 lakh votes, but that varied significantly across states. Not surprisingly, those that were dominated by a single party or alliance saw the highest average margins while states that saw two alliances or parties going toe to toe had significantly narrower margins of victory on average.

The highest average margin among states with five or more seats was in Madhya Pradesh, where BJP made a clean sweep, at about 3.4 lakh. This was followed by Gujarat, another state with a near total saffron sweep (almost 2.8 lakh) and Uttarakhand (2.3 lakh). On the flip side, Tamil Nadu, which saw a clean sweep by the DMK led alliance, also had margins averaging 2.2 lakh.

At the other end of the spectrum, Punjab had an average margin of just about 70,500. In UP, which saw a fierce battle between NDA and INDIA alliance, margins were on average under a lakh while Bihar and Maharashtra too were just over a lakh.

Odisha was an interesting outlier. While the seat tally would indicate that it was a one-way street with BJP winning 20 of the 21 seats, the average margin was a little over a lakh, on the lower side among the larger states, suggesting that the contests were closer than the seat tallies would make us believe.



CLOSE CALL: Ravindra Waikar

The highest margin was in Dhubri in Assam, where Rakibul Hussain of the Congress polled nearly 14.7 lakh votes and beat Mohammed Badruddin Ajmal of the AIUDF by over 10 lakh votes, a new record. The lowest margin of a mere 48 votes was in Mumbai North West where a battle between the two Sena factions saw the Shinde group's candidate Ravindra Waikar just pip the UBT group's Amol Kirtikar at the post.

Mandal momentum shakes up Hindutva juggernaut

Subodh.Ghildiyal
@timesgroup.com

Lok Sabha elections saw a decisive win for a caste-focused coalition in UP, reshaping the political landscape. This shift from religious to caste-based campaigning highlighted a significant change in voter priorities. The opposition alliance, led by SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, ran on a platform of caste census and constitutional protections, appealing primarily to Dalits and OBCs. In contrast, PM Modi's campaign centred around religious themes.

The SP-Congress coalition's win is part of a broader national trend. In Maharashtra, Congress, along with NCP and Shiv Sena, capitalised on Maratha stir and rural distress among OBCs, moving away from traditional leadership by appointing Nana Patole as party chief.

Meanwhile, DMK in Tamil Nadu emphasised social justice and countered BJP's Hindutva narrative, framing the contest as a battle between caste and communalism. In Bihar, despite BJP's alliance with JD(U), which focuses on



DUO CASTE WIDER NET

caste politics, the RJD-Congress's OBC-centric approach proved formidable. The JMM-Congress opposition also held its ground in Jharkhand by appealing to tribals and backward communities.

UP, however, remained the epicentre of the classic 'Mandal vs Kamandal' struggle, reminiscent of the late 1980s when Mandal politics and the Rath Yatra brought leaders like Kalyan Singh and Mulayam Singh Yadav to the forefront. BJP's dominance, propelled by Modi's hardline Hindutva since 2014, had previously eclipsed both SP and BSP. BJP's strategy combined religious appeal with targeted outreach to non-Yadav OBCs, undermining SP's support base and taking advantage of BSP's decline.

After a decade of BJP's reign, Akhilesh revitalised his father Mulayam Singh Yadav's Mandalite approach, presenting himself as a youth leader advocating for backward classes, Dalits, and minorities. Congress supported this strategy, promoting a caste census and challenging the 50% quota ceiling. INDIA bloc framed the election as a fight to protect Ambedkar's Constitution, appealing to floating BSP voters. Modi responded with a vigorous campaign, accusing the opposition of intending to divert SC/ST/OBC quotas to Muslims. Despite these efforts, the elections mirrored the 1989 scenario, with caste politics again taking centre stage.

Over the years, many predicted the demise of caste-based politics in favour of economic and religious divisions. BJP was often seen as transcending caste dynamics through its religious appeal. However, these predictions underestimated the enduring significance of caste identities and their potential to reassert themselves within the political landscape.

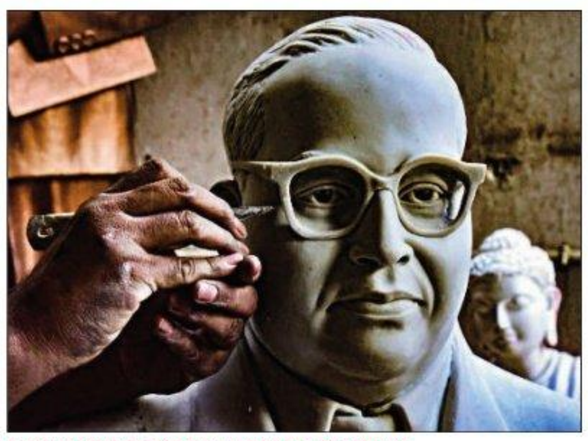
'Wild card' entry: Samvidhan bachao narrative strikes chord with voters

TEAM TOI

The C-word was a 'wild card' entry, but at several stages of the election campaign, the Samvidhan overshadowed the regular cast of issues. Opposition was first on the draw, cleverly painting BJP's 400-paar target as a dark plot to scrap reservations by changing the Constitution. The charge blended well with Rahul Gandhi's declared intent of posing a phalanx of Muslims/OBCs/Dalits against a handful of the privileged (read upper castes/middle classes).

PM Narendra Modi launched his counter-offensive by saying it was Congress and its allies who were guilty of subverting the Constitution by extending reservations to Muslims even though faith-based quotas were not allowed.

He also dared Rahul, who would dramatically brandish a copy of the Constitution at his election rallies, to promise in writing that they would never attempt a Muslim quota again.



SAVING THE SPIRIT OF AMBEDKAR'S VISION

As the animated duel progressed, the Constitution became a talking point. This was the first time — with the possible exception of the 1977 election which, in the North, turned into a referendum on Indira Gandhi's suspension of democracy — that the Constitution had found itself in the poll arena. After the results were declared, Rahul brought up the C-word again. "The fight was to save the Constitution. We were sure that the citizens of India would make attempts to guard it and I would like to thank everyone," he said.

Despite the sparring, there is no evidence to suggest that BJP indeed wanted to amend the Constitution. It has carved out a significant following among Dalits and OBCs, and it would be political harakiri to offend them. It is true that some in the larger Sangh Parivar consider the 42nd amendment, which inserted 'secularism' and 'socialism' in the Preamble during the Emergency, illegal, but there are no indications that the unease is shared by the BJP leadership. They would also not like to reinforce adverse perceptions at home and abroad by messing with something that has not been a deterrent in the implementation of its agenda — especially since the gap between 'letter' and 'spirit' can be creatively bridged.

Why high GDP growth did not fetch BJP electoral gains

TEAM TOI

An economy that grew 8.2% in 2023-24, following two years of high growth, would normally have been seen as an electoral asset for an incumbent govt. Not only should a majority of people have seen a rise in living standards, but the ruling party would have made it a central campaign plank. Neither of those things happened. Reason: India is facing a jobs crisis, which sharpened the bite of rising prices.

Plenty of signs showed that the inadequacy of decent jobs was a potent issue. It shouldn't have come as a surprise because official data showed that while GDP, or economic output, bounced back quickly after Covid, it wasn't accompanied by commensurate growth in better quality formal jobs.

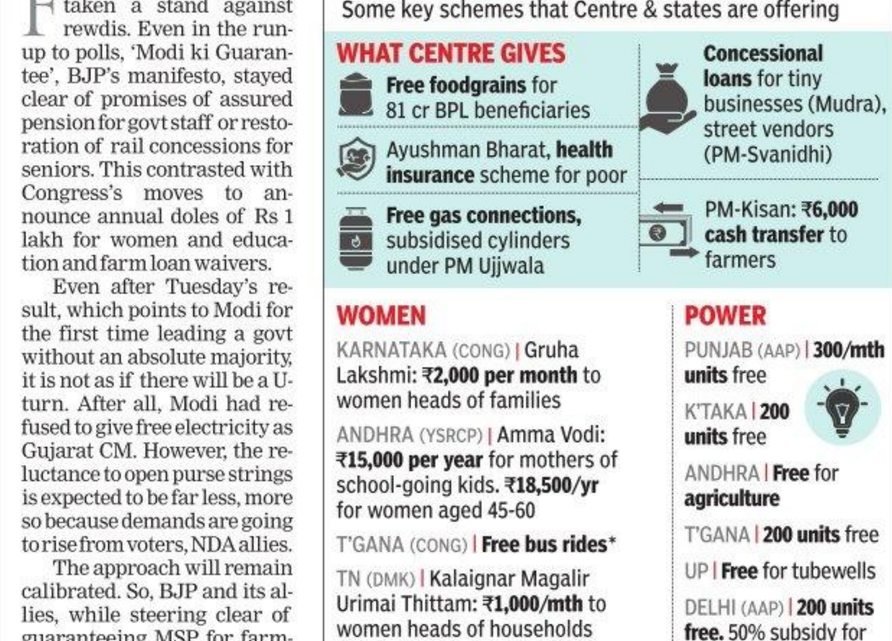
The single biggest indicator of the absence of enough job openings is the increase in the number of people classified as self-employed. In India, the high proportion of self-employed is an indicator of the weak link between GDP growth and the creation of formal jobs.

The number of self-employed people in every 100 Indians in the workforce increased between 2020 and 2021. In 2022-23, not only were 57.3% of people self-employed, but about 18.3% of them were unpaid workers in household enterprises. The number has grown at work but without pay since the pandemic, showing that a sizable number of people did not gain from the GDP growth. Not just that, almost 46 of every 100 Indians working in 2022-23 were in agriculture, a level that was higher than the year before Covid.

The absence of openings meant many who returned home to villages during lockdowns couldn't return. Agriculture is the lowest-paying and most precarious sector.

A look at swathes of India where BJP lost seats, eastern UP, north Karnataka, and east Maharashtra, all poorer parts of their states, indicates that the GDP trajectory bypassed many. With stagnant incomes, the impact of inflation was aggravated even if it was not high by historical standards.

North Gives BJP The Blues, South Sees Saffron Hues



A drastic drop for BJP in UP peppered the Hindi heartland — the party's bulwark since 2014 — with flecks of opposition colours though BJP did sweep MP again and won over half the seats in Rajasthan

	SEATS WON	VOTE SHARE
BJP	127	43.5%
BJP+	20	4.7%
Cong	25	21.6%
Cong+	48	18.4%

BJP doubled its tally in Telangana and, with three seats in Andhra and a historic first win in Kerala, found South to be more accommodative this time. But it ceded ground to Congress in Karnataka and failed to make a mark in Tamil Nadu

	SEATS WON	VOTE SHARE
BJP	30	23.9%
BJP+	20	10.6%
Cong	42	24.8%
Cong+	30	13.9%

OTHER 186 SEATS: From Manipur to Maharashtra, BJP's footprint shrank in states where the party and its allies virtually had saturation pickings in 2019. The opposition stole a march on BJP in Maharashtra and Congress clawed its way back in the North-East

No farewell to welfare: BJP may loosen purse strings

TEAM TOI

For years, PM Modi has taken a stand against rewdis. Even in the run-up to polls, 'Modi ki Guarantee', BJP's manifesto, stayed clear of promises of assured pension for govt staff or restoration of rail concessions for seniors. This contrasted with Congress's moves to announce annual doles of Rs 1 lakh for women and education and farm loan waivers.

Even after Tuesday's result, which points to Modi for the first time leading a govt without an absolute majority, it is not as if there will be a U-turn. After all, Modi had refused to give free electricity as Gujarat CM. However, the reluctance to open purse strings is expected to be far less, more so because demands are going to rise from voters, NDA allies.

The approach will remain calibrated. So, BJP and its allies, while steering clear of guaranteeing MSP for farmers or reworking the formula, will be more generous in increasing the price. Besides, the Centre, which was reluctant to increase the PM-KISAN annual payout from Rs 6,000 announced five years ago, will be more open to it.

Ahead of polls, Modi govt focused on filling up vacancies in govt. That's something that is expected to get a fillip given that jobs have been a key poll issue. The Union Budget, which is expected in mid-July, will lay out the roadmap.

State Of Giving

Some key schemes that Centre & states are offering

WHAT CENTRE GIVES

- **Free foodgrains** for 81 cr BPL beneficiaries
- Ayushman Bharat, **health insurance** scheme for poor
- **Free gas connections,** subsidised cylinders under PM Ujjwala
- **Concessional loans** for tiny businesses (Mudra), street vendors (PM-Svanidhi)
- PM-Kisan: **₹6,000 cash transfer** to farmers

WOMEN

KARNATAKA (CONG) | Gruha Lakshmi: **₹2,000 per month** to women heads of families

ANDHRA (YSRCP) | Amma Vodi: **₹15,000 per year** for mothers of school-going kids. **₹18,500/yr** for women aged 45-60

T'GANA (CONG) | **Free bus rides***

TN (DMK) | Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam: **₹1,000/mth** to women heads of households

MP (BJP) | Ladli Behna: **₹1,250/mth** to 1.3cr women

UP (BJP) | Kanya Sumangala Yojana: **₹25,000** for girls from birth to graduation

WB (TMC) | Lakshmir Bhandar: **₹1,000/mth (₹1,200 for SC/ST)** for women Kanyashree Prakalpa: **₹1,000/yr** for school-, college-going girls (13-18 yrs) Rupashree Prakalpa: **₹25,000** one-time marriage grant

***Karnataka, TN, Telangana, Delhi also offer free bus rides to women**

POWER

PUNJAB (AAP) | **300/mth units** free

K'TAKA | **200 units** free

ANDHRA | **Free** for **agriculture**

T'GANA | **200 units** free

UP | **Free** for tubewells

DELHI (AAP) | **200 units free.** 50% subsidy for 201 - 400 units

FOOD

K'TAKA | **Cash for 5kg rice** for BPL cardholders

TN | **Free breakfast** for Class I-V govt school students

DELHI | **20,000 litres of free water** per month for households

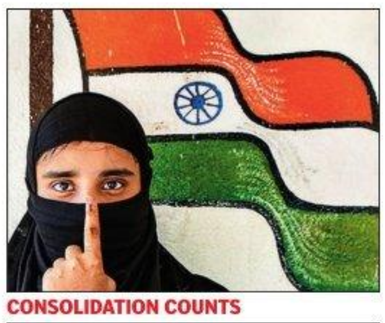
Minority community plays major role in SP & Trinamool seat surge

TEAM TOI

A significant portion of the INDIA bloc's success rests on Muslims, who voted decisively against BJP and formed a coalition with backward castes and Dalits. This restricted BJP from getting a clear majority while giving Samajwadi Party in UP and TMC in West Bengal a clear advantage.

Academics say that this is due to the combination of BJP's failed outreach towards the Pasmandas (the most socially and economically backward among Muslims) and a pushback to the anti-Muslim rhetoric during the election campaign. However, the most significant factor that enabled the backward-Muslim combine was BJP's announcement that Muslim reservation within the OBC quota would be removed.

While the BJP campaign kickstarted with 'Viksit Bharat', or an agenda for development, the discourse deteriorated soon after the first phase. Referring to PM Modi's Pasmanda outreach as "doublespeak", Prof Khalid Anis Ansari, a sociologist with Azim Premiji University, said, "In one speech, he would speak about Pasmandas and then call Muslims infiltrators in another speech."



CONSOLIDATION COUNTS

Modi accused TMCof appeasing the "Muslim vote bank" and targeted Congress, saying they would seize Hindu property to redistribute it to Muslims, accusing them of "politics of appeasement." BJP also accused ex-PM Manmohan Singh of saying that Muslims had the first right to the country's resources.

Backed into a corner, Muslims chose to vote strategically with winnability in mind. In 2019, BJP got 6% of the Muslim vote, which has decreased significantly, said CSDS associate professor Hilal Ahmed. "The election saw a smoother transfer of votes between Muslims to backward caste candidates with the bulk of the Muslim candidates of SP and Congress winning in UP," says Asim Ali, a political researcher at the Centre for Policy Research.

In direct contests, SP's Mohibbullah won against BJP's Ghanshyam Singh Lodhi in Rampur, while Iqra Choudhary from Kairana and Afzal Ansari from Ghazipur also registered wins.

In West Bengal, TMC's Yusuf Pathan defeated Congress veteran and five-time MP Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury. The Muslim vote did not split towards the Left and Congress in West Bengal and to BSP in UP, as was expected by some.

This is significant, considering that the number of Muslim candidates in the 2024 Lok Sabha poll has declined. BJP fielded the sole Muslim candidate, Abdus Salam, from Kerala's Malappuram, while its ally JD(U) in Bihar gave two tickets to two candidates. Among opposition parties, too, the representation of the community has fallen.

The question of citizenship and the fear that the Muslim quota already existing at a state level in Kerala, Karnataka, and Telangana could be removed if BJP were to win 400 seats appear to have strengthened the Muslim vote. TMC used HC decision to scrap OBC certificates to considerable advantage.

www.amity.edu

AMITY UNIVERSITY

NURTURING FUTURE LEADERS THROUGH WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, DEDICATED TO THE NATION

Join us in our mission to make India a world superpower and secure a brilliant future for our nation



AT THE AMITY UNIVERSITY NOIDA CAMPUS, STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM WORLD-CLASS, INTER-DISCIPLINARY EDUCATION IN OVER 400 DEGREES OFFERED AT UG, PG AND Ph.D LEVELS

- Acting
- Actuarial Science
- Advertising
- Aeronautical Engineering
- Aerospace Engineering
- Agriculture
- Animation
- Anthropology
- Applied Science
- Architecture
- Artificial Intelligence
- Automobile Engineering
- Banking & Insurance
- Biochemistry
- Bioinformatics
- Biotechnology
- Business Economics
- Chemistry
- Clinical Psychology
- Commerce
- Computer Applications
- Computer Science Engg.
- Construction & Real Estate Management
- Cyber Security
- Data Science & Business Analytics
- Defence & Strategic Studies
- Defence Technology
- Digital Marketing
- Economics
- Education
- Electric Vehicle Technology
- Engineering
- English Literature
- Environmental Sc.
- Fashion
- Film, TV & Web Series
- Finance
- Fine Arts
- Food Technology
- Foreign Language
- Forensic Science
- Forestry & Wildlife Sc.
- Geography
- Horticulture
- Hospital Administration & Public Health
- Hotel Management
- Information Technology
- Interior Design
- International Relations
- Journalism
- Law
- Life Sciences
- Logistics & Supply Chain Mgmt.
- Management
- Marine Science
- Mass Communication
- Mathematics
- Microbial Science
- Molecular Chemistry
- Molecular Medicine & Stem Cell Research and Cancer Biology
- Nanomedicine
- Nanotechnology
- Neuropsychology & Neurosciences
- Nuclear Science & Technology
- Nutrition & Dietetics
- Occupational Therapy
- Performing Arts
- Pharmacy
- Philosophy, Political Sc. & Economics
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Physiology
- Physiotherapy
- Political Science
- PR & Event Management
- Product Design
- Psychology
- Public Policy
- Sanskrit Studies
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Space Science
- Special Education
- Statistics
- Synthetic Biology & Genome Engg.
- Travel & Tourism
- Urban Planning/Design
- Virology & Immunology
- Visual Effects & Animation
- Yoga
- Zoology

AMITY CAMPUSES IN INDIA • Delhi • Noida • Gurugram • Greater Noida • Bengaluru • Chennai • Gwalior • Hyderabad • Indore • Jagdishpur • Jaipur • Kochi • Kolkata • Lucknow • Mohali (Adj. Chandigarh) • Mumbai • Navi Mumbai • Naya Raipur • Patna • Pune • Raipur • Ranchi

AMITY CAMPUSES ABROAD • London • Dubai • Singapore • New York • San Francisco • Abu Dhabi • Mauritius • Sharjah • South Africa • Amsterdam • Tashkent

DS GROUP

PRESENTS

FEATURE FROM **FUTURE**

SCAN HERE TO GET AN **EXCLUSIVE SNEAK PEEK**

60 Years Later, Another Triple



Jawaharlal Nehru
PM | 15 Aug 1947 to 27 May 1964

Narendra Modi
PM | Since 26 May 2014



	1ST TERM	2ND TERM	3RD TERM
	Allahabad cum Jaunpur (2-member seat) 38.7% votes	Phulpur (2-member seat. Cong's Masuriya Din second again) 36.9% votes	Phulpur (1 member seat) 61.6% votes
Cong	364 seats 45% votes	371 seats 47.8% votes	361 seats 44.7% votes

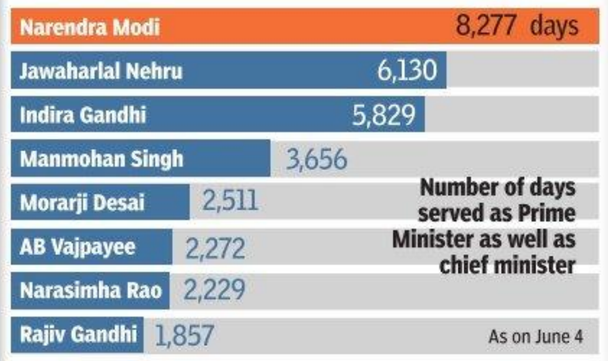
	1ST TERM IN LS	2ND TERM	3RD TERM
	Vadodara 72.8% votes; Varanasi 56.4% votes	Varanasi 63.6% votes	Varanasi 54.2% votes
BJP	282 seats 31.3% votes	303 seats 37.7% votes	240 seats 36.6% votes

6

Despite a far tighter election than expected, Modi is set to head a govt for the third time. What's different this time for the former three-time Gujarat chief minister is managing mercurial allies, and a belligerent opposition in Parliament

3-time CPM

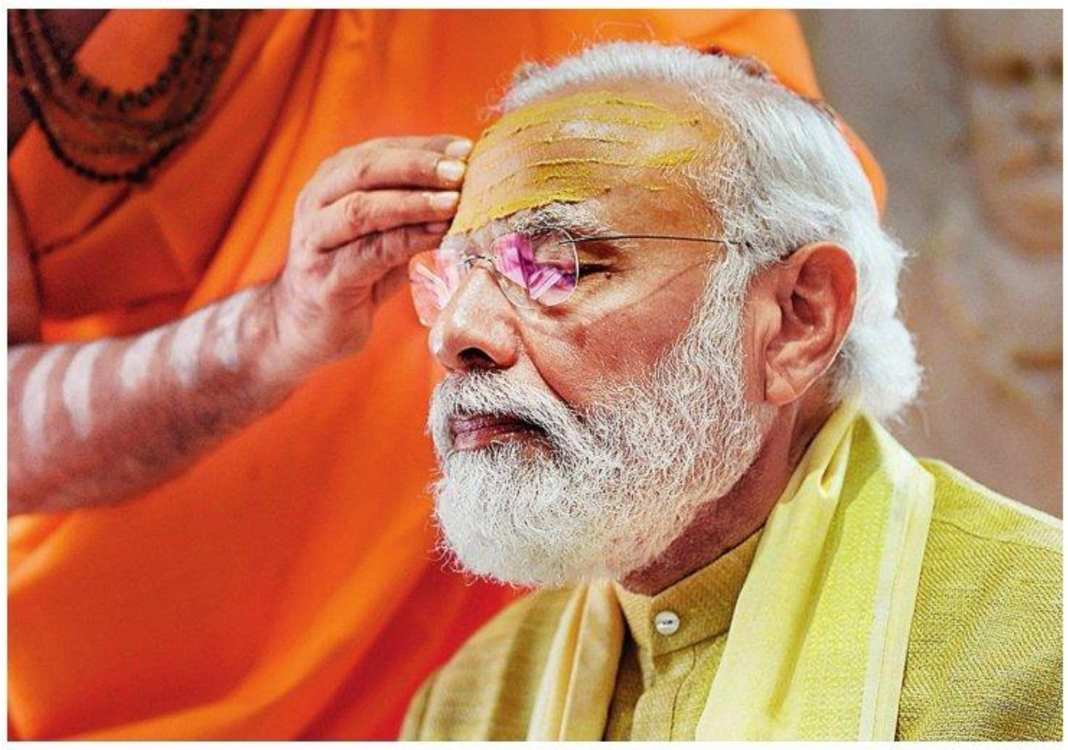
LONGEST-SERVING HEADS OF ELECTED GOVT



Man With Modified Mandate

In a waveless election, 400-paar proved to be an unrealistic target. But while the Teesri Manzil has many challenges ahead such as fickle allies, Modi is no stranger to pressure

Team TOI



In their post-results comments, opposition leaders — from Rahul Gandhi to Mamata Banerjee — described BJP's failure to score a majority of its own as PM Narendra Modi's defeat. This was to be expected, considering that the entire NDA's campaign (TDP being a partial exception), was framed around him. His energetic campaign only served to enhance his personal liability. But while results clearly suggest that the law of politics has caught up with him, he has still pulled off a feat which most incumbents in democracy can only dream of.

Modi is going to be only the second PM after Jawaharlal Nehru to have secured a third term. In fact, his achievement may be considered even bigger because it comes in a political milieu that is polarised, fragmented and far more competitive than the one Nehru had to reckon with. Moreover, Nehru also had the advantage of having been blessed by none other than Mahatma Gandhi, and being leader of a party that basked in the glow of being the vanguard of the freedom movement. In contrast, Modi arrived as dissent; a challenger to the mainstream.

Coming back to 2024, while the tally of 243 looks like a nosedive both from the standards of the 400-paar campaign as well as the widely held perception of the polls being a no-contest, this is the best to have been posted by any non-BJP party since 1984 when Congress rode the massive sympathy wave generated by Indira Gandhi's assassination.

However, the setback has brought to fore issues like price rise and unemployment which emerged as warning signs during the campaign but were seen as minor irritants because of the assumption, wrong and smug as it turned out to be, that an absolute majority was already in the bag. Although Modi did a good job of containing inflation, the assumption that voters would go only by the sincerity of intent, while also taking into account the international pattern of runaway inflation, turned out to be wrong.

Modi pushed for expansion of public infrastructure and generation of employment in the informal sector. The calculation that this, along with the post-Covid push for filling up vacancies in central govt jobs, would help assuage the concern about jobs did not come to pass.

The retention of sitting BJP MPs, despite internal surveys and cadre feedback flagging their unpopularity, was another big and avoidable mistake.

Modi has negotiated several obstacles in the past. And despite the apparent diminution, he will be tackling another term with strengths few others can boast of

The 400+ target, which was supposed to convey strength and self-assuredness, also boomeranged, with the opposition saying this was part of a design to change the Constitution and scrap quotas.

The counter-manoeuvre by Modi in the form of an aggressive pitch against Muslim quota did not work as Hindus voted along caste lines. If anything, it gave an opening to his opponents to renew the charge that he was divisive and desperate. This may have caused consternation to the moderates among his supporters.

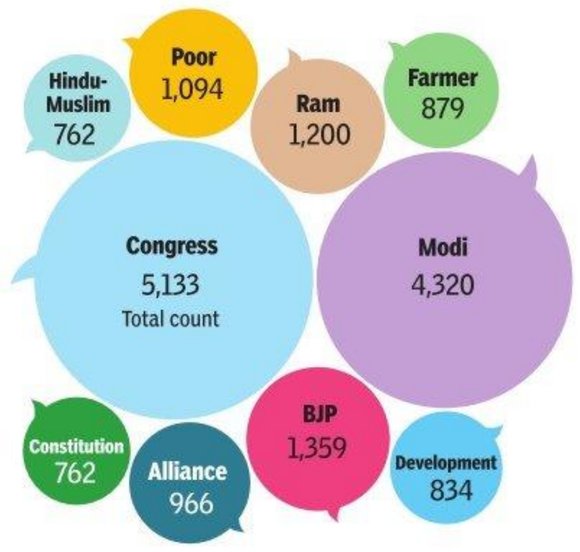
The resultant reduction in seats has turned the third term into a challenge. Apart from a stronger opposition which is going to be more aggressive, Modi also has to contend with allies like N Chandrababu Naidu and Nitish Kumar, who are not in sync with the themes on BJP's agenda and may act as restraint. At the same time, RSS will also be keeping a wary eye on how he deals with pressure from allies.

But Modi is not alien to struggles. His career is essentially that of negotiating challenges and taking them on at the opportune moment. And, despite the apparent diminution, he will be approaching one with strengths that few can boast of. BJP's numbers, although reduced, are also a testimony to the goodwill and credibility he enjoys in an age when loyalties are short-lived and fleeting, and goodwill evaporates in the heat of ever-escalating expectations. This is the main reason why BJP could survive the 'caste' and 'consolidation' card played so adroitly by the opposition. His credentials as a 'staunch nationalist' are considered beyond reproach, and the massive upgrade of public infrastructure that happened under his leadership is a lived and real experience that may be appreciated again now that resentments have been vented. The robust exchequer is going to be a strength. Addressing the concerns of Dalits and OBCs cannot be beyond a leader and a party which has been more sensitive to caste sentiments than the older BJP.

The third term is going to be his legacy term, and Modi will leave no stone unturned to ensure it is remembered for accomplishments rather than as a weak arrangement. Going by his track record, he may not like to let the challenges become an alibi for non-performance, and a stint which dwarfs the memory of his achievements in the first two terms. Conclusions about decline may yet turn out to be premature.

Pollspeak: Top 10 Words

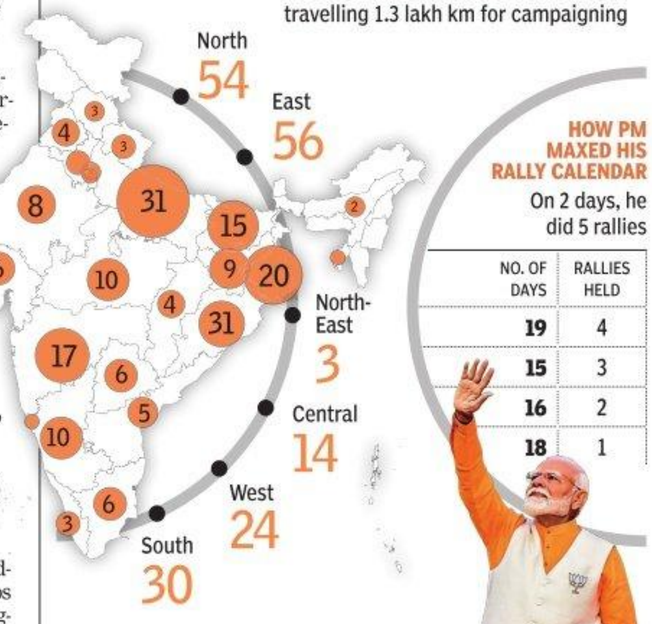
An analysis of Modi's campaign speeches (from Mar 16 to May 30) reveal some powerful patterns that drove his message home to voters



181 RALLIES & ROADSHOWS

180 NO. OF CONSTITUENCIES COVERED

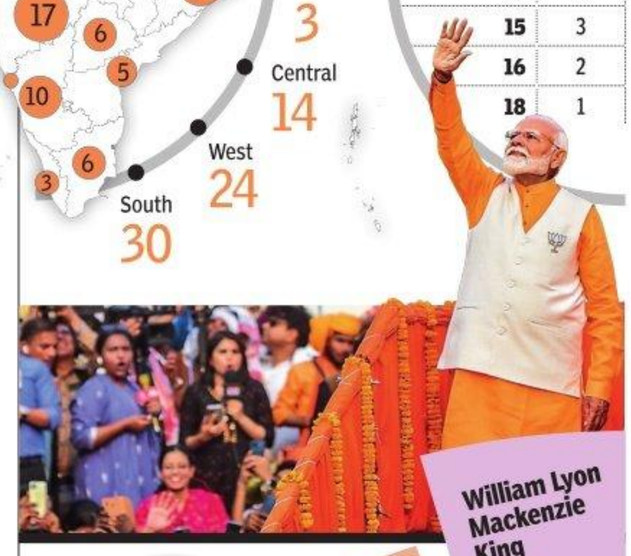
Varanasi is the only constituency where Modi had both a rally and a roadshow. In 2019, he had attended 142 rallies, travelling 1.3 lakh km for campaigning

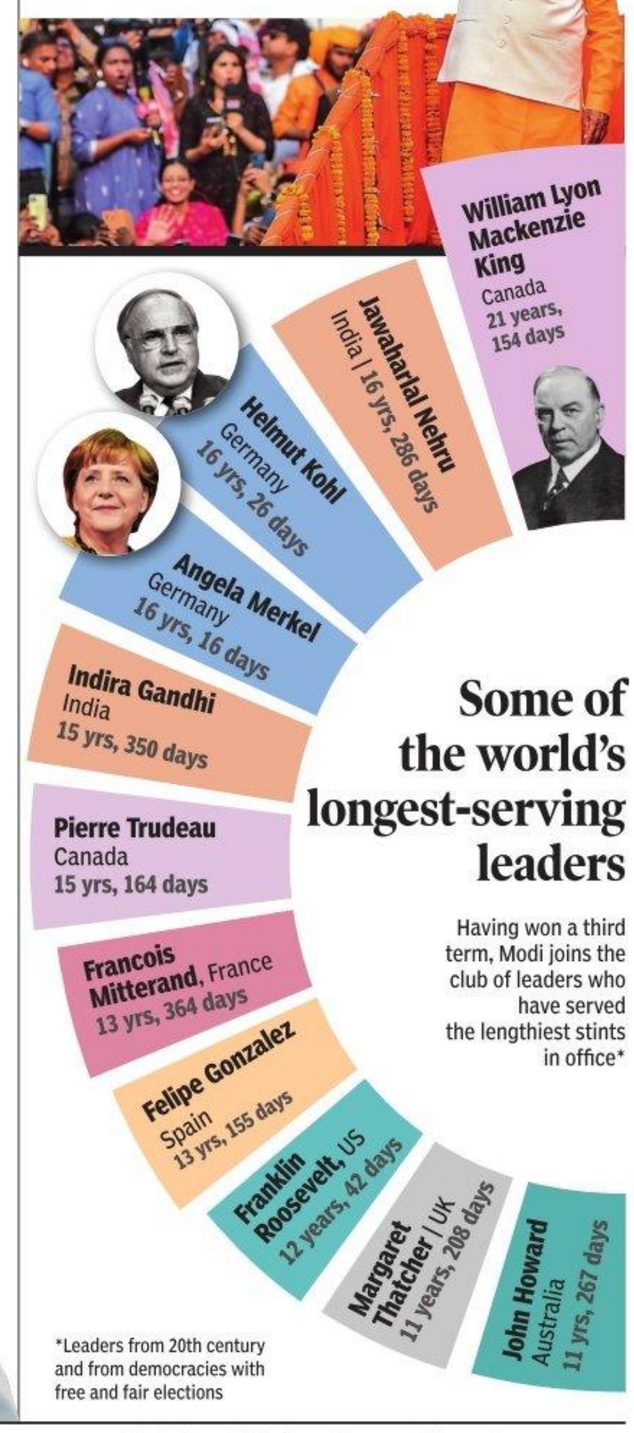


HOW PM MAXED HIS RALLY CALENDAR

On 2 days, he did 5 rallies

NO. OF DAYS	RALLIES HELD
19	4
15	3
16	2
18	1





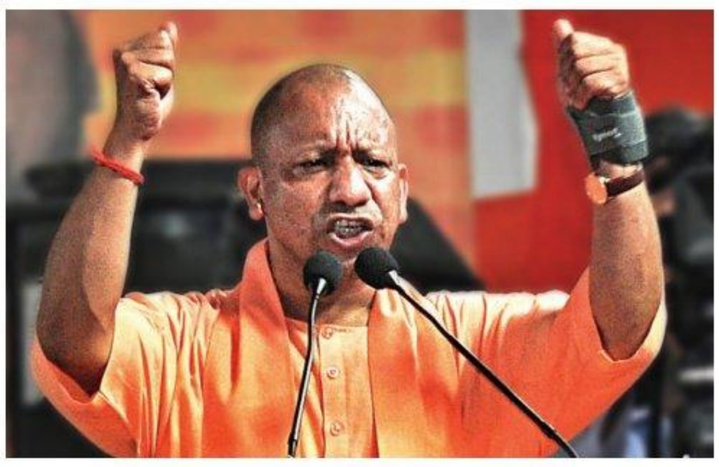
Some of the world's longest-serving leaders

Having won a third term, Modi joins the club of leaders who have served the lengthiest stints in office*

*Leaders from 20th century and from democracies with free and fair elections

Not so 'Upyogi'? Results reversal comes as reality check for UP CM

Team TOI



TARNISHED HALO? Though he had little say in candidate selection, the lack of trust of minorities in his govt played a role in the loss

The setback that BJP has received in UP, has come as a stunning reality check for Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. The Yogi factor — a combination of strong law and order, development and aggressive Hindutva — which was a strong pitch used by BJP in addition to the Modi factor appeared to find resonance on the ground during the campaign. But the 'double engine' faltered this time around and SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's catchphrase 'PDA' targeting Picchade (backwards), Dalits and Alpsankhyak (minorities) had a deeper connect with voters, especially Dalits and backwards.

Yogi has spearheaded BJP's consecutive victories in five back-to-back elections in the state — 2017 and 2022 state polls, 2019 Lok Sabha elections and two local body polls before the reversal of the trend. "Since Yogi had been credited with the wins, he will have to take the responsibility for the dismal show also," says a political observer, adding "but he cannot be made a scapegoat."

The selection of candidates was done ignoring anti-incumbency and brewing resentment against them and has emerged as one of the main reasons for the loss. A party insider said that Yogi stands clear as the candidate selection responsibility rested with the central leadership.

"Yogi is seen as a saviour for BJP. He had no say in the selection of candidates. Those who won despite the brewing anger against them will definitely credit Yogi's contribution along with the Modi factor when they introspect the reasons for their success," he added.

In every election rally that he addressed in UP this time, PM Narendra Modi not only praised the Yogi model of law and order that prepared a conducive atmosphere for investment in the state, but also highlighted his development initiatives.

In his quest to get improved numbers, he knows which is the most crucial "engine" he could have banked on. "However, this "double engine" narrative failed to attract voters in the state. This could be because it is a much-flogged slogan and Yogi has reached the halfway mark of the second term of his govt," says another analyst.

To his credit, he was one of the most sought-after campaigners for the party, having addressed nearly 170 rallies — not only in UP but also outside. Before that, he had already visited all 75 districts. But it clearly was not enough and his position in the party's top echelon will take a beating. The extent could be a matter of debate.

Since Yogi had been credited with earlier victories, he will have to take responsibility for the dismal show. But he cannot be made a scapegoat either

However, the narrative set by Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal in the middle of the campaign is back in discussion. While addressing rallies, Kejriwal claimed that after BJP's win, Yogi will be removed like several other BJP CMs. According to UP watchers, the Delhi CM tried to create a fake narrative that all was not well within the BJP and the top leadership was wary of Yogi because of his growing popularity and it might have impacted a section of voters.

"Although he was playing on Yogi's popularity, giving a message to the latter's admirers and voters that if you vote for the saffron party, your 'favourite' CM would be dispensed with, BJP came out with a rebuttal. However, with BJP losing ground in these polls, this narrative is bound to return to haunt the party," says a BJP insider.

His name also came up during discussions around Thakur protests during the election. The hype around the protest likely affected the party's prospects, especially in the first two rounds. "But he was not alone. UP BJP's inability to assess the intensity of the protest will also be discussed in the same breath," the analyst says and adds it was because of Yogi that the extent of damage was curtailed. Seats won by BJP do reflect the same, he further says.

While Yogi is in the third year of his second tenure and his welfare measures have reached the last strata of the society, his govt is yet to earn the trust of the minority community, as apparent from the voting pattern. "This would be a task cut out for his govt to bridge that gap," says a political analyst.

However, while making the governance more robust, the Yogi govt must be wary of its image as being "over-dependent" on bureaucracy. "Ignoring party workers and people's representatives was a reason quoted for the lack of enthusiasm among party cadre," he adds.

Himanta: Will N-E star campaigner lose sheen?

Prabin Kalita@timesgroup.com

Lok Sabha election results present a complex picture for Himanta Biswa Sarma, Assam chief minister and key architect of BJP's vision in the North-East.

Despite his significant role in BJP's national campaigns, the party's and NDA's performance in the North-East, especially in Manipur, raise questions about his future trajectory. In his home state of Assam, the party retained the same tally as 2019 but failed to improve its performance.

While Sarma wasn't directly involved in campaigning in the North-East, except Assam, the region's electoral outcomes now raise questions about his ability to deliver in his own backyard.

BJP's decision to deploy Sarma outside the region, leaving the regional leadership to manage their own campaigns, can be interpreted as a strategic move to utilise his skills on a national platform, potentially grooming him for a larger role within the party. Conversely, it could also suggest a deliberate distancing from the complexities of the North-East, especially given the sensitive political climate and BJP's mixed record in the region.

This can be a crucial juncture in Sarma's political future. While his national profile within BJP has undoubtedly risen, the party's setbacks, especially in Manipur, might lead to a reassessment of his influence and standing within the party. Whether the central leadership continues to repose the same level of trust in him, and how they choose to utilize his political capital in the future, remains to be seen.

Sarma's political journey started with the Congress party. However, he lost his first assembly election in 1996. But that did not obstruct his quick rise through the ranks, holding important ministerial portfolios in the Assam government. Recognising the shifting political winds, he made a decisive move to the BJP in 2015, a decision that proved instrumental in the party's historic victory in Assam the following year.

In the run-up to the 2016 Assam assembly elections, Sarma proved his mettle as BJP's most dependable backroom strategist. His deft maneuvering facilitated the defection of nine Congress MLAs to BJP, providing a significant boost to the party's prospects. This strategic move paid dividends, as BJP tasted its first electoral victory in Assam, a state long considered a Congress bastion.

Recognising Sarma's contributions, then BJP president Amit Shah entrusted him with the pivotal role of convenor of the newly formed North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA). This miniature version of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) brought together almost all the regional parties of the North-East under a unified umbrella, solidifying the BJP's foothold in the region.

Sarma's strategic prowess continued to bear fruit as BJP secured the defection of 43 Congress MLAs in Arunachal Pradesh, paving way for formation of the party's government in the state. This remarkable feat was followed by BJP's first government in Manipur and historic ousting of the formidable Left Front in Tripura, a state where they had held sway for decades.

A wave of political change swept across North-East, with Nagaland, Meghalaya, and Mizoram also witnessing the formation of NEDA/NDA governments. However, now there are new twists to this success story.

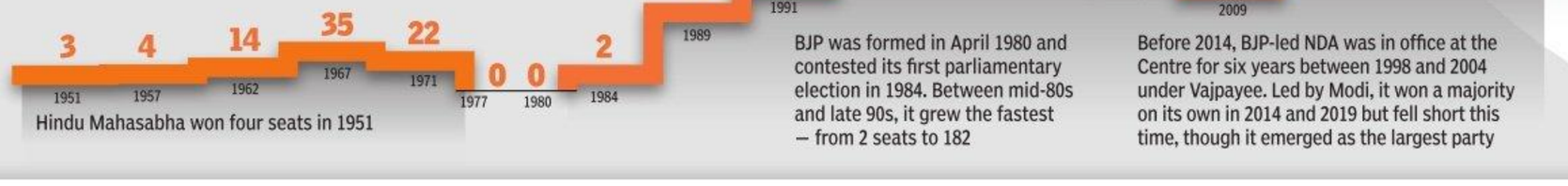


FUTURE TENSE? Setbacks in his backyard raise questions

2024 ELECTION SPECIAL EDITION | RESEARCH: Atul Thakur, Richa Gandhi | **EDITORIAL COORDINATION:** Kenneth Mohanty, Mudita Girotra, Vipashana Kamble | **ILLUSTRATIONS:** Uday Deb | **DESIGN:** Sajeev Kumarapuram, Anil Dinod, Sunil Singh, Karthic Iyer, Akib Javed, Anil Panwar, Vipin Nawani, Shirish Sharma, Sharmila Coutinho, Asheeran Punjabi, Chanchal Mazumdar & Nirmal Sharma | **TECH SUPPORT:** Mayank Chande, Ayushman Joshi, Tasneem Akhtar, Anurag Negi, Samita Lad, Akhil Reddy | **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT:** Sanjay Kalia

From 3 Seats To Triple-Digit Tallies

BJP's forerunner, Bharatiya Jana Sangh, won three seats in the first Lok Sabha election — two in West Bengal, one in Rajasthan. The erstwhile party hit its peak tally of 35 in 1967, when Deen Dayal Upadhyay was its president



Hindu Mahasabha won four seats in 1951

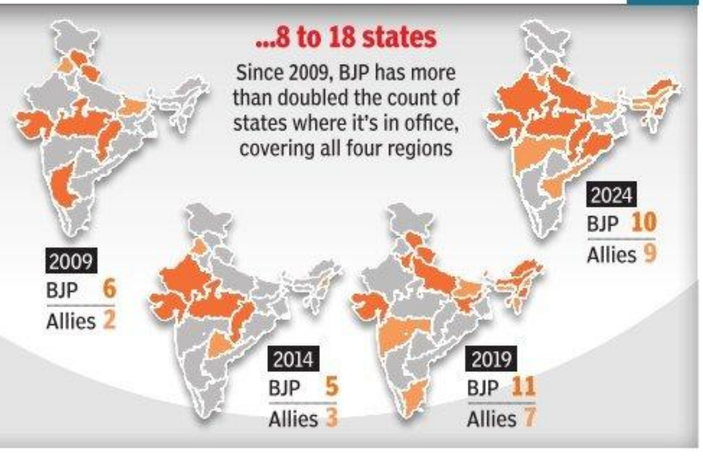
Zero seats for Jana Sangh in 1977 and 1980 is because the party had merged with the Janata Party during this period

BJP was formed in April 1980 and contested its first parliamentary election in 1984. Between mid-80s and late 90s, it grew the fastest — from 2 seats to 182

Before 2014, BJP-led NDA was in office at the Centre for six years between 1998 and 2004 under Vajpayee. Led by Modi, it won a majority on its own in 2014 and 2019 but fell short this time, though it emerged as the largest party

...8 to 18 states

Since 2009, BJP has more than doubled the count of states where it's in office, covering all four regions



Not Keeping Ear To The Ground Hurt BJP

Akhilesh.Singh
@timesgroup.com

Buoyed by the successful delivery of its poll promises in the past ten years, BJP approached the 2024 Lok Sabha elections as a no-contest but ended up committing mistakes like repeating incumbent MPs despite adverse ground feedback against them and also roping in candidates from different parties disregarding cadres' sentiment, leading to indifference from them.

Unlike the usual practice — a successful one — of replacing sitting MPs to contain local anti-incumbency, the party brass repeated most candidates, which is seen as a critical contributor to the defeat of many of them, mainly in Uttar Pradesh, where the party had the most at stake and was expecting to make gains since SP and BSP were contesting separately. Also going for the party was the construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya, and the 'law and order' plank of the Yogi Adityanath govt was expected to work in its favour.

The drafting of 'outsiders', many of them 'tainted', resulted in the 'anti-corruption' plank losing its sheen without bringing in compensatory advantages.

While the opposition inflicted severe damage in UP by using the caste card to thwart the growing consolidation of Hindus, BJP took time to respond to signs of unease among influential communities like Jats, Meenas and the Rajputs.



SWEEPING PROBLEMS UNDER THE CARPET

The claim of opposition parties that Yogi Adityanath would be replaced as Uttar Pradesh chief minister added to an avoidable problem. Besides, there were reports of poor coordination within the party organisation over the selection of candidates. Differences among party leaders over alliances with local outfits like Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party in eastern UP were a known secret.

There were reports that a section of RSS was unhappy at how tickets were distributed and 'outsiders' were given preference while ignoring old party cadres, taking away the advantage the saffron party has enjoyed over grassroots Sangh volunteers handling 'door-to-door' part of the campaign. BJP president J P Nadda's alleged statement on ties with RSS — "we have grown more capable" — coming ahead of the fifth phase seems to have done further damage even as the party chief clarified that he was "misquoted".

The damage could have been more severe if the leadership had not taken a few 'unexpected' calls, such as shedding 'frenemy' fights with regional parties like YSRCP in Andhra Pradesh and Biju Janata Dal in Odisha; both decisions delivered dividends for the party and helped it retain its position as the single largest party, which makes it the first claimant to form the govt. It responded positively to Nitish Kumar when he wanted to return to NDA and, as a result, could blunt the 'caste card' that worked to its disadvantage in Uttar Pradesh.

After several rounds of meetings, BJP succeeded in forging an alliance with Telugu Desam Party (TDP) at the cost of its arrangement with YSRCP in Andhra Pradesh. The coalition swept both LS and assembly polls in the state.

The party brass took a different stand in Odisha and emerged as the key challenger to the hegemony of Biju Janata Dal chief Naveen Patnaik as the saffron party gained a majority in state polls and a landslide in Lok Sabha elections, winning 19 out of 21 seats there.

Another 'course correction' after the debacle in the Karnataka assembly elections was reinstating veteran leader B S Yediyurappa as the party won 19 seats despite a rout in the state polls just a few months ago. Following Yediyurappa's removal as Karnataka chief minister, there was dissent and dissatisfaction within the party. However, his son Vijayendra's appointment as state unit president in Nov last year significantly addressed any reservations while the tie-up with JD(S) turned out to be valuable.

Faizabad: Mandir no guarantee of mandate

Team TOI

The construction of Ram temple and BJP's campaign around consecration of Ram Lalla's idol in Jan, just months ahead of Lok Sabha polls, did not reap the dividends that the party had hoped for.

BJP stalwart Lallu Singh failed to win Faizabad, the parliamentary constituency of which Ayodhya is a part, against Samajwadi Party's Awadesh Prasad, who won by a margin of over 54,000 votes.

Prasad, a nine-time MLA and one of the founding members of SP, was locked in a close fight with two-time MP Lallu Singh till Tuesday afternoon as votes were counted.

It was from 1.30pm that Prasad's lead kept inching upwards, before he was announced as the winner. While Prasad reached the counting venue after offering prayers at Hanumangarhi temple, Lallu Singh did not turn up at all.

TEMPLE RUN

A Dalit candidate, Prasad was fielded by Samajwadi Party on a general seat. The party's gamble paid off as over 2.5 lakh Passis in the constituency appear to have backed him.

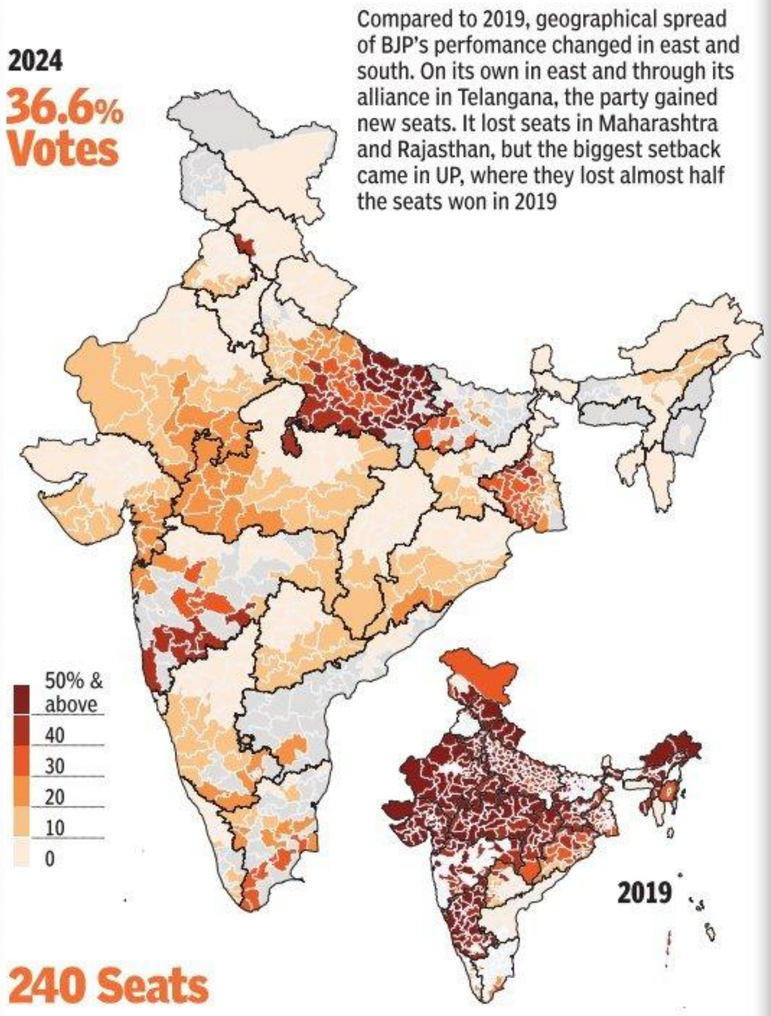
The saffron camp lost all four other Lok Sabha constituencies in the Ayodhya division — Ambedkarnagar, Barabanki, Sultanpur and Amethi.

In Barabanki, voters elected Congress candidate Tanuj Punia, while SP's Lalji Verma, a seasoned politician, won from Ambedkarnagar.

A big upset came in Sultanpur, where BJP's senior parliamentarian Maneka Gandhi lost to SP's Rambhual Nishad. And in Amethi, Union women and child development minister Smriti Irani lost to debutant and Gandhi family loyalist Kishori Lal Sharma.

BJP had won Barabanki, Faizabad and Sultanpur seats in 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha elections. BSP's Ritesh Pandey had held Ambedkarnagar in the 2019 polls. This time, Pandey fought from the seat as a BJP candidate but lost to Verma by over 1.37 lakh votes.

How BJP Barely Hung On In A Wave-Less Election



Compared to 2019, geographical spread of BJP's perfomance changed in east and south. On its own in east and through its alliance in Telangana, the party gained new seats. It lost seats in Maharashtra and Rajasthan, but the biggest setback came in UP, where they lost almost half the seats won in 2019

240 Seats

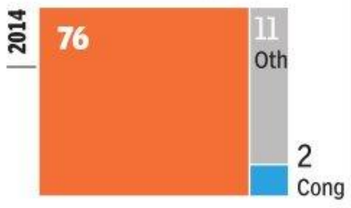
Telangana and Andhra are two states where the party posted gains that many hadn't expected it to. UP and Maharashtra delivered a blow to their hopes of landing a third straight term on their own. The number of states where BJP has all MPs is down to five — MP, Himachal, Uttarakhand, Delhi and Arunachal

BJP KEEPS ONLY HALF OF MODI WAVE SEATS

There were 89 seats where BJP's vote share rose by at least 20% in 2014, over 2009. Let's call these Modi Wave seats. In our base year of 2009, it had won only 5 of these seats



In five years, it increased its takings 15-fold, mainly at Cong's expense



In 2019, other parties shaved off some seats from BJP but Cong slid further



BJP's 2014 'wave' pickings were halved in 2024 with SP taking 20 and Cong wresting 11 seats



	2009	2014	2019	2024
Andhra Pradesh	0	2	0	**3**
Assam	4	7	9	**9**
Bihar	12	22	17	**12**
Chhattisgarh	10	10	9	**10**
Goa	1	2	1	**1**
Gujarat	15	26	26	**24**
Haryana	0	7	10	**5**
Himachal Pradesh	3	4	4	**4**
Jammu & Kashmir	0	3	3	**2**
Jharkhand	8	12	11	**8**
Karnataka	19	17	25	**17**
Madhya Pradesh	16	27	28	**29**
Maharashtra	9	23	23	**10**

	2009	2014	2019	2024
Delhi	0	7	7	**7**
Odisha	0	1	8	**19**
Punjab	1	2	2	**0**
Rajasthan	4	25	24	**14**
Telangana	0	1	4	**8**
Tamil Nadu	0	1	0	**0**
Tripura	0	0	2	**2**
Uttar Pradesh	10	71	62	**33**
Uttarakhand	0	5	5	**5**
West Bengal	1	2	18	**12**
Other UTs	3	4	2	**2**
Northeast	0	1	3	**2**

Wave tally doesn't include Assam and J&K | Source: EC

Saffron citadels breached as INDIA finds Uttar

Mohua.Chatterjee
@timesgroup.com

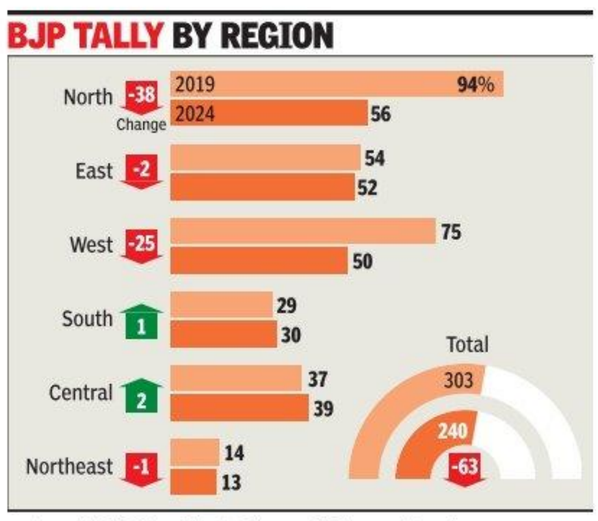
Despite inroads in a few states, the resounding win that BJP was expecting to form a govt for a third term ran into obstacles in some of the party's stronghold states.

The most brutal blow for BJP came from Uttar Pradesh, the state with most Lok Sabha constituencies (80). Here, the party managed to win just 33, a far cry from its 2019 tally of 62 seats in the state.

This dent ensured that BJP failed to get a majority on its own, so much so that PM Modi's win margin in Varanasi fell to 1.5 lakh votes this time. His most-targeted rival, Rahul Gandhi, who lost his family citadel Amethi in 2019, pulled off a victory by a margin of 4.8 lakh votes in Rae Bareli — a statement that the opposition planned to bring home to BJP.

If UP, even after the high-pitched Ram mandir inauguration, failed to vote overwhelmingly for BJP, it was Rajasthan — which overturned a Congress govt and brought BJP to office only last Nov — that refused to deliver 24 of the 25 seats for the saffron camp as it did in 2019. Congress snatched a big chunk of 11 seats, with BJP leading in 14.

BJP TALLY BY REGION



Though opposition did not fare as well as it expected in Bihar, BJP lost five seats to INDIA bloc. The party retained all but one seat in Chhattisgarh, which has 11 LS seats. It maintained its number in Gujarat and improved its tally in MP, sweeping all 29 seats in the state, including Chhindwara this time (the constituency is a Kamal Nath bastion, and his son Nakul Nath won the seat for Congress in 2019).

Among its stronghold states, BJP's 'voterloo' was Maharashtra in many ways. It was the state where BJP tried all its tricks to fell an elected Shiv Sena-Congress-NCP govt, break Sena and NCP, and take some Congress functionaries for its own coalition. Voters avenged this backdoor govt by reducing BJP's seats to ten from 23 in 2019.

This general election has ensured that BJP cannot form a govt by itself. It has to bank on pre-poll allies, and Modi must go with Nitish Kumar, Eknath Shinde and Chandrababu Naidu and others if he forms govt.

New territories help BJP compensate for losses

Team TOI

Having saturated its seat share in the party's stronghold states in the north and west in 2019, BJP was looking to recover ground it could lose to 10 years of anti-incumbency from new territories. But its aggressive Mission South and East left it with both tangible and intangible gains.

First, the disappointment. BJP was unable to add more seats to its 2019 tally of 29 of the 130 Lok Sabha seats it won in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka in the results declared on Tuesday. However, it successfully carved out a new base for itself in the south beyond Karnataka among two Telugu states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. It has also debuted in Kerala by winning its first ever seat.

While it has shown that the four seats it won in Telangana in 2019 was not a chance occurrence, it has for the first time won three seats in Andhra Pradesh by tying up with the TDP, a party with which it had much bad blood over the past five years. Letting bygones be bygones has allowed it to break new ground. This ensured that the seats it lost in Karnataka were made up for from Telangana and AP.

In the east, West Bengal's ruling Trinamool Congress dealt a blow to BJP's plans of gaining beyond its 2019 tally of 18 and take it to 25-odd seats. TMC has wrestled six seats back from BJP and taken its own score to 29 LS seats.

The best news for BJP came in from Odisha, where the saffron party has swept the state by winning 19 of the 21 LS seats, reducing ruling BJD to just one seat, alongside overthrowing CM Naveen Patnaik's five-term government in the state. BJP had won just eight seats in 2019.

Smriti, 6 ministers lose in UP; victory margins fall for others

Neha.Lalchandani
@timesgroup.com

Of the 12 Union ministers who contested from UP, only five, including PM Narendra Modi (Varanasi) and defence minister Rajnath Singh (Lucknow), managed to save their seats.



Dubbed a "giant slayer" for defeating Rahul Gandhi in Amethi in 2019, Union minister **Smriti Irani** (women and child development) lost the seat to Gandhi family loyalist Kishori L Sharma by 1.6 lakh votes. Ajay Mishra Teni (MoS, home), whose son allegedly mowed down four farmers in Lakhimpur during the farm laws protest, failed to win a third term, losing by 33,000 votes. Other portfolio-holders failing to retain their seats are MoS for MSME Bhanu Singh Verma, who lost from Jalaun by 51,000 votes; Mahendra Nath Pandey (heavy industries) lost from Chandauli by 14,000; Sanjeev Balyan (MoS, agriculture) lost from Muzaffarnagar by 12,000 votes; Kaushal Kishore (urban development) lost from Mohanlalganj by 84,000 votes and Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti (MoS, rural development) lost Fatehpur by 35,000 votes.

Ministers who won also saw their margins slide. Modi, who won by 4.8 lakh votes in 2019, defeated Congress state chief Ajay Rai by 1.5 lakh this year. Rajnath's margin reduced to 70,000 against 3.5 lakh in 2019. Pankaj Chaudhary (MoS, finance) retained Maharajganj with a margin of 35,000 against 3.4 lakh in 2019. Anupriya Patel (MoS, commerce and industry) of NDA ally Apna Dal (S) won with 46,000 votes against 2.3 lakh in 2019. The only mantri who bettered his 2019 margin was SP Singh Baghel (MoS, health), who won Agra with a gap of 2.2 lakh votes.

3 reasons why tally halved in largest state

Rajiv Srivastava & Pankaj Shah | TNN

Lucknow: Since 2014, UP has stood out for BJP polls after polls. The politically crucial state stood out this time, too, but for INDIA bloc partners, Congress & Samajwadi Party.

While BJP registered its biggest loss in UP since 2014, Congress, with six seats, could sense its much-awaited revival in the state. Its ally SP could end up as the biggest gainer both in terms of number of seats, winning 35, and the vote share of around 33% from 18.11% in 2019. The biggest loser this time was the Mayawati-led BSP, which drew a blank and reached its lowest ebb as its vote share dipped to 9.3%.

BJP's loss shows the loopholes it could not plug to retain the dominance it wielded since 2014. Analysts pointed out three factors that contributed to its poor performance in UP.

First, it could not counter the opposition's narrative that BJP govt was bound to change the Constitution and scrap reservation benefits to OBC and SC/ST if it was re-elected. Sources said this narrative kept whirling at the ground despite the party brass' concerted attempt to neutralise it.

"In their campaigns, PM Modi and Amit Shah kept assuaging the apprehensions stoked by opposition amongst the backward castes. Their efforts seem to have gone in vain," said a BJP functionary.

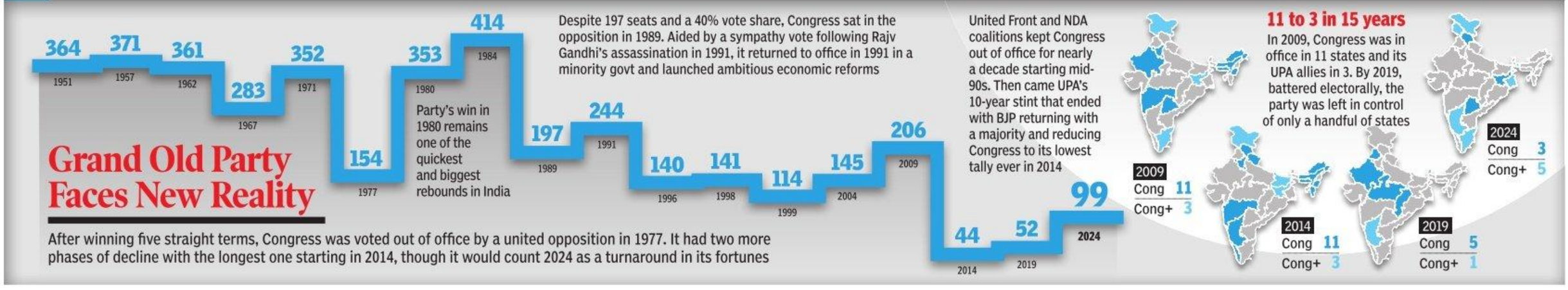


MISSED RED FLAGS?

Second, despite negative feedback from party workers, BJP could not gauge the anti-incumbency against its MPs. It had initially decided to deny tickets to 30% of its incumbent MPs but ended up replacing only 14 sitting MPs. Protests by farmers and other sections of society amplified the anger against the party in many pockets of the state.

The third factor contributing to BJP's loss was its failed attempt to blunt the minority aggression and its consolidation behind the opposition, primarily the SP-Congress alliance, which successfully dented its tally. Analysts said BJP was unable to polarise Hindu voters, who got divided on caste lines, despite its high-pitched religious-cultural narrative centred around inauguration of Ram temple, renovation of Kashi Vishwanath Dham and aggressive perusal of the Krishna Janmabhoomi-Shahi Eidgah case.

Caste-based parties, which joined hands with BJP to forge "an invincible caste alliance", did not tickle voters' minds, who, at places, were fed up with 'OBC vs upper caste' narratives, primarily in eastern UP.



Spunky RaGa Gives Cong A Comeback Tune

Subodh.Ghildiyal
@timesgroup.com

When, contrary to many pundits' and its own expectations, Congress lost late-2023 assembly polls in the heartland, two things didn't happen. One, Rahul Gandhi didn't lose his temper. Two, he disagreed with party veterans like Ashok Gehlot who said BJP won by polarising voters. He had pointed out that in Rajasthan, for example, Congress vote share (40%) was just 2 percentage points behind BJP's (42%). That's not a sign of polarisation, Gandhi had said, that's a sign of poor communication.

Four months later, that cool-headed analysis seems to have paid off. Gandhi had told Congress seniors that an Ayodhya-focussed BJP can be confronted, with a good agenda backed by better campaign.

The 2024 general elections did see Congress run a far better campaign – fronted by a calm, collected Rahul Gandhi. The change seems to have happened as he walked those miles, crisscrossing India during his Bharat Jodo Yatra.

The 2024 Congress story is a story of Rahul Gandhi's evolution. The new Gandhi didn't let Congress's poor Lok Sabha numbers in 2014 and 2019 demoralise him. He didn't let December 2023's heartland losses break his heart. He didn't let an aggressive Narendra Modi intimidate him. His party was in blue funk in December 2023. Congress's 2024 strategy was predicated on wins in MP and Chhattisgarh and a close fight in Rajasthan. Anticipation of good results had even led to Congress deferring the organisational restructuring by a year, and the defeats saddled it with serious holes in management of states close to polls.

But Rahul rallied his troops, ordered fresh strategising, and worked on a manifesto that went into the heart of the Congress' UPA-era agenda of welfare-jobs-growth. If the manifesto struck a chord with voters, Congress owes much to Gandhi. He has been at the forefront of a "guarantees" based welfare policy and caste outreach, repeatedly arguing this was the only way to take on a no-holds-barred campaign of polarisation by BJP.

For Gandhi and the party, the stakes were clear. The Modi machine billed this general election as the ticket to Modi's place in history. There was huge asymmetry in resources between Congress and BJP, blanket media coverage of Modi, arrests of opposition leaders, and income-tax action on Congress bank accounts. Post Ayodhya consecration, it looked like a one-party election.

Then came the poll schedule. A two-month, seven phase election seemed to favour Modi, who could campaign across the country, backed by a party flush with funds.

For Congress, the much talked about existential crisis seemed finally here.

Except for Rahul Gandhi.

He persevered, held strategy sessions, and sharpened his ideas. The key idea: maximise gains in south, pick up seats in the north, and try breaking new ground in states that had gone barren after the advent of Modi. Seats Congress has won in the North — UP, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab — are a testament to a resilience that none but Gandhi believed in.

It was a methodical approach. Few in the party wanted a East-West Bharat Jodo Yatra after the December state defeats, but the Gandhi scion had a plan. Strategists picked 100-plus districts and seats where they thought Congress stood a decent chance in general elections. Gandhi covered 110 districts across 15 states in 62 days. The joint shows with INDIA allies became a forerunner for a campaign of unity.

The approach was pragmatic. At the high table of Congress planning, Kharge and Gandhi were unanimous that the party had to strike compromises and ensure that the anti-BJP alliance held firm. Congress contested 326 seats, the lowest in LS election history.

This was premised on one belief Rahul Gandhi had – that Modi had to be opposed and that the opposition can't be a passive player or an occasional right-wing drumbeater out of fear of popular backlash, or stay on right side of what Congress sees as a vindictive prosecution machinery.

This was Gandhi's strategy from Day 1 of the first Modi sarkar. He took a 55-day sabbatical to force Congress to toe his line. That led to public agitations against amendments to the Land Acquisition Act. That also made him one of the key players in getting Lalu Prasad to accept his nemesis Nitish as the face of the "mahagatbandhan' that humbled BJP in Bihar in late 2015. There were a string of disappointments, especially the Pulwama-influenced 2019 elections. But later, working as the backroom strategist after Kharge's elevation as party chief, he unfurled the Yatras and the agenda of pro-poor outreach and "mohabbat ki dukaan". In these polls, Gandhi's sharply ideological line paid dividends. Broken up opposition parties like Uddhav Sena and Sharad Pawar NCP, parties targeted by probe agencies, RJD, AAP and JMM, agreed to take Gandhi's line – that standing for secularism, civil rights and the Constitution was the only counter in a Modi-dominated, Hindutva-laden political atmosphere. And INDIA's campaign had the unmistakable imprint of Rahul Gandhi.

Caste census emerged from this thinking as a stick to beat BJP with, and Opposition targeted votes of three pan-India groups – Dalits, Muslims and OBCs. Inside his own party, Gandhi's "radical" positioning on secularism and reservations was doubted by many old timers schooled in centrist politics. But he pressed on.

He made mistakes. It was no surprise that when his "chowkidar chor hai" campaign backfired in 2019, he was the only one surprised in Congress. Others had foreseen the disaster the shrill pitch was inviting, given Pulwama and Balakot. His other mistakes: Rafale fizzled out during the 2019 campaign, and Pegasus petered out during Modi's second term. Many asked him to be pragmatic. Not all govt transgressions and scandals, no matter how serious, resonated with the public, especially when BJP had systemic hegemony under a popular leader.

Reassessing, this time he continued his focus on Modi, but attacked him on governance "failures" – jobs, prices, unequal growth, small business 'distress', and social justice. National security, especially after Galwan, was a big issue for Gandhi, but the party didn't highlight in its campaign. The "electoral bonds scam" was widely used, but only as a mood enhancer around the "panch nyay" hype.

The smart use of the campaigning trio of Kharge, Gandhi and Priyanka helped Congress match BJP's firepower. Between them, they addressed 335 rallies and events.

But ultimately, it boiled down to communication with voters. By general reckoning, and with even rivals tipping their hat, Congress was at its smartest in the publicity game – short videos, wit over anger and outrage, targeting Modi on manifesto issues. They reminded many of the 2004 "aam aadmi" campaign. Door knocks, press conferences, nukkad sabhas were used for targeting voters at block and sub-district level. Gandhi's own YouTube channel notched 35 crore views in 28 days till mid-May.

2024's will go down as a rare election in contemporary times when a party fought an election on its manifesto, even delivering it to every household in a constituency.

It showed that voters can reward simple promises targeting basic needs even in times of polarisation and cult-style campaigns.

It showed this time Rahul Gandhi, fighting an aggressive right, had got in right.



WINNING LINES

"Khata khat, khata khat, khata khat"

"Haath ne jhaadu pakad liya hai ('Hand' has picked up the 'broom')"

"It's a revolutionary manifesto"

"You must've seen that the PM has panicked, he is shaken, worried"

Addressed 107 rallies and conventions

Dress | Trademark casual trousers, white T-shirt and joggers

108 rallies, Gandhi turf wins: Priyanka emerges as a star

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra addressed 108 rallies across the country, managed elections on the Gandhi family turf of Rae Bareli-Amethi, and struck a chord with voters that has reinforced her position as a star campaigner. The third Gandhi in politics has learnt fast and moved quickly. Though still to contest polls, the LS election is set to strengthen her position as a politician worthy of family name. Where she is seen to stand out is her ability to strike a personal touch with the audience. She, along with Sachin Pilot, Shashi Tharoor and Imran Pratapgarhi, was among key leaders in demand from states. Her equation with allies is another plus for Congress. TNN

From 'stop-gap chief' to Cong's Dalit face, Kharge gains heft

For the octogenarian Mallikarjun Kharge, who took over Congress presidency amid crisis and was widely viewed as a place-holder, the 2024 performance endows him with gravitas that removes doubts about his efficacy. The veteran addressed 100 rallies and brought credibility to Congress's social justice platform as a Dalit. His cool approach in defusing crises in state factions ensured a united campaign. Another plus was his clout in his home state, as the party swept Hyderabad-Karnataka region largely because of him. With his experience and stature, Kharge ensured easy coordination with allies. Kharge is the man to watch out for in coming months and years. TNN

Congress ticks right boxes, finds mojo for upcoming battles

TEAM TOI

For Congress foraging in the 50s in Lok Sabha over the last decade, the doubling of tally is a psychological victory. The decent score for the crisis-ridden party is seen as its revival, as it comes with appreciable performance in the north and the northeast.

The geographical advance was not anticipated in the election that came against the backdrop of the Ayodhya temple inauguration and the party's woes of resource crunch and defections. The turnaround points to what it has managed to get right – policy, communication and leadership. These are the three fronts on which Congress would feel confident going forward.

It has cemented the leadership of the triumvirate of Mallikarjun Kharge-Rahul Gandhi-Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. In 2024 polls, they addressed 315 rallies, communicating with voters and taking on BJP.

Marginalised among the urban and upper caste demographics, Congress lurched towards a Mandalite reinvention, espousing causes like "caste census-50% ceiling removal", along with an aggressive welfarist and secular outreach. Its decimation in the Dec assembly polls had raised doubts about the policy makeover's efficacy. But LS results have restored its credibility, and Congress may have shed its policy confusion for good.

Also, the effective campaign, physical and virtual, has resolved another handicap. The party has been in search of the strategy to counter Modi's hyper communication.

The decision of Sonia Gandhi, Kharge and Rahul to address the media early after the results showed the party is buoyed by its performance. The facts on the ground pointed to a crisis to be overcome, and not a war to be won.

Its biggest advantage has been the coming together of regional parties. With Maharashtra and Haryana polls four months away, Congress and allies would fancy their chances on the turfs BJP had come to own over the last decade.

The party is still to find an anti-dote to Modi's national appeal, but it is set to draw confidence from the LS outcome that it is making progress.

Together they rose: INDIA proves bigger than sum of its parts



TEAM TOI

When BJP derided the coming together of opposition parties under INDIA last July as the banding of the "corrupt" against Modi, little did it realise that the 16 disparate and volatile satraps could forge a seamless coordination that would give NDA a run for its money.

Mandate2024, billed as Modi's ticket to history, ended up becoming a challenge that stopped BJP short of majority and NDA of a big majority.

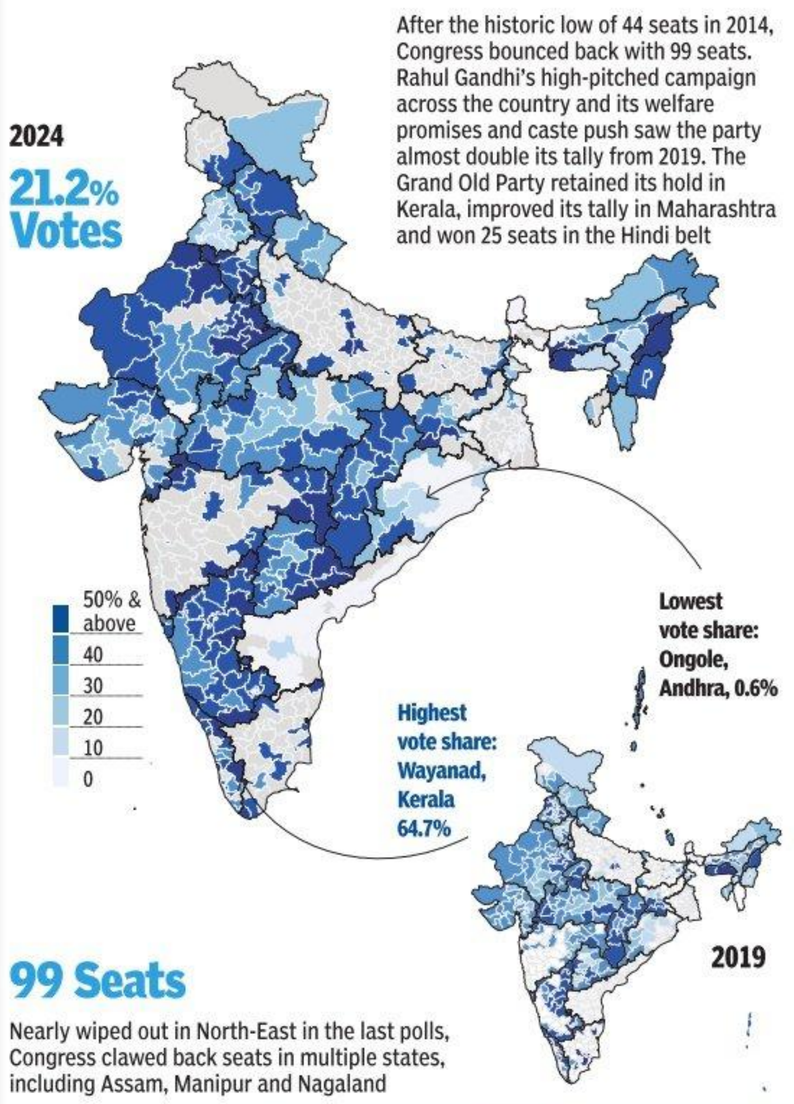
The SP-Congress tie-up in UP delivered a jolt bordering on embarrassment, while the MVA gave BJP a major shock. The JMM-Congress-CPI(ML)-RJD combo put up a good fight in Jharkhand despite its mascot, Hemant Soren, in prison. The same was true about NC-Congress in J&K-Ladakh. If the list is long, it only underscores the wide social net that INDIA weaved.

The pooling of bases with a joint campaign worked in ways best seen in contrast with 2022 UP assembly polls when Akhilesh had spurned Congress. SP fell way short as BJP romped home despite evidence of voter resentment. Forward to 2024. SP-Congress alliance fashioned a formidable social base. Rahul's presence as the ideological bulwark against Modi ensured consolidation of anti-BJP forces – backwards on social justice, Muslims on communalism and Dalits over "threat to Constitution". The overlap of disparate agendas, helped by Congress's own shift towards Mandalite politics, produced a social churn that BJP was not ready for.

Just how the word "gathbandhan" spread across the heartland, ensuring vote transfer among allies, is nothing short of a miracle. The big glue was Congress's willingness to cede seats to allies that it would not have otherwise.

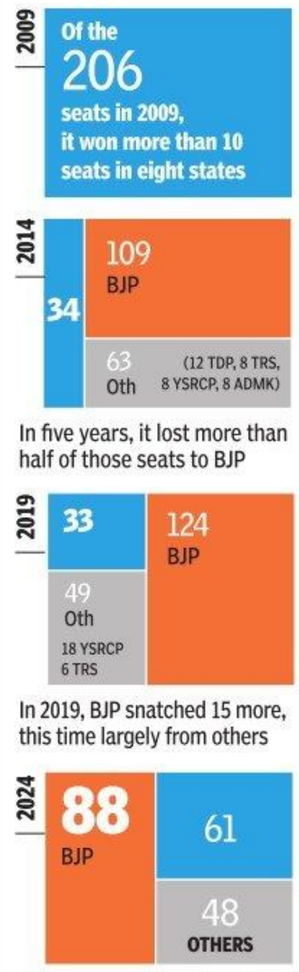
Even discordant notes helped. Congress and AAP refused to join hands in Punjab, realising that the top two players aligning would open space for BJP. In the end, BJP drew a cipher. Congress and Left stayed as traditional poles in Kerala, limiting a belligerent BJP. The only friction was in Bengal, where TMC refused to partner Congress despite entreaties. But the net big loser was BJP.

Congress Falls One Shy Of Century After Strong All-Round Show



WHAT HAPPENED TO CONG'S 2009 'PEAK'

The party last crossed 200 in 2009. Here's what happened to those seats since then.



	2009	2014	2019	2024
Andhra Pradesh	21	0	0	**0**
Uttar Pradesh	21	2	1	**6**
Rajasthan	20	0	0	**8**
Maharashtra	17	2	1	**13**
Kerala	13	8	15	**14**
Madhya Pradesh	12	2	1	**0**
Telangana	12	2	3	**8**
Gujarat	11	0	0	**1**
Haryana	9	1	0	**5**
Punjab	8	3	8	**7**
Tamil Nadu	8	0	8	**9**
Assam	7	3	3	**3**
NCT of Delhi	7	0	0	**0**

	2009	2014	2019	2024
Karnataka	6	9	1	**9**
Odisha	6	0	1	**1**
West Bengal	6	4	2	**1**
Uttarakhand	5	0	0	**0**
Bihar	2	2	1	**3**
Jammu & Kashmir	2	0	0	**0**
Chattisgarh	1	1	2	**1**
Goa	1	0	1	**1**
Himachal Pradesh	1	0	0	**0**
Jharkhand	1	0	1	**2**
Other Northeast	6	5	0	**3**
Other UTs	4	0	2	**2**

Note: Peak tally doesn't include Assam and J&K | Source: EC

YouTubers earn eyeballs, give oppn a leg up

TEAM TOI

New Delhi: In previous national elections, BJP lorded over the social media space. In LS 2024, YouTubers played a significant role in snatching that space out of the saffron party's grip, thereby improving Congress-led INDIA's position. Anti-govt influencers earned eyeballs and shaped opinion, even attracting the attention of British weekly, The Economist. As per statista.com, India has 476m YouTube viewers.

Statistics shows Dhruv Rathee is the most viewed YouTuber during this election. Rathee's Modi: The Real Story alone garnered 27m views. Media commentator Sevanti Ninan describes him as "the big new phenomenon of these elections". Media commentator and columnist Madhavan Narayanan says that YouTubers like him are often playing the role of what mainstream media ought to do: check facts, question self-contradictions and supply meaningful context and background.

"People seem to like them for their passion, informality and storytelling styles. News-related YouTubers are knowledge jockeys who have replaced staid or shrill TV anchors. I've no doubt this has reshaped opinion and media consumption among educated youths and middle classes," he says.

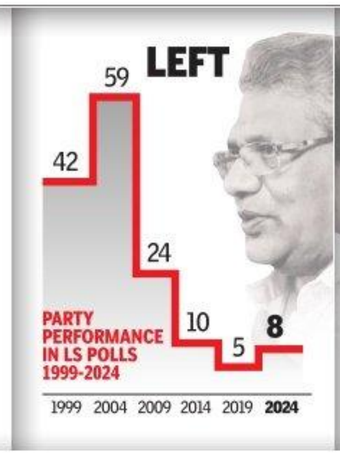
Media commentator Vanita Kohli-Khandekar says national TV gratifies this audience and wonders why no news channel caters to all Indians or to a large section. "There is an information gap. And nature abhors a vacuum. WhatsApp, YouTube, Facebook, Reels and dozens of short video apps fill this gap. Some do a better job than others and therefore get more eyeballs," she says.

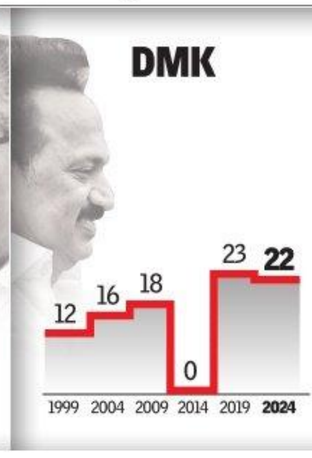
Politicians have also sought out YouTube channels to connect with voters which enables them to sidestep the gatekeeping role of mainstream media, Ninan says. "There is a power shift happening within the media universe from companies to individuals," she says.

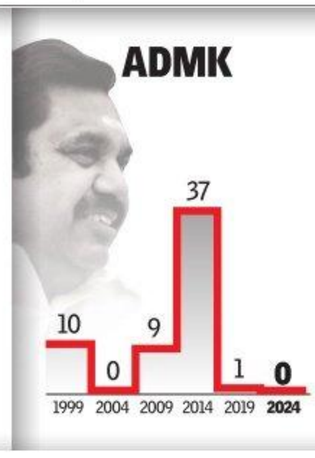
The impact is noticeable. The govt aims to bring broadcast services, including OTT channels, within its ambit through the proposed Broadcast Services (Regulation) Bill, she says.

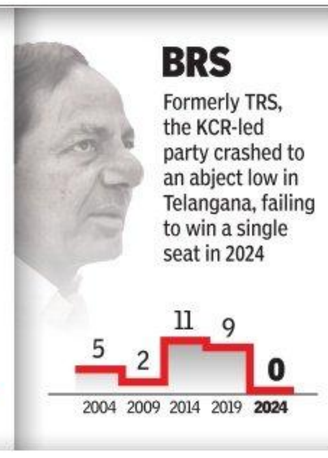
Beyond Big Two, Power Players

Twelve major players outside of BJP and Congress, particularly those in south India, together won 138 of the 543 seats in 2019 LS polls. Most of these parties threw in their lot with either NDA or the INDIA bloc this time. Jagan Mohan Reddy's YSRCP, Naveen Patnaik's BJD and Mayawati's BSP were notable exceptions













Based on leads/results till 11.30 pm

Akhilesh Takes A Step 'Backward' To Move Forward And Beyond MY

Pervez.Siddiqui@timesgroup.com



EXPANSION MODE: Akhilesh's new-found 'social engineering' managed to win over Dalits in general and Jatavs in particular who were, till now, seen as traditional BSP voters

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav had got off to a good start. His early emphasis on 'Pichde (backward), Dalit, Alpasankhyak (minorities)' was combined with a sharp focus on farmer issues, joblessness, paper leaks and rising prices. It turned out to be one of his best election strategies, backed by intelligent candidate selection.

The Samajwadi Party has impressively led the INDIA bloc charge in UP winning 37 of the 62 seats it contested, its best showing in the state in a general election. The PDA formulation, in particular, became a unifying force. The highlight of this newfound "social engineering" was that the party managed to win over Dalits in general and Jatavs in particular who were, till now, seen as traditional BSP voters.

This election has also shattered the hypothesis that Dalits and Yadavs can never unite in UP. As per caste assessments based on exit polls, 65% of Scheduled Caste votes polled went to the SP — an increase of 21% as compared to 2019 polls. Of these, 32% of Jatav votes polled went to SP though they have traditionally been committed voters of BSP. The shift was not only from the BSP to SP.

SP strategists insist that the jump in Dalit voters was more than what was visible in 2019 Lok Sabha polls. "In 2019, SP had contested elections in alliance with the BSP. So it was no surprise that Dalits voted for our party. This time we contested against BSP and got an overwhelming response from the Dalit community," said a senior SP functionary.

Apart from the PDA pitch, Akhilesh succeeded in turning 'Abki baar 400 paar' into a 'Save the Constitution' narrative. He was among the first to say that the BJP wanted 400-plus seats to change the Constitution and end reservation for Dalits and backwards. This worked to bind together jobless youths and families from Dalit and backward segments.

Wooing Dalits & non-Yadav OBCs

After the 2019 LS alliance between SP and BSP, when Mayawati had walked away with 10 seats and Akhilesh was left with 5, it was evident that vote transfer between SP and its ally was a one-way street. The SP leadership felt cheated. Party strategists then shifted their focus to Dalit leaders with whom the party was already in touch.

Former BSP minister Ghura Ram, a founding member, was the first big dalit leader to switch loyalties to SP. Soon after, more joined Akhilesh. The SP did not only pick senior leaders. Regional coordinators, former ministers and other office-bearers of BSP joined the exodus. Akhilesh made it a point to ensure that in press meets he was accompanied by Dalit leaders.

He decided to rope in non-Yadav OBCs as well. By Oct 2021, prominent backward BSP leaders like sitting MLAs Lalji Verma and Ramachal Rajbhar were with SP. The focus on non-Yadav OBCs was aptly reflected in the appointment of his party's national executive in 2023. Of 62 members in the committee, around 40% were 'non-Yadav' OBCs and hailed from electorally influential communities like Kurmi, Rajbhar and Nishads. The list also included six members who were Dalits.

The blowback

As expected, the focus on Dalits and Non-Yadav OBCs left upper caste, Yadav and Muslim functionaries uncomfortable. Those eyeing tickets for 2024 Lok Sabha polls and those offered better deals by BJP were the first ones to snap. But that did not deter Akhilesh from giving tickets as per his PDA formula to all castes and communities.

At least 14 candidates were ex-BSP. In fact, Akhilesh shed the image of the SP being an M-Y party by giving the least number of tickets to Muslims and Yadavs in the party's history. "Of course, it was all done after taking community leaders into confidence, explaining to them how a large number of Muslim and Yadav candidates help BJP's bid for counter-polarisation," said an analyst.

For SP strategists, the final highlight was a bunch of victories from unlikely quarters like Faizabad, which it had last won in 1998. "The victory of Awadesh Prasad and the tough fight that Sunita Verma put up against BJP is important as it exposes BJP's attempt to use religion for political gains," said a senior SP functionary. Two other important victories for SP came from Rampur and Moradabad—seats which have the maximum Muslim population.

Allies May Change, But Nitish Remains Axis Of Bihar Politics

Madan Kumar & Manoj Chaurasia | TNN



SABKE SAATH: Nitish's flip-flops had no impact on voters

Patna: Politics is a game of possibilities, and no one knows this better than Bihar CM Nitish Kumar who has ditched enough allies over the years. His spectacular performance in the Lok Sabha polls has once again ensured he remains the alliance's face in Bihar till next year's assembly polls. More so, because former deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi's untimely death has left BJP without a stalwart in the state.

BJP can, of course, campaign using PM Modi's name, as it did in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, but given Nitish's considerable support base among the Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs) and women — JD(U) has won 12 of the 16 seats it was allotted under the seat-sharing arrangement — it would not want to distance him.

The EBC category comprising 130 small caste groups like Dhanuks, Kumhars, Kahars, Noniyas, Kewats, Nais, Mallahs, Telis and Tatmas, makes up 36% of Bihar's electorate, as per the recent caste survey. Along with this group, Nitish was backed by support from his Kurmi-Koeri (Kushwaha) community. Kurmis are 2.9% of Bihar's electorate and Koeris 4.2%. The CM also benefitted from the Mahadalit category comprising 21 castes that he helped create. Mahadalits account for some 10% of the state's total vote.

Women form another pillar of support: Nitish reserved 50% of slots in panchayati raj institutions, urban local bodies and teaching jobs for them. He gave 35% reservation to women in all govt jobs and 33% quota to girl students in medical, engineering and sports institutions. And the blanket ban on liquor in Bihar reduced domestic violence. It's not surprising that he's popular among the state's 3.6 crore women voters.

Also, vote transfer between BJP and JD(U) has never been an issue. NDA comprising BJP, JD(U), LJP (Ram Vilas), Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular), Rashtriya Lok Morcha appeared to be winning as many as 32 seats in the state and one of the main reasons is smooth transfer of votes among allies.

Nitish, who has been Bihar CM for more than 17 years and a Union minister for more than six years, is known to nurse ambitions of holding a top national-level post: PM, prez or vice-prez. Last time he was in NDA (July 2017 to August 2022), he had wanted to succeed M Venkaiah Naidu as VP. The late Sushil Modi had revealed this and insiders say BJP's denial of Nitish's demand had precipitated his turn towards Mahagathbandhan. Again, in Mahagathbandhan, Nitish tried to bring the opposition together to oust PM Modi in 2024, hoping he would be appointed INDIA bloc's convenor, and PM if the bloc succeeded. But when Congress disappointed him, he rushed into NDA's embrace.

Given these facts, Nitish remains the "axis" of state politics. Strangely, his flip-flops has had no impact on voters this time. JD(U) has got 18.50% votes in Bihar, only 2% less than BJP's 20.53%.

Maya caught in her own jaal as Jatav voters shift loyalty

NehaShukla@timesgroup.com



2014 REDUX: BSP failed to score any Lok Sabha seat wins

Lucknow: A disastrous performance by Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) is a sign that the party has lost its core Jatav voters, the subcaste its chief Mayawati belongs to.

Her strategy to have a post-poll role in search of a "satta ki master chaabi (master key to power)" has been hit as much as her own image of being an influential Dalit leader — Jatavs, who form 55% of the Dalit population and 11% of the total population, had rallied behind her till now. Chandrashekhar Azad, the man who has presented himself before Dalits as a viable alternative, has won from Nagina on the banner of his Azad Samaj Party.

Being out of office for long in UP is one reason to drive core voters away, apart from BJP making inroads with its welfare schemes. BSP is now back to its position in 2014 when it had zilch. It has not only failed to open its account, but its vote share has dipped from over 19% in 2019 to around 9%. It had won 10 seats in 2019 LS polls when it contested in alliance with Samajwadi Party and Rashtriya Lok Dal.

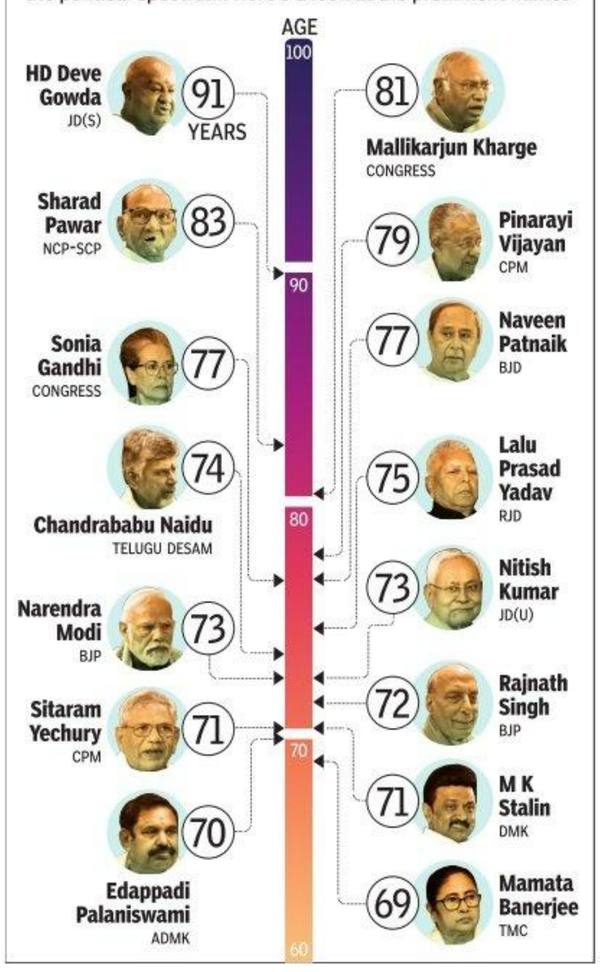
This time, the campaign was marked by missteps. Firstly, the decision to contest alone was perceived as a 'suicidal move'. There were voices of dissent even from within. Prominent Muslim leaders like Imran Masood and Amroha MP Danish Ali were expelled after they reached out to Rahul Gandhi. Masood won from Saharanpur on a Congress ticket. Knowing that BSP would not make it alone, MPs Sangeeta Azad, Ritesh Pandey and Malook Nagar also quit.

Mayawati stuck to her party's foundational ideology to distribute tickets based on 'Jiski Jitni Hissedari, Uski Utni Bhagidari'. She fielded 20 Muslims, 18 Dalits, 16 OBCs and 15 Brahmins, but this included several BJP turncoats. They supplanted candidates who were the party's first choice. In all, BSP replaced its candidates in 14 seats. But it was the replacement of Shrikala Singh, wife of gangster-politician Dhananjay Singh in Jaunpur, and ex-BJP district president Dayashanker Mishra in Basti which led to the perception that BSP was acting under pressure. "Mishra has been active in Basti for more than three decades. He could have done substantial damage to BJP," said sources.

The last bit of controversy was around her nephew Akash Anand, who was midway through the campaign divested of the national coordinator's post and succeeded by Mayawati herself. This led to speculation that BSP's leadership took the step to shield him, having realised it was not winning even a single seat.

Venerable Veterans Far From Done

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal referred to BJP's 'retire-at-75' policy for netas to wonder if PM Modi would also follow suit. Seasoned campaigners are a presence to reckon with across the political spectrum. Here's a look at the prominent names



Tejashwi leads charge on road to 2025 assembly polls

Jainarain.Pandey
@timesgroup.com



KEEPS LANTERN BURNING: Nitish's about-turns have given Tejashwi an opportunity to emerge from the shadow of his father Lalu Prasad

Patna: There was much at stake for the family of RJD chief Lalu Prasad in the Lok Sabha elections. His two daughters — Misa Bharti and Rohini Acharya – were contesting from Patliputra and Saran respectively, while younger son and political heir Tejashwi Prasad Yadav was leading the combined Opposition for the first time in a general election.

After drawing a blank in the 2019 LS polls, RJD has managed to claw back lost ground by winning 4 of the 26 seats it fought, including Patliputra where Misa contested. Tejashwi has now set the tone for the assembly elections due next year; the verdict makes it clear that he will be the opposition's face for Bihar CM against Nitish Kumar or a BJP candidate. In all, the RJD member and his allies (Congress and CPI-ML) have won 9 of the total 40 seats.

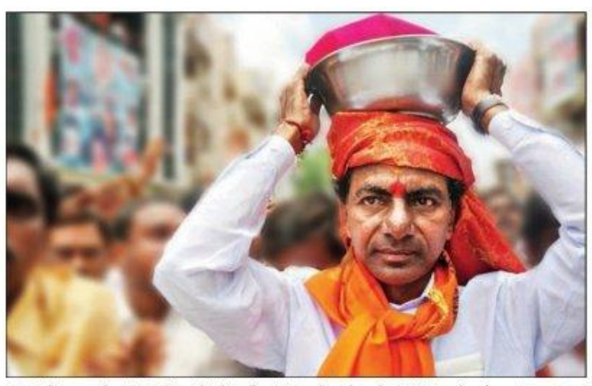
Tejashwi has already had his share of ups and downs. After the 2015 state polls which RJD contested with JD(U), he became deputy CM. By sticking to an agenda of jobs, employment, education, and health, the 34-year-old Tejashwi generated a following among the youth. He largely succeeded in conveying the message that it was he who facilitated "5 lakh jobs in 17 months" as deputy CM of Bihar.

Tejashwi did not resort to personal attacks on Nitish when he lost his job after the JD(U) veteran parted ways with RJD in Jan this year. Instead, by refusing to needle Nitish, Tejashwi kept observers guessing. He provoked speculation about Nitish's plans when he said that "chacha" would take a big decision after the June 4 poll results. It forced Nitish to make it clear in his public meetings that he would never part ways with BJP.

Nitish's about-turns have given Tejashwi an opportunity to emerge from the shadow of his father and RJD chief Lalu Prasad. He has established himself not only as the face of his party but also of the opposition bloc. The elections have also proved Tejashwi's willingness to experiment by fielding candidates of castes other than those that traditionally dominate in a particular seat. He picked a Dalit candidate in a constituency meant for the general category. And he fielded Kushwaha candidates — who belong to Nitish's caste — to dent the NDA vote bank. His ability to look beyond Lalu's M-Y (Muslim-Yadav) formulation is expected to yield rich dividends in the long run.

KCR, man seeking national flight, crashlands where it all began

Mahesh.Koride
@timesgroup.com



BRS, formerly TRS, fought its first LS election in 2004, winning 5 seats

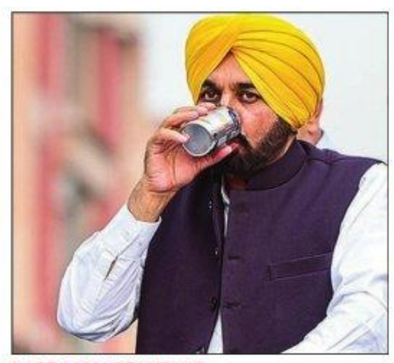
Hyderabad: Telangana celebrated 10 years of its formation on June 2 this year, but K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) and his Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), which led the movement to carve out India's youngest state, are back where they were over 20 years ago.

The party, in its original avatar as TRS, was formed in 2001 and contested its first Lok Sabha election in 2004 winning five seats as part of the UPA alliance. It won two in 2009 in alliance with TDP. In 2014, Telangana was formed and KCR became the undisputed leader of the state. Not winning a single seat this time leaves KCR with no role at the Centre. "Knowing that the LS polls were crucial for his party's survival, he had embarked on a bus yatra despite undergoing hip replacement. He addressed meetings on issues like irrigation water from Kaleshwaram project and the Krishna River water issue. The party held protests and demanded that Congress govt implement promises made during the assembly polls. But going by the results, people want to give more time to Congress," an analyst said.

BRS had won 11 LS seats in 2014 without allies, securing 34% of votes. In 2019, its vote share rose to 41% though it won fewer seats (9). This was months after sweeping assembly polls with 88 of the state's 117 seats. KCR seemed invincible at that point. In retrospect, it was the stage from where his popularity graph began dipping. He has been unable to arrest the slide since. His "inaccessibility" and unresolved local issues like state public service commission question paper leaks, joblessness among urban youth, allegations of corruption have dented his image.

Out of Kejriwal shadow, lone ranger Mann brings AAP consolation prize

Vibhor.Mohan@timesgroup.com



LAST MAN STANDING

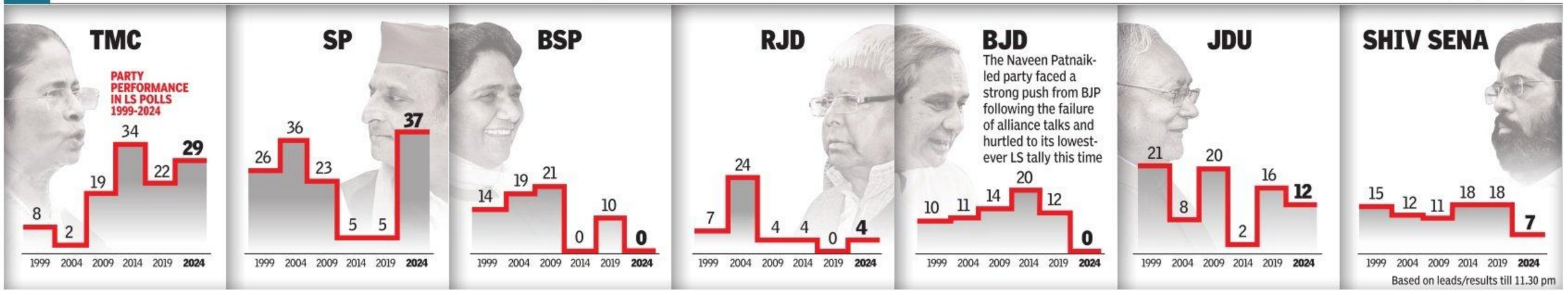
Chandigarh: The turmoil in Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) ahead of the Lok Sabha election turned the contest into a high-stakes personal battle for Punjab chief minister Bhagwant Mann — he was leading a campaign in the absence of Arvind Kejriwal and Raghav Chadha with his own govt's two-year performance as a key issue.

AAP's victory in three of the 13 seats in Punjab — Sangrur, Anandpur Sahib and Hoshiarpur — provides the party consolation in the light of the washout in Delhi and is a morale-booster to Mann. AAP has reclaimed Sangrur, represented twice by the chief minister himself in the past. Overall performance must be gauged vis-à-vis numbers notched up by rival parties as well as AAP's tally in Delhi. Mann would want to assess the performance of four cabinet colleagues who lost and why the party's 92 MLAs in the 117-member state legislature failed to get more leads for AAP in their assembly segments.

Stepping out of Kejriwal's shadow and with a free hand to shape strategy, he was more than a star campaigner. Uncertainty over Kejriwal and Chadha's involvement in Punjab affairs and multi-cornered contests against Congress, SAD and BJP made his role crucial. Unlike the Punjab Congress unit, where no single leader hogged the limelight, AAP's campaign revolved around the CM.

Though results fall far short of any intended target, the score would give AAP visibility in Parliament and national presence amid the troubles that beset its leadership in Delhi. Kejriwal had put Mann in the spotlight with the slogan 'Sansad mein bhi Bhagwant Mann…' (Mann in Parliament too), seeking votes to "strengthen" the chief minister's position to take on the Centre and the governor.

Satish Singh, a political analyst and former I-PAC member, said, "Mann was the commander-in-chief of AAP's campaign in Punjab. Had he faltered, there could have been murmurs of dissent. It was Mann's show and he had to ensure a decent performance."



Didi's Gambit To Ditch INDIA In WB, 'Go Ekla' Splits Votes In Her Favour

Saibal.Sen@timesgroup.com

■ **Dec 1984**: A young greenhorn Congress worker from Kalighat — wearing a sari and hawai chappals — has just done the unbelievable, defeating CPM veteran Somnath Chatterjee from Jadavpur, the reddest of red citadels. Mamata Banerjee herself seems surprised and pundits attribute her victory to the sympathy wave that Congress benefited from after Indira Gandhi's assassination

■ **May 2024:** Mamata Banerjee is canvassing for votes at Jadavpur's Baro Bhooter Math (translated as the "ground belonging to a dozen ghosts"). She can work up the crowd to her will and asks for this seat once more so that she can help INDIA bloc in Lok Sabha, never mind that the alliance is not on in Bengal


TMC's tally gives Mamata Banerjee more elbow room in INDIA bloc

In a political career of five decades, Banerjee has proved her critics wrong multiple times. After a bruising, months-long campaign, with her party winning 29 seats in Bengal — its second-best Lok Sabha performance after 2014 when it won 34 — she has had the last laugh again. The tally has gone up substantially from 22 in 2019.

Leading the party with 108 public rallies and multiple road shows, one of which saw her walk 12km at a stretch on her south Kolkata home turf, Banerjee, 69, criss-crossed from Coochbehar in the northernmost extreme to South 24 Parganas, where Bengal meets the Bay of Bengal. She went to Nandigram, where she lost in 2021 (a legal battle is still on over BJP's alleged electoral malpractices). And Sandeshkhali, where her partymen have been accused of rape and land-grab, before sting videos threw up a counter-narrative of allegations being "BJP-engineered".

This journey, where PM Modi's campaign has tried to shift the burden of anti-incumbency to the state govt, was to reach the hearts of Bengal's women (through schemes like Lakshmir Bhandar) and its minorities (with about a quarter of the state's votes), even trying to establish Trinamool as a nativist party of the Bengali-Hindu majority through references to Durga Puja (now a Unesco-recognised "intangible cultural heritage") and the legacy of Swami Vivekananda.

Questioned for her decision to go solo, which had the potential to split traditional minority votes, Banerjee has been proven right — the community stood rock solid behind her. By splitting the Bengal battle into a three-way contest, Trinamool's gains outweigh its losses. In the close contests which went its way, Congress-Left vote shares were higher than Trinamool's victory margins, indicating a split in anti-Trinamool votes. Difference in vote share in 2024 between Trinamool and BJP has widened to 10%.

With a final tally of 29 seats — third highest among opposition parties in India (after Congress and SP) — it gains more elbow room in INDIA bloc. That Left-Congress barely scraped through with one seat in Bengal also vindicates a pre-poll offer by Banerjee for 2-3 seats. The results may settle the unease in the Congress-Trinamool relationship. Banerjee has already said she disapproves of the way CPM "monitors" Congress in INDIA bloc.

Finally, the Trinamool win sets up a lot of expectations. Most importantly, Banerjee has promised to ease the central fund flow into MGNREGA in Bengal. Her social schemes have been a defining factor. A weakened BJP at the Centre, and a stronger INDIA bloc, allows her to go beyond the anti-Centre pitch and get work done.

BJP Goes All Out In TN But No Cracks In Stalin's Citadel

TEAM TOI


SAFETY BELT ON: If DMK rivals join hands, 2026 could be harder than 2021

Leading INDIA bloc's campaign in Tamil Nadu, DMK president and chief minister M K Stalin played two roles: one, as the last sentinel against a saffron surge in the South; two, as a victim of the Centre's partisanship in funding states. He has emerged victorious, his alliance winning all the 40 seats in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

Keeping his coalition flock — Congress, CPM, CPI, VCK and IUML — together, Stalin has retained national prominence. The DMK president may not have prime ministerial ambitions but his stature as an entrenched regional satrap gives him a centrality like his father M Karunanidhi enjoyed for decades. The Lok Sabha victory may even be seen as vindication after bruising corruption charges against at least two of his ministers.

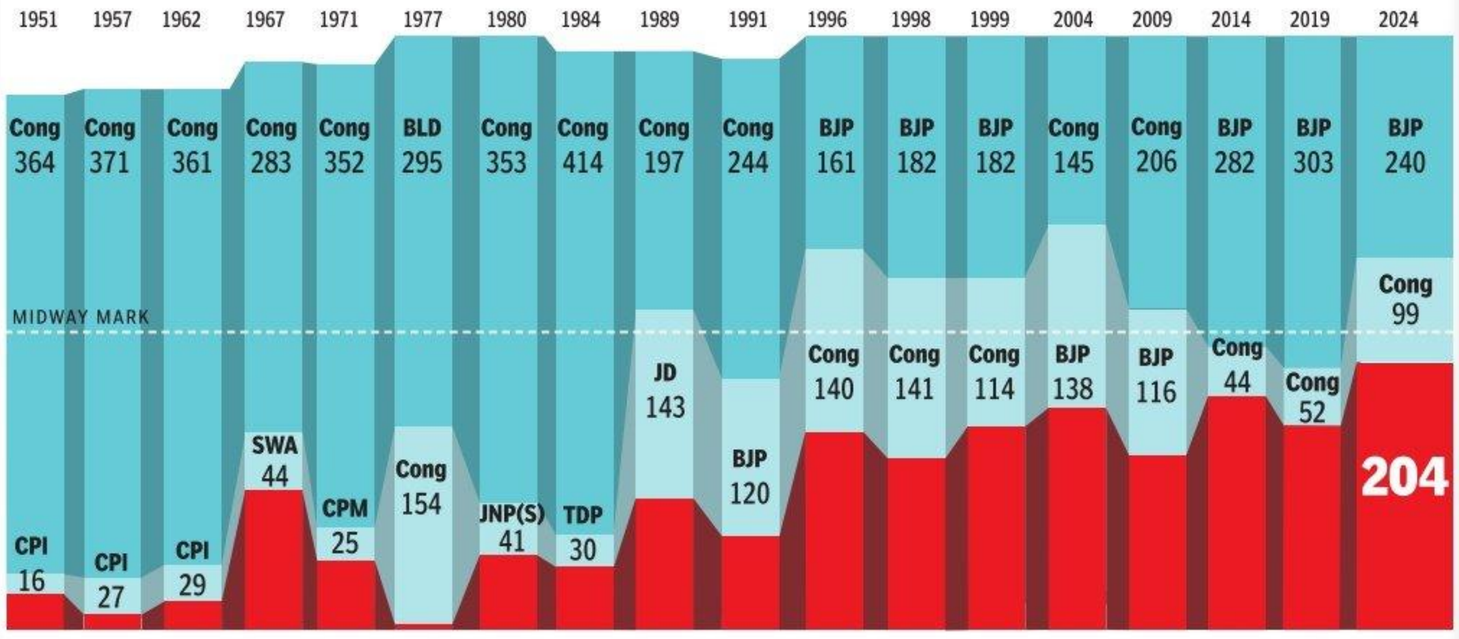
A post-Covid outreach in healthcare and education along with proactive administrative measures by his govt has held anti-incumbency in check. Going forward, a friendly relationship with the Centre would help Stalin, especially since his state faces financial challenges. But the DMK president cannot cosy up to Modi when the next assembly election in Tamil Nadu is less than two years away. After all, it was his strident anti-BJP stand that gave him a decisive lead in a triangular contest. Even after AIADMK, which he had dubbed 'BJP's B team', quit NDA in Sept 2023, DMK kept criticising it for a "secret pact" with BJP. Stalin's message was clear: I am the supreme Dravidian commander against Hindutva. That was his USP.

DMK benefited from a divided opposition. If its rivals (PMK included) choose to join hands, 2026 could be harder than 2021, when DMK won 133 of 234 assembly seats. The TN chief minister has his work cut out, especially with BJP gaining in vote share. BJP state president K Annamalai was able to set a narrative that the battle — in terms of optics and decibel levels — was between DMK and BJP. The Stalin-Annamalai war of words was so shrill that AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami's criticism of Stalin — and at times BJP — was barely audible.

While he is DMK's undisputed leader at 71, Stalin will have to pass on the mantle sooner than later. The expected elevation of his son Udhayanidhi as deputy CM may give more ammo to Stalin's detractors, but as long as DMK functionaries accept the rising son's ascent without a murmur, dynasty politics may not harm the party's electoral prospects. BJP, rising slowly as it is, may not be an immediate threat, but actor Vijay's electoral entry as a disruptor in 2026 can trigger unexpected churns.

Regional Stars' Rising Graph

Congress and BJP have shared the mantle of the largest party in Lok Sabha since the first elections in 1951-52 with the only exception coming in 1977, when opposition parties had fought under the Bharatiya Lok Dal banner. The more visible change can be seen in the space that regional parties have wrested in Parliament, consistently proving to be the second largest bloc in the last few decades. It's a rise amply aided by the rut that Congress's found itself in amid BJP's onslaught



Uddhav proves he's more than just his father's son

Chaitanya.Marpakwar
@timesgroup.com


WAY FORWARD: Sena (UBT) won 7 of 13 direct fights with Shinde Sena

Mumbai: With his Shiv Sena (UBT) winning 9 of the 21 Maharashtra Lok Sabha seats it contested as part of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) alliance, the results are a mixed bag for Uddhav Thackeray, who has lost the official party name and symbol to the rival Eknath Shinde-led formation.

Thackeray had built a narrative of betrayal around the 'mashaal' or flaming torch (his symbol), ever since Shinde mobilised a majority of Sena MPs and MLAs to ally with BJP two years ago. Sena (UBT) has won two seats more than the Shinde-led party and seven of 13 in which it was pitted against the latter. In Mumbai, where the party was founded, Sena (UBT) won three of the four seats it contested. But it has lost in Konkan, which was another of its strongholds.

"I had expected we would win more seats. We have certain suspicions…in Mumbai North West, we will challenge the election of Ravindra Waikar. We have lost the seat in Konkan, this is a surprise but we will see why this happened," Uddhav said.

The results mean redemption for Thackeray, who recast a party founded on hardline Hindutva ideals to make common cause with Congress and NCP. Shinde's charge that the Thackerays reneged on party founder Balasaheb's core values haven't stuck. The outcome is also significant because Sena (UBT) held on despite snapping ties with BJP, which was seen as the dominant partner in Lok Sabha campaigns. Thackeray is now in a position to be the opposition's CM face for the Maharashtra assembly polls in Oct.

"Sena's core Marathi voters have stayed with Thackeray and he has managed to add Muslim and Dalit voters. This makes him the most acceptable face for assembly polls," said an observer. The LS results also show vote transfer can take place among MVA allies. With the state showing strong anti-incumbency amid a farm crisis and anxiety about jobs and price rise, Thackeray will be in mission mode for the assembly polls.

Sena (UBT) functionaries also expect many workers and mid-level office bearers from the Shinde group to return. While Thackeray has said that his doors are shut for defector MLAs and MPs, he may take back mid-level functionaries and grassroots workers. "Uddhav may go on an overdrive to woo former corporators and shakha-level workers even if MLAs and MPs aren't taken back," said an observer. Come Oct, Sena (UBT) would also eye a big chunk of assembly seats within MVA.

'Bhatakti Aatma' stages a comeback, shows his nephew who's the real NCP

Anurag.Bende@timesgroup.com

Pune: Sharad Pawar's challengers will have to wait. The 83-year-old, who was ridiculed as a 'bhatakti aatma' by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the campaign, has just licked them again in the toughest match of his career. Going into the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, Pawar was fighting with one hand tied. His nephew Ajit had engineered a split in NCP, and walked away with the party's name, symbol and leading lights. With Ajit joining the BJP-led Mahayuti grouping, each seat had become a contest between Pawar's candidates and Prime Minister Modi.

Despite the headwinds, Pawar's NCP (SP) is set to win 8 of the 10 Lok Sabha seats it contested as part of the MVA alliance with Congress and Shiv Sena (UBT). This will be Pawar's best strike rate in an LS poll. His NCP's wins span the Mumbai region (Bhiwandi), western and central Maharashtra (Baramati, Madha and Shirur), Vidarbha (Wardha) and north Maharashtra (Dindori and Ahmednagar). Pawar has managed to make inroads in regions where NCP's support base was considered relatively weaker. In comparison, the rival NCP led by Ajit Pawar has won a lone seat in Raigad.


PAWAR SHIFT: This will be his best strike rate in an LS poll

As a key member of INDIA bloc, the former Union minister and four-time chief minister was fighting the election simultaneously on different fronts, including in his backyard Baramati, where Ajit had challenged his supremacy by fielding his wife Sunetra against Pawar's daughter Supriya Sule.

Many felt that the ageing Pawar would largely confine himself to Baramati and western Maharashtra to counter Ajit's immediate challenge, but he surprised them with a busy tour. He attended over 50 rallies in over-40-degrees heat and pegged away at rebuilding the organisation that Ajit had split.

With veterans like Chhagan Bhujbal and Dilip Walse Patil choosing to go with his nephew, Pawar didn't have easy picks either for the 10 seats his party contested. But he made up by poaching candidates from the rival NCP and BJP.

Pawar's close associates say he enjoys nothing more than a tough challenge. What worked most for him was the sympathy generated by the split. Both Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray — MVA allies who were 'dispossessed' of party names and symbols — rode a wave this time even as their campaign focused on issues such as the rural economy and the jobs crisis, which resonated with voters.

Following NCP's split, some seniors like Jayant Patil and Vandana Chavan in the organisation had stayed put with Pawar while most of the younger lot had gone with Ajit. For organizational heft, Pawar delegated charge to younger leaders, including grandnephew Rohit, who campaigned among first-time voters. Another grandnephew, Yugendra, held fort for Supriya in Baramati. These tactics paid off. Though a challenge came from within the family, Sharad Pawar managed to unite the rest of his clan behind him.

The 2024 Lok Sabha election was in some ways a repeat of the 2019 assembly polls when many leaders left NCP and the Opposition declared the Sharad Pawar era as over. But Pawar's party won more than 50 seats. He also managed to split the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance to forge the MVA with Congress and Sena, which led the govt until 2022.

Uncertain road ahead for Ajit's NCP after lone LS poll victory

Anurag.Bende@timesgroup.com

Pune: This was the first electoral test for the two NCPs. But even with Supreme Court upholding the Election Commission's recognition of his group as the real NCP, Ajit Pawar has been unable to make it count in Lok Sabha polls.

His no-holds-barred campaign against cousin Supriya Sule has failed. His wife Sunetra Pawar lost to Sule by roughly 37,000 votes. In fact, the other LS seat where the two NCPs were pitted against each other (Shirur) was also won by the Sharad Pawar-led party. With just one LS seat (Raigad) in his kitty, many of Ajit Pawar's MLAs might read the verdict as a sign of things to come.



Ajit Pawar may fare better in assembly polls, but some say NCP's dismal performance in LS polls will reduce his bargaining power when he negotiates with BJP's Devendra Fadnavis and Shiv Sena's Eknath Shinde for seat-sharing. On the personal front, the LS polls have isolated Ajit in the Pawar clan. During the campaign, most family members, including his brother Shrinivas, sided with Sharad Pawar.

Rebel Shinde holds ground despite 'sympathy wave'

Priyanka.Kakodkar
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Maharashtra's ambitious and street-smart CM Eknath Shinde had shown time and again that he could not be written off. After being suppressed and passed over by Uddhav Thackeray, Shinde struck back by splitting Shiv Sena and taking it over. On allying with BJP to form the govt, he managed to wrest the top post, leaving a stunned Devendra Fadnavis to settle as his deputy. His direct proximity to the BJP brass in Delhi led to a sweet deal for the LS polls: 15 seats compared with four for BJP's other ally, NCP.

The verdict will bring vindication and relief. Having won 7 seats, Shinde's party has a better strike rate than BJP in Maharashtra (which won 10 of the 28 seats it contested). The verdict may well mean he continues to hold his bargaining position and can lead the Mahayuti alliance ahead of state assembly polls due in Oct.



While the result has not shown that he is a claimant to the reins of the "real Shiv Sena", it may not exactly cause an exodus from Shinde's party towards the resurgent Shiv Sena (UBT) ahead of assembly polls. In the 13 direct contests with Sena (UBT), Shinde's party fared better in at least five — Buldhana, Hatkanangale, Kalyan, Maval, and Mumbai North West. Thackeray's bruising campaign, pitching "loyalists" against "traitors", did not entirely work.

In Kalyan, his son Shrikant Shinde won by over 2 lakh votes, while in Thane his nominee Naresh Mhaske was leading by over 2 lakh votes.

"Shrikant Shinde won with a record margin. People have voted for the development work done by PM Modi in 10 years and our Maha yuti govt. Many seats were lost by a very thin margin and may be because the candidates were declared late. We will rethink these issues and rectify our mistakes," Shinde said.

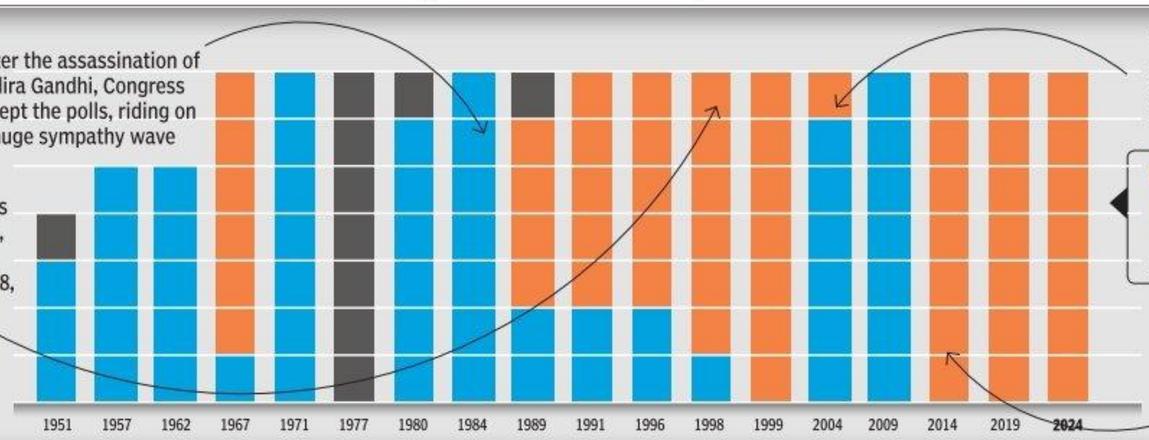
For Shinde, having outperformed Ajit Pawar's NCP, he has now shown his party is BJP's more valuable ally.

Again, Delhi Goes To Biggest Party

Since 1998, the capital has unfailingly reflected the mood of the country. From farmers on the Yamuna floodplain and traders in Chandni Chowk to the movers and shakers of Lutyens' Delhi, its electorate defies classification. The trend suggests that whoever does well in Delhi goes on to form govt at the Centre

After coalition govts failed at the Centre, the electorate gave BJP a chance in 1998, but the Vajpayee govt lasted all of 13 months. In 1999, Delhi backed BJP all the way

After the assassination of Indira Gandhi, Congress swept the polls, riding on a huge sympathy wave



The BJP-led NDA govt's campaign in 2004 was based on its 'India Shining' slogan, but failed to resonate with the electorate. The lone BJP winner in a flood of Congress blue was Vijay Kumar Malhotra, who had defeated Manmohan Singh in 1999 in the same constituency

7-0
2024

BJP was again the largest party in Lok Sabha though it fell short of majority on its own. Repeating its preference of 2014 and 2019, Delhi again stayed solidly behind the party

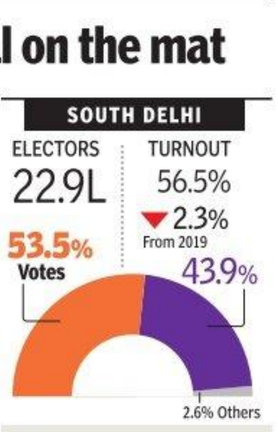
After two terms of UPA, Delhi voted for change and, sure enough, its overwhelming backing for BJP dovetailed with the party forming govt at the Centre in 2014. The capital stayed with the party in 2019 and Modi remained PM for a second straight term

Bansuri gets poll tune right

One of the most fascinating faceoffs in the capital saw AAP's three-time MLA Somnath Bharti lock horns with BJP's debutante Bansuri Swaraj, daughter of former Union minister, the late Sushma Swaraj.
In a constituency that has returned political stalwarts like Atal Bihari Vajpayee and LK Advani, Swaraj secured a win with a margin of 78,370 votes. During the initial rounds, the two candidates were engaged in a close battle, with Bansuri maintaining a lead of around 3,000 votes. The margin continued to widen with time. Interestingly, this was one of the few seats where a three-way contest was anticipated with BSP steering clear of INDIA bloc. BSP's candidate Raaj Kumar Anand, who dramatically resigned in April from AAP and as minister, could muster just 5,629 votes. Close to 5,000 NOTA votes were recorded. The constituency once again threw up a woman victor, with Swaraj succeeding outgoing BJP MP Meenakshi Lekhi. Swaraj, a lawyer by profession, entered active politics as co-convener of Delhi BJP's legal cell last year and quickly rose to the position of secretary in the state unit.

NEW DELHI

ELECTORS 15.3L | TURNOUT 55.4% ▼1.5% From 2019



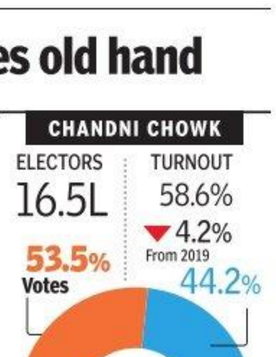
Party	Votes
BJP Bansuri Swaraj	4,53,185
AAP (INDIA) Somnath Bharti	3,74,815
Others	19,468

Bidhuri has rival on the mat

In an intense contest between two Gujjar MLAs, BJP's Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, the incumbent MLA from Badarpur and leader of opposition, secured a resounding victory with 6,92,832 votes. AAP's Sahi Ram, a two-term MLA from Tughlaqabad, managed 5,68,499 votes. South Delhi parliamentary constituency, contrary to common belief, consists of not only affluent areas but also urban villages, unauthorised settlements, slums, luxurious farmhouses, resettlement colonies and a rural region close to Haryana border. Both contenders hail from rural parts of the constituency, which encompasses 10 assembly constituencies. Sahi Ram held a lead of over 1,200 votes during the early trends. However, after 9am, Bidhuri overtook him, establishing a margin of 1,299 votes. As time passed, the gap widened significantly. By 11.30am, Bidhuri had surged ahead by more than 21,220 votes. Around 1pm, with the lead exceeding 66,000 votes, the result was a foregone conclusion. While Sahi Ram felt that BJP gained from a strongly performance in Palam, Bijwasan and Chhatarpur assembly constituencies, supporters of saffron parties conceded that AAP may have done well in Sangam Vihar and Tughlaqabad.

SOUTH DELHI

ELECTORS 22.9L | TURNOUT 56.5% ▼2.3% From 2019



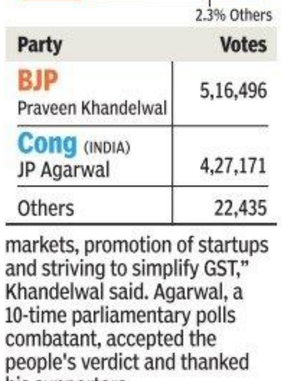
Party	Votes
BJP RS Bidhuri	6,92,832
AAP (INDIA) Sahi Ram	5,68,499
Others	34,667

Upstart upstages old hand

In his first Lok Sabha battle, Praveen Khandelwal emerged victorious for BJP, vanquishing his veteran Congress rival Jai Prakash Agarwal. A close contest had been expected but Khandelwal eventually secured the seat with a margin of 89,325 votes, despite a 2-lakh-strong Muslim electorate largely supporting the Congress after its alliance with AAP.
The ding-dong battle saw Khandelwal leading by just a single vote in the second round. Congress, in the first three rounds, secured 26,965, 53,284 and 75,958 votes against 24,260, 49,476, and 74,915 for BJP. The tide turned in the fourth round when Khandelwal surged ahead, garnering 1,02,430 votes against 93,523 for Agarwal. After 15 rounds of counting around 2.30pm, Khandelwal had managed an efficient lead. The BJP candidate expressed satisfaction at the results. "Being a trader, my priority is to work for improvement of markets, promotion of startups and striving to simplify GST," Khandelwal said. Agarwal, a 10-time parliamentary polls combatant, accepted the people's verdict and thanked his supporters.

CHANDNI CHOWK

ELECTORS 16.5L | TURNOUT 58.6% ▼4.2% From 2019



Party	Votes
BJP Praveen Khandelwal	5,16,496
Cong (INDIA) JP Agarwal	4,27,171
Others	22,435

AAPeal diminished, Kejriwal's troubles mount

Ambika.Pandit@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: It is indeed ironical that when the INDIA bloc has given a tough fight to NDA, Arvind Kejriwal — with govt in two states — and his party have suffered a huge setback. In fact, the poll outcome shows a loss of credibility for brand Kejriwal. The AAP campaign pitch virtually called for a referendum on the Delhi chief minister's arrest in the liquor policy case, portraying it as vendetta politics by BJP. This very neatly dovetailed with its criticism of LG V K Saxena for being the Centre's malicious agent.

What did AAP gain after 21 days of campaigning by its chief, who was out on interim bail? It had an alliance with Congress in Delhi and they drew a blank on all 7 seats. The Punjab story is even more dire. It has won only 3 out of 13 seats in the state where it is the ruling party. And it has failed to win any seat in Gujarat, Assam and Haryana.

This puts a question mark on AAP's relevance as a player of significance in the INDIA alliance. The party's bargaining power in INDIA alliance will be considerably weakened with more powerful regional satraps calling the shots.

It can, however, take solace from the fact that with NDA's tally reduced, and BJP doing introspection, its mascot can expect some respite from central agencies. However, if Kejriwal insists on continuing as CM while in jail, he has to contend with the possibility of Central rule being imposed and assembly polls being called for earlier than Feb next year when the AAP govt completes five years.

The slogan of "jail ka jawab vote se" didn't yield a mandate for the party. The poll results also show that Kejriwal's 'Delhi model of development' and its projection in Punjab, where it had swept the assembly polls in 2022, did not impress the electorate enough to choose AAP over BJP and Congress.

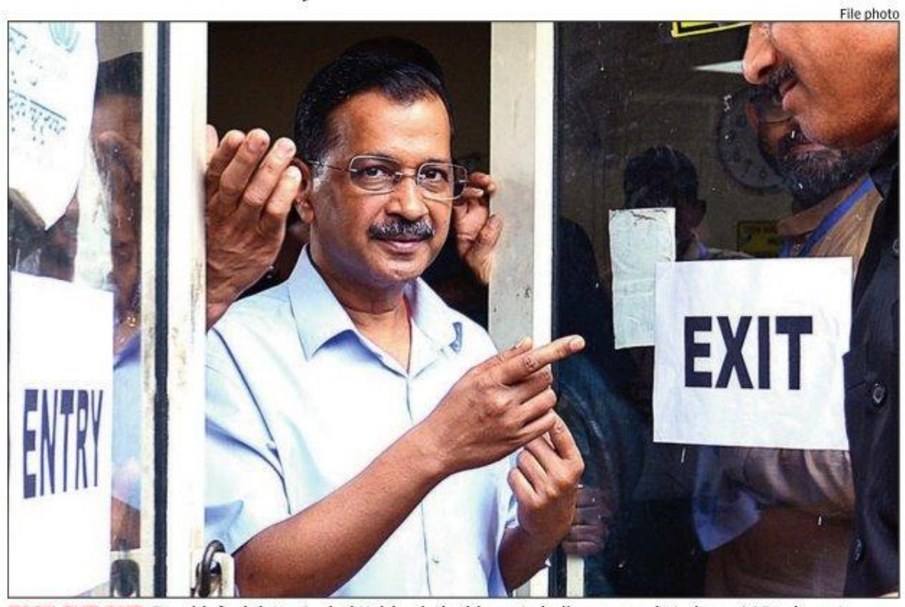
AAP had joined politics promising an "alternative" to traditional parties like BJP and Congress, calling them corrupt. When it struck an alliance with Congress, it did not sit well with voters who saw it as an opportunistic move. The argument that AAP had joined INDIA in order to defeat a dictatorial dispensation at the Centre seems to have been lost on the electorate.

The party, which had secured an impressive victory in Punjab assembly polls in 2022, getting catapulted into the limelight as a party that could be a national player of significance, failed to perform in the state winning just 3 seats – Sangrur, Anandpur Sahib and Hoshiarpur. Congress got 7 out of 13. Significantly, both AAP and Congress had agreed not to fight in an alliance in the face of resistance from state units who felt going separately would work better. That clearly worked for Congress, leaving AAP high and dry.

As part of the INDIA alliance, AAP and Congress were also in the poll fray jointly in Gujarat. AAP contested in two constituencies – Bharuch and Bhavnagar — with the former being the home turf of later Congress stalwart Ahmed Patel. Congress has won one out of the 24 seats it contested. BJP bagged 25 out of 26. AAP drew a blank.

Besides, AAP also lost Kurukshetra to BJP while Congress, which fought on 9 seats in Haryana, won 5. Kejriwal's party was also defeated in two constituencies in Assam.

With Kejriwal seen as the face of AAP in Delhi and beyond, with no other person to take over reins of the party and govt in sight yet, the way forward for his party will be determined by how long he remains in jail and how far he is able to run the show from inside while keeping his flock together.



File photo

TASK CUT OUT: For chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, the biggest challenge now is to keep AAP relevant

Ctrl+Alt+Delhi: Alliance Finds Zero Bandwidth

BJP Continues Dominance, But Margins Of Win Come Down

Atul.Mathur@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The capital once again proved to be impregnable for the opposition with BJP scoring a hat-trick by comfortably winning in all seven parliamentary constituencies despite a joint challenge by Aam Aadmi Party and Congress. The saffron party's winning margins might have got reduced but it established its might quite comprehensively.

The party secured 54.4% of the total votes polled, down by 2.3% from its 2019 vote share while AAP and Congress together polled 43.1%. AAP got 24.2% of votes in the four constituencies where it fielded its candidates while Congress polled 18.9% in the three constituencies where it faced BJP.

AAP and Congress had managed to stitch a pre-poll alliance in Delhi to prevent division of anti-BJP votes but the challenge fizzled out.

BJP had wiped out the anti-incumbency factor by replacing six of its seven sitting MPs with new candidates and it seemed to have worked. Its decision to retain Manoj Tiwari in North East Delhi paid off. He won his third consecutive election by defeating Congress' Kanhaiya Kumar, former student union president of JNU by over 1.4 lakh votes.

Making her electoral debut, BJP stalwart Sushma Swaraj's daughter, Bansuri, defeated AAP's three-time MLA Somnath Bharti in New Delhi by a margin of about 78,370 votes.

The party's biggest victory, however, came from North West Delhi, the constituency reserved for scheduled caste candidates, where former North Delhi Municipal Corporation (pre-merger) mayor Yogendra Chandoliya defeated Congress' Udit Raj by over 2.9 lakh votes. The 2019 election had also seen BJP scoring its biggest victory from the same constituency.

In West Delhi, BJP's Kamaljeet Sehrawat defeated her nearest rival, AAP's Mahabal Mishra, by a margin of 2 lakh votes. A former Congress MP, Mishra had lost the last two Lok Sabha elections from West Delhi before joining AAP in 2022.

BJP' leader of the opposition in Delhi assembly, Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, defeated AAP's Sahi Ram in South Delhi by over 1.2 lakh votes. In East Delhi, BJP's Harsh Deep Malhotra defeated AAP's Kuldeep Kumar by a margin of over 93,663 votes.

The only constituency where the INDIA bloc gave BJP a few anxious moments initially was Chandni Chowk where Congress' Jai Prakash Agarwal, a veteran of several elections, was pitted against BJP's Praveen Khandelwal. Agarwal maintained a narrow lead in the first few rounds but lost to Khandelwal by over 89,325 votes.

AAP and Congress had sought votes to "save Constitution and democracy" and raised unemployment and inflation as major poll issues. AAP had even turned the election into a referendum on the arrest of party chief and Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal.

"Unlike states like UP and Bihar where youths were unhappy about not getting govt jobs, it was not an issue in Delhi," explained Ravi Ranjan, a professor of political science in Delhi University. "Being a metropolitan city, the issues for the citizens of Delhi are different and the results reflect that."

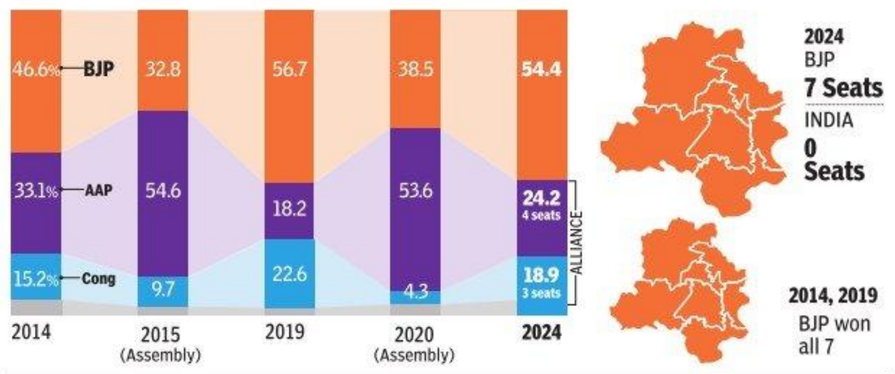
Political scientist Manoj Sinha said the credentials of AAP had become suspect in the run-up to the elections. "AAP was born out of a movement against corruption. It had attacked Congress, accusing it of corruption and replaced it in the capital," said Sinha. Its alliance with the same party exposed it to criticism.

The Congress cadres were reluctant allies of AAP and the party's choice of candidates and campaigning had got delayed. Fielding of "outsiders" like Udit Raj and Kanhaiya also led to resentment within the party. Rahul Gandhi held three rallies in Delhi, one in each constituency where the party was contesting, but not many senior party functionaries turned up for campaigning.

Both Congress and AAP candidates relied heavily on Kejriwal, who held a few roadshows but seemed to have failed to galvanise voters.

Alternating Currents In Delhi Polling Booths

The birth of AAP and rise of Modi's BJP has seen voters in Delhi swing between either camp, favouring the Kejriwal-led party in the assembly and going with the saffron party in Parliament



Why assembly polls may still be anybody's game

Vibha.Sharma
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Delhi assembly elections, about eight months from now, will show if the Lok Sabha results have any bearing on the outcome.

Despite defeats in the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha polls, AAP managed to secure an overwhelming majority in the last two assembly elections. In 2015, the party bagged 67 of the 70 seats. In the 2020 elections, it emerged victorious in 62 constituencies.

Although BJP has claimed all seven parliamentary seats, the outlook for it in the assembly elections will depend on various factors.

Political analyst Chandrachud Singh says, "Lok Sabha and assembly elections are like pots on two different planks" and Delhi has previously witnessed voters making different choices. However, Singh pointed out that BJP's current Lok Sabha victory has boosted the morale of its Delhi cadre. "If the party works diligently on core issues concerning the people of Delhi, their prospect of getting seats in the assembly elections will definitely increase," he said.

Saroj Giri, an associate professor in Delhi University, offered a contrasting perspective. He said that despite the BJP's clean sweep of Delhi's Lok Sabha seats, its voting percentage has declined. He also highlighted that BJP's overall performance across the country was not entirely satisfactory.

Giri emphasised that the AAP govt has successfully delivered on its promises, such as free water, electricity, bus service and better education for women. "Poor, lower-middle and upper-middle class people can make a sharp distinction in their choices when it comes to assembly polls," he said.

This can be proved by the fact that in the 2019 Lok Sabha poll, BJP was ahead in 65 assembly segments but when the assembly elections took place in 2020, AAP won 62 seats.

"The common man fumes due to mass corruption in DDA, DJB and even MCD (where BJP couldn't do anything in 15 years)....It's high time the party brass consolidates their efforts to understand voters' needs," said Atul Goyal, president of United Residents' Welfare Association.

The sustainability of AAP as a party over the next few months will also play a crucial role. Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal is in jail and LG VK Saxena is determined to prevent govt from functioning from prison. It remains to be seen if central rule will be imposed.

Some experts believe that the imprisonment of AAP ministers might translate into sympathy votes. Mridula Mukherjee, a former JNU professor, said Delhiites are astute. The mandate given by the people to parties in the Lok Sabha elections is a testament to this fact.

She said AAP was being treated unfairly. "People are watching. Whenever an election happens, it will reflect in the results," she added.

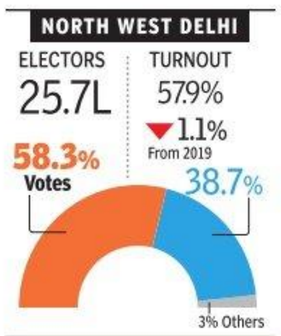
AAP and BJP will also have to contend with a resurgent Congress which may go all-out to claw back lost ground despite the very short time available.

BJP goes north in North West

Among the victorious BJP candidates in Delhi, Yogender Chandoliya, contesting the North West Delhi seat, had the highest winning margin. As a first-time Lok Sabha contestant, Chandoliya's impressive performance underscored his party's hold on the constituency, which also has a BJP MLA representing Rohini. Chandoliya's dominance was evident from the early rounds of counting. By round 3, he had totalled 11,778 votes, while Udit Raj of Congress, an earlier MP from the same seat, had received 5,332 votes. By noon, Chandoliya's kitty had 1,99,743 votes and his rival's, 81,831. Eventually, the gap became a yawning 2.9 lakh that couldn't be closed.
"We will fulfil the promises we made during campaigning," said Chandoliya. "I thank the people for giving BJP such a huge vote share. There are problems in the areas here like lack of connectivity, poor water quality and lack of sports facilities. Along with them, we will also take up the construction of an underpass in Kirari and rejuvenation of waterbodies."

NORTH WEST DELHI

ELECTORS 25.7L | TURNOUT 57.9% ▼1.1% From 2019



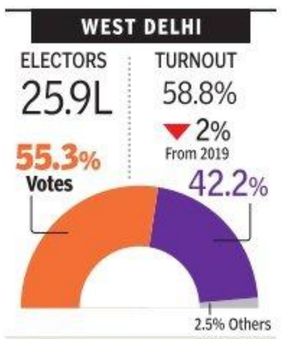
Party	Votes
BJP Yogender Chandoliya	8,66,483
Cong (INDIA) Udit Raj	5,75,634
Others	45,090

No wild swings in West

BJP's Kamaljeet Sehrawat is poised to become a first-time MP after securing a resounding victory over AAP's Mahabal Mishra. Sehrawat, who contested the Lok Sabha election for the first time, garnered 8,42,658 votes, while Mishra, a former MP and three-time MLA from Congress, managed 6,43,645. BSP's Vishakah was third with 7,824 votes. Sehrawat, who previously served as mayor of the erstwhile south corporation in 2017, currently represents one of the wards in Dwarka after her victory in the 2022 municipal election. While it was a close battle in Madhipur and Tilak Nagar, Sehrawat's vote share remained high in Janakpuri, Vikaspuri, Uttam Nagar, Hari Nagar, Rajouri Garden, Dwarka, Matiala and Najafgarh, helping her maintain a healthy lead all through. West Delhi, the largest parliamentary constituency in the city, encompasses a diverse range of demographics and geographies, from the affluent neighbourhood of Dwarka to bustling Rajouri market, remote villages bordering Haryana and colonies inhabited by lower middle class.

WEST DELHI

ELECTORS 25.9L | TURNOUT 58.8% ▼2% From 2019



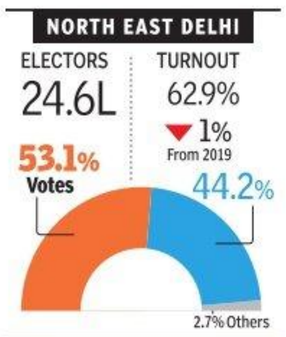
Party	Votes
BJP Kamaljeet Sehrawat	8,42,658
AAP (INDIA) Mahabal Mishra	6,43,645
Others	38,191

Tiwari coasts to third win

Manoj Tiwari recorded a personal hat-trick from the North East Delhi constituency, whizzing past his Congress rival, former Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union president Kanhaiya Kumar. The BJP winner went into a big lead from the outset of the counting and kept the momentum going with each round.
The contest in North East Delhi was slated to be keen because of the significant Poorvanchali population. Both Tiwari and Kumar are from that community. The large Muslim electorate was expected to be advantageous to Congress. By 2pm on Tuesday, however, Kumar lagged Tiwari by over one lakh votes. Around 7.30pm, BJP had stretched its lead to a shade under 1.4 lakh, with 8.2 lakh votes in Tiwari's kitty against 6.8 lakh for Kumar. "I would like to thank PM Narendra Modi for this win," said Tiwari. "I also feel blessed to have received the support of voters in my constituency. No doubt the responsibility has increased as BJP is ahead in all seven seats in Delhi. BJP means service. We will keep serving the people."

NORTH EAST DELHI

ELECTORS 24.6L | TURNOUT 62.9% ▼1% From 2019



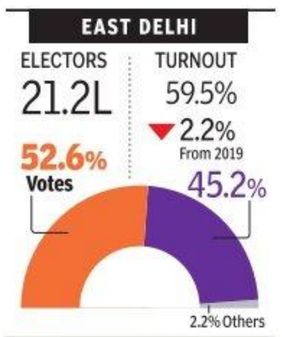
Party	Votes
BJP Manoj Tiwari	8,24,451
Cong (INDIA) Kanhaiya Kumar	6,85,673
Others	42,607

A see-saw victory in East

BJP's decision to replace incumbent MP Gautam Gambhir with former mayor Harsh Malhotra paid rich dividends as he defeated AAP's Kuldeep Kumar by a margin of 93,663 votes. Malhotra sprinted ahead of his rival in the first round itself, gaining a lead of 9,045 votes. However, there were some tense moments for him in the fifth round when his lead came down to just 125. The tremors didn't last long, though. By the 17th round, Malhotra's victory was near certain as his lead mounted to 83,821 votes, with the BJP candidate appearing to do well in Okhla, Gandhi Nagar, Jangpura, Krishna Nagar, Shahdara, Vishwas Nagar, Laxmi Nagar, Trilokpuri, Kondli and Patparganj. Malhotra later conveyed his gratitude to the Delhi voters and attributed the party's victory in all seats to its "accomplishments" over the past decade. Kumar, MLA from Kondli assembly constituency, acknowledged that the ultimate power lay with the public and said the party would analyse the factors that led to the unfavourable result.

EAST DELHI

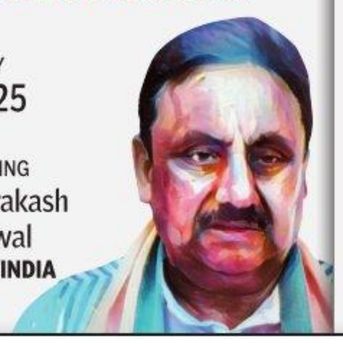
ELECTORS 21.2L | TURNOUT 59.5% ▼2.2% From 2019



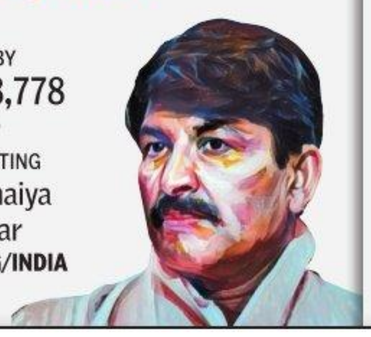
Party	Votes
BJP Harsh Malhotra	6,64,819
AAP (INDIA) Kuldeep Kumar	5,71,156
Others	28,074

Meet Your MPs DELHI-NCR

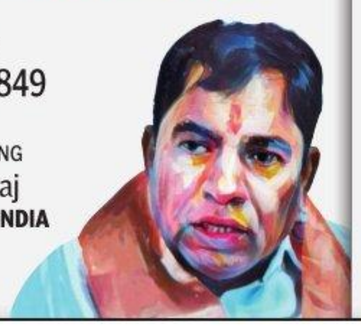
CHANDNI CHOWK
Praveen Khandelwal
BJP
WON BY 89,325 VOTES
DEFEATING Jai Prakash Agarwal CONG/INDIA



NORTH EAST DELHI
Manoj Tiwari
BJP
WON BY 1,38,778 VOTES
DEFEATING Kanhaiya Kumar CONG/INDIA



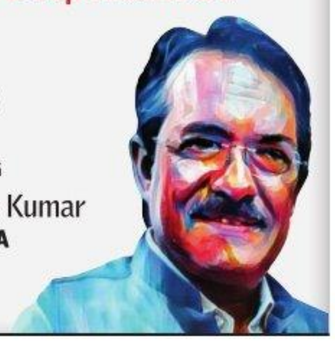
NORTH WEST DELHI
Yogender Chandoliya
BJP
WON BY 2,90,849 VOTES
DEFEATING Udit Raj CONG/INDIA



NEW DELHI
Bansuri Swaraj
BJP
WON BY 78,370 VOTES
DEFEATING Somnath Bharti AAP/INDIA



EAST DELHI
Harsh Deep Malhotra
BJP
WON BY 93,663 VOTES
DEFEATING Kuldeep Kumar AAP/INDIA



New Tricks Needed Despite Hat-Trick

No Clear CM Face, Poor MCD Track Record And Over-Reliance On Modi BJP's Weak Points

Abhinav.Rajput
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Unlike the trend of BJP loosening its hold on several states it had swept in 2019, the party again held Delhi in a vice-like grip winning all the seven seats for the third consecutive general elections. And like in the elections of 2019, BJP's vote share was over 50% this year too.

The saffron party's Ramvir Singh Bidhuri won in South Delhi, Yogender Chandoliya in North-West Delhi, Bansuri Swaraj in New Delhi, Harsh Malhotra in East Delhi, Kamaljeet Sehrawat in West Delhi, Praveen Khandelwal in Chandni Chowk and Manoj Tiwari in North-East Delhi.

Except for Tiwari, the party had put up fresh candidates this year, and BJP city seniors said this helped counter anti-incumbency and keep the cadres motivated. "When you are able to convince the electorate that your party is forming the govt at the centre, the fence-sitters also emerge in your support," explained a senior functionary.

Delhi BJP unit president Virendra Sachdeva said, "The people of the capital gave us this mandate for the works done by PM Narendra Modi for Delhi and for his visionary leadership." Party functionaries said that the campaign had been decided months in advance to centre on two talking points: the performance of PM Modi and the corruption allegations against AAP, including about the excise policy, renovation of the CM's house and financial discrepancies in Delhi Jal Board.

"AAP is no longer the party seen as a group of honest people with noble intentions. The liquor policy has exposed them and three of their top leaders are in jail on corruption charges with the courts refusing to grant them bail," said Sachdeva.

With the Lok Sabha polls wrapped up, BJP anticipates the resounding win to provide it the impetus it needs for the assembly elections eight months away. The party has encountered obstacles in the previous assembly polls, winning, respectively, just three and eight seats in 2015 and 2020, despite sweeping the stakes in the two Lok Sabha elections held a year prior to each in 2014 and 2019.

BJP insiders, therefore, feel the 2025 assembly polls could similarly prove arduous due not only to the absence of a compelling narrative to counter AAP's populist policy but also because of factionalism within the state unit.

A party functionary admitted that BJP, which last formed the government in Delhi in 1993, lacked a charismatic figure to rival Arvind Kejriwal. He also conceded an overreliance on the Modi factor and this places them at a disadvantage in state and local polls. This was one of the reasons AAP was able to wrest control of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi from BJP in 2022.

The clean sweep will result in a larger share of development projects for the city, BJP functionaries hoped. One of them said, "With BJP also forming the govt at the Centre, Delhi can again expect a larger share of development funds as it has been doing. Delhi is the first state in the country that got the regional rapid rail besides the Delhi-Bombay, Delhi-Dehradun and Saharanpur expressways," he said, adding, "You can expect more such projects. There is also a huge demand for the expansion of Delhi Metro to the fringes of the city and we have committed to our voters that we would accomplish this."

Sanjeev Rastogi



NOT SO STRAIGHT FORWARD? The challenge for BJP is to replicate LS win in assembly polls next year and nip factionalism in the bud

Photo: Rajesh Mehta

POLLINATION



Wind, water and noise

Counting for the Chandni Chowk seat at Bharat Nagar (Ashok Vihar) wasn't done in the most salubrious of environs. The fans seemed to have been placed at an unsuitable height, causing the blades to hit the temporary pillars and create a disruptive din. Water also constantly leaked from the AC units

Paper chase

Election officials at the Chandni Chowk constituency had to fall back on the old-world paper votes after an EVM developed technical problems and delayed the counting process. BJP and Congress polling agents demanded immediate rectification, forcing the officials to count the VVPAT slips

Going with the trend

Loud *dholak* beats resounded at the BJP state office on Pandit Pant Marg after early results indicated a BJP lead in Delhi. Around midday, however, there was a pause because the national results provided room for circumspection. The drummers picked up again after a more definitive uptick in the national trend for the saffron party

Cong needs gust to convert winds of change into wave

Abhinav.Rajput@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Congress party's hopes of regaining lost ground in the national capital were tied to the Lok Sabha election, as they have been unable to win the Vidhan Sabha for a decade and the corporation for 17 years. However, the party failed to secure any seats in Delhi for the third consecutive time, this time in an alliance with AAP this time.

While Kanhaiya Kumar lost North East Delhi seat to Manoj Tiwari, Udit Raj was defeated by Yogendra Chandolia (North West). JP Aggarwal failed to best Praveen Khandelwal in Chandni Chowk.

This defeat marks a significant blow for Congress, which had traditionally dominated Delhi's political scene, often sweeping all the seats in previous Lok Sabha elections prior to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's era at the Centre.

Several factors contributed to the party's campaign struggles, including the late announcement of candidates compared to AAP and BJP, the defection of state president Arvinder Singh Lovely to BJP just weeks before the polls and the inability to motivate cadres and unite different factions within the party. The lack of a strong grassroots structure and the absence of charismatic leaders also hindered the party's chances.

"In such elections where there are only two blocks (BJP and INDI alliance), the contest becomes close. Had we managed these issues, then we could have dented BJP in some seats," said a senior Congress functionary. The vote percentage difference between Congress and BJP candidates was around 9% in the closely contested Chandni Chowk and North East Delhi constituencies.

However, Congress functionary Abhishek Dutt emphasised the party's good performance in several seats, which he believes could serve as a model for the party to revive its fortunes in Delhi. "We have done well in several states and have stopped BJP from the magic number of 272. This was possible because we raised issues that affect the common people, such as unemployment and price rise... youths are upset with the way their jobs are being snatched in the name of schemes like Agniveer," he said.

Dutt expressed optimism in using the same model in Delhi to bring back the party's glory days. "We will do a sustained campaign in Delhi like we did in Telangana and Karnataka," he said.

Senior party members, meanwhile, cautioned that if Congress didn't take decisive action, it might encounter even greater difficulties in the upcoming Vidhan Sabha polls in Feb next year. They stressed the importance of the party reassessing its strategy, bringing in fresh leadership and launching campaigns focused on issues directly impacting the lives of the people.

Party functionaries expect that the upcoming Vidhan Sabha polls will likely see BJP, AAP and Congress fighting independently.

Piyal Bhattacharjee



WAY TO GO? A jubilant Congress supporter at AICC headquarters

In game of thorns, AAP must keep flock together

Atul.Mathur@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Aam Aadmi Party is now facing an existential crisis. The party, which formed govt in Delhi thrice in the past 10 years and expanded its footprints in some other states showcasing the "Delhi model of governance", couldn't claim even one seat in the Lok Sabha elections despite a seat-sharing arrangement with Congress.

With the assembly polls in the capital a few months away and its three top leaders – Kejriwal, former deputy CM Manish Sisodia and former health minister Satyendar Jain – in jail, the beleaguered party faces the challenge of both running the govt for the full term and preparing for a crucial state election.

Kejriwal's arrest in the money laundering case linked to the now-scrapped excise policy a week after announcement of the Lok Sabha poll schedule forced the party to launch a campaign with the slogan, "Jail ka jawab vote se", to generate a sympathy wave. The Delhi CM's personal appeal on these lines, however, failed to move the voters enough.

Political scientist and former JNU professor Neera Chandhoke said the charges of corruption against Kejriwal and his senior party colleagues have badly dented AAP's image. "Also, Kejriwal has failed to strengthen AAP's organisational structure and it has largely remained a one-leader party," she said.

Questioning AAP's alliance with Congress, she added: "I am not sure if the alliance actually worked on the ground and Congress and AAP workers voted for each other's candidates in their respective constituencies."

With its vulnerabilities exposed, the party faces the huge challenge of keeping its flock together. The threat can come from both BJP and a resurgent Congress. Senior functionaries of both parties have claimed in private that many legislators and municipal councillors of Kejriwal's party are willing to jump ship.

If Kejriwal doesn't step down from CM's post despite being in jail, governance will suffer besides the Centre getting an opportunity to impose Central rule if it feels there would be dividends. Whether a replacement — be it Kejriwal's wife, Sunita, or someone else — can be effective is a hypothetical question at this time.

AAP's Delhi state convener, Gopal Rai, said they fought this election in most adverse circumstances. "AAP gave a tough fight to BJP in Delhi with its rock-solid unity. BJP's margin is going to reduce on a big scale," he said.

Meanwhile, AAP has called for PM Narendra Modi's resignation, asserting that the LS election results reflected a clear mandate against BJP's politics of "hatred and dictatorship".

"People have voted to save Baba Saheb's Constitution. They have voted to save the reservation system in the country, which is for the Dalits, deprived, exploited, backward and tribal," Singh said

File photo



HEADWINDS AT DOORSTEPS: AAP failed to step up to the challenge

Photo: Jatin Kumar



Brotherhood of also-rans

'Haare hum, par mann se nahi haare (we lost the polls, not our spirit),' quipped a group of independent candidates during the counting in the South Delhi constituency. Among them were Chandrashekhar Singh Kushwaha who got 1,889 votes, Deepak Kapila (1,500), Ram Gopal (3,958), Arun Kumar (842), Shanker Dey (522), Poonam Srivastava (958) and Biharilal Jalandhari (514)

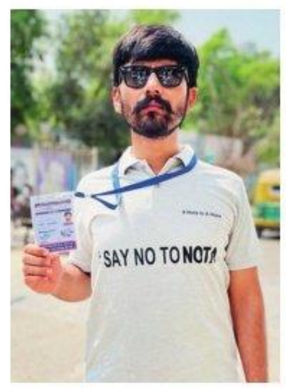


Sole searching

Right outside the New Delhi counting centre in Gole Market, cobbler Suresh sat under the shade of a banyan tree. Unlike others, he didn't seem remotely interested in the results of the polls. The 45-year-old Rajasthani migrant dourly said, 'A change of political party changes only the lives of the rich.'

NOT A vote-hungry candidate

In North East Delhi, Ravi Kiran Thilak Thatikonda, an independent candidate, was at the counting centre more to find out how many had opted for NOTA than voted for him. His campaign had been to discourage NOTA voting and he had distributed T-shirts bearing that message. 'NOTA is a hoax. We have to make our voices heard,' he smiled



Driving pleasure

Till 4pm, the Samaypur Badli road in North West Delhi constituency was almost empty, with only a few grocery shops operating. And while the road was barricaded since it led to the counting centre at Delhi Technological University, other streets going to and away from Rohini were unusually clear of the regular traffic jams



Business as unusual

The Night Cafe on the DTU campus is usually crammed with students. Business was lean after the university closed for vacations on May 25. On Tuesday, however, the till rang as party workers, poll officials and security personnel made a beeline for it since it was the only place they could find refreshments

Muslim vote fails to swing it for alliance in Delhi

Priyangi.Agarwal@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Mehfooz Alam, a 35-year-old real estate professional from New Delhi, closely followed the election results all day. However, he was left disappointed as the AAP-Congress alliance failed to secure a single seat in Delhi.

"It seems that our votes didn't count for much. In Lok Sabha election, the community has limited influence in a direct contest against BJP. We are disappointed with the false promises of BJP spreading hate and community divide. However, we are hopeful in the upcoming assembly polls," Alam said.

According to the 2011 Census, Muslims constitute around 12.9% of Delhi's population. As per political estimates, North East Lok Sabha constituency currently has the highest percentage of Muslim voters at 20.7%, while other constituencies also have a significant Muslim population: Chandni Chowk (14%), East Delhi (16.8%), New Delhi (16.8%), North West Delhi (10.6%), South Delhi (7%), and West Delhi (6.8%).

North East constituency recorded the highest voting percentage at 58.3%, with three predominantly Muslim-inhabited assembly constituencies—Seelampur, Mustafabad, and Babarpur—each seeing a voting percentage of over 65%. However, Congress candidate Kanhaiya Kumar lost the seat by a margin of over 1.3 lakh votes.

Mohd Mushtaq from Joharipur said the public's choice leaned more towards BJP. Adnan Zain, a trader in Nand Nagri, added, "The problem with Kanhaiya Kumar is that he did not visit the people on the ground as much as he should have. Giving passionate speeches online for impact is not enough. Having an interpersonal connection with the people you are representing is important."

Sami, a car service provider from northeast Delhi, said, "Those who voted in favour of BJP did not do so for the goodwill of Manoj Tiwari, as he has barely done any work; it's because of Modi's brand appeal." He expressed hope that Tiwari would address issues like mosquitoes, waste management and drinking water in his third term.

Other influential Muslim-dominated areas in Delhi include Chandni Chowk, Matia Mahal and Ballimaran assembly constituencies in Chandni Chowk Lok Sabha constituency, which recorded voting percentages of 56.8%, 67.20%, and 64.7%, respectively. In East Delhi constituency, Okhla, a Muslim-dominated area, recorded a voting percentage of 52.2%.

Many minority community members attributed the impact on results to the lower voting percentage in Delhi vis-à-vis the 2019 and 2014 Lok Sabha elections. Sarim Ullah, a shopkeeper in Ballimaran, said that due to the blistering heat, many women did not step out to cast their votes.

S Khan, a local from Matia Mahal, said that safety and security were the primary concerns for voters in his neighbourhood. "We wanted a govt that treats everyone equally, besides providing security. The results were a setback for us, but I think if the voting percentage had been high, then Congress would have won the seat easily," he said.

In East Delhi constituency, Naseem, a 33-year-old resident, hoped for the AAP candidate to win, citing the party's work in providing free bus rides for women and water and electricity for all. Shareef Ahmad, a resident of Govindpuri in south Delhi, said the candidates who won had the support of the public and that INDIA bloc gave a tough fight to BJP across the country.

Rajesh Mehta



LEFT DISAPPOINTED: Muslim voters showed up, but it didn't show up in Delhi's results

With inputs for stories from Anuja Jaiswal, Kushagra Dixit, Siddhanta Mishra, Ridhima Gupta and Shreya Ghosh



Margins Go South, But South Hry Stays With BJP

Inderjit hits super six in Gurgaon, beats Raj Babbar in close contest

Cong wins 5 seats; farmers' discontent and Agnipath take a toll on BJP's tally

RaoJaswantSingh
@timesgroup.com

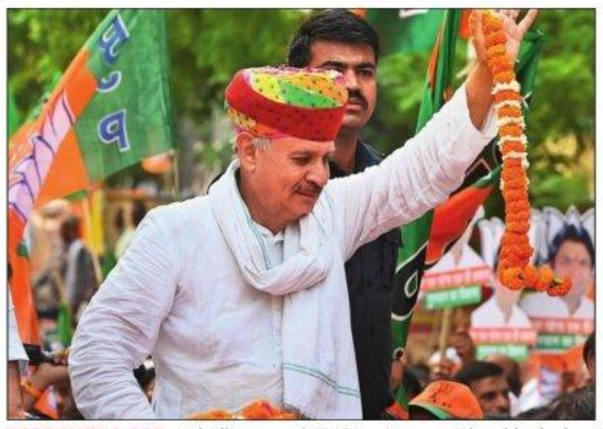
Vinay Gupta
Bagish.Jha@timesgroup.com

Gurgaon: After a suspense that stretched well into the afternoon, BJP's Rao Inderjit Singh defeated his nearest rival – actor-politician Raj Babbar of Congress – by more than 75,000 votes.

This marked his sixth win as MP and fourth from Gurgaon since it became a Lok Sabha seat in 2008. His victory margin, however, came down drastically from 4 lakh in 2019. The day began with the numbers inclined towards Babbar. The Congress candidate maintained a steady lead of 30,000-40,000 till 2pm, after which the tables turned towards Rao Inderjit. By the end of the day, the BJP veteran had secured 75,079 votes more than his rival.

Of the 16 lakh-odd votes that were polled in Gurgaon, Rao Inderjit bagged over 8 lakh while Babbar had 7.3 lakh votes in his kitty. Officials said the Congress candidate took the lead in the morning as votes from Nuh were counted first. Babbar maintained a lead for 6 hours straight as he bagged a majority of votes from the three assembly constituencies of Nuh – Punhana, Ferozpur Jhirka and Nuh.

In the morning, when Babbar was leading by around 40,000 votes, he said in Rewari, "This is a decision of the people. And it's the people who are leading."



NARROWING GAP: Inderjit secured 75,079 votes more than his rival

However, when the trends started trickling in from Gurgaon and Badshapur, the tally inclined towards Rao Inderjit. Barring Nuh, he managed a decent lead from other seats.

According to reports, the BJP candidate's performance was not up to the mark in Pataudi, Rewari and Bawal, which was against the party's expectations. Political analysts said BJP's lead in Gurgaon proved residents gave preference to national issues over local ones, such as the state's unemployment rate, civic infrastructure and others.

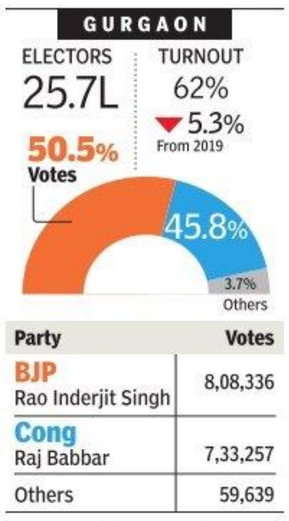
Through its campaign, Congress reached out to voters on local issues and hoped to capitalise on the anti-incumbency sentiment, particularly among farmers and members of the Jat community. BJP spoke on national topics and achievements of the Modi govt at the Centre.

In the Ahirwal region, considered a stronghold for Rao Inderjit, there was discontent with the govt over Agnipath, the short-term Army recruitment scheme. Most youths, who grow up hoping to join the Army some day, said their dreams were shattered with the govt's decision.

Launched in June 2022, the Agnipath scheme has reduced the service period for new joinees to just four years. Agniveers – as youths would be called after joining the force – would not get any additional post-retirement benefits either.

The short-term scheme has reverberated through the campaign in the region, with Congress vowing to scrap it and BJP promising a review to offer best opportunities to youngsters. The other candidates — JJP's Rahul Yadav Fazilpuria, Vijay Khatana of BSP and Sorab Khan of INLD — failed to make any impact. Singer Fazilpuria got 13,278 votes, Khatana bagged 8,946 and Khan garnered 4,917 votes. In 2019, Rao Inderjit had secured 8.8 lakh votes or 61% of the total from Gurgaon. He defeated Congress's Captain Ajay Singh Yadav, who received 4.9 lakh votes.

In the 2014 election, when Inderjit quit Congress and joined BJP, he trounced Zakir Hussain of INLD by 2.7 lakh votes, which was over 20% of the total votes in the seat. That year, BJP secured a vote share of 48.8% in the seat.



Party	Votes
BJP Rao Inderjit Singh	8,08,336
Cong Raj Babbar	7,33,257
Others	59,639

Gurgaon: BJP lost considerable ground in the state – failing to replicate its performance in 2014 and 2019, when it bagged all 10 seats – but managed to hold on to the three south Haryana constituencies of Gurgaon, Faridabad, and Bhiwani-Mahendragarh.

Congress gave BJP a tough fight, winning 5 seats – Rohtak, Hisar, Sirsa, Ambala and Sonipat. Apart from the three seats in the south, BJP secured Karnal and Kurukshetra in the north.

While BJP managed to retain the three south Haryana seats, its victory margin nosedived. Rao Inderjit Singh of BJP defeated Congress candidate Raj Babbar by 75,079 votes in Gurgaon. In 2019, Rao Inderjit had trounced Congress's Ajay Singh Yadav by 3.9 lakh votes.

In Bhiwani-Mahendragarh, Chaudhary Dharambir Singh won against Congress's Rao Dan Singh by 41,510 votes. In 2019, he had won by a margin of 4.4 lakh votes against Congress rival Shruti Chaudhary.

In Faridabad, Krishan Pal Gurjar won by more than 1.7 lakh votes against Mahender Pratap Singh of Congress. In the last election, Gurjar had defeated Congress's Avtar Singh Bhadana by 6.4 lakh votes.

Despite an apparent discontent against local MPs, BJP had decided to go ahead with old-timers in south Haryana – Rao Inderjit from Gurgaon, Gurjar in Faridabad, and Dharambir Singh from Bhiwani-Mahendragarh. They were among 4 sitting MPs across the state on whom the party had reposed faith.

BJP candidate Arvind Sharma, who had won from Rohtak the last time, lost by 3.4 lakh votes against Deepender Singh Hooda, the son of Congress veteran and former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

So, what went against BJP this time?

Sources in the party admitted there was a discontent among people against the state govt, particularly among farmers and members of the Jat community.

"Yes, farmers and rural voters drifted away from the party, but those in urban areas aligned with us. Urban voters played a big role in BJP's win in Gurgaon and Faridabad," said a BJP functionary.

Agnipath, the govt's short-term Army recruitment scheme that left many youths unhappy because of the reduced job tenure, also had an impact on the results.

In Kosi – which is in Rewari but part of the Rohtak Lok Sabha seat – Congress bagged a lead of a few thousand votes this time. In 2019, Kosi had voted overwhelmingly for BJP.

Arvind Saini, the media in-charge of BJP in the state, accused the opposition parties of spreading a false narrative against the govt.

"Despite all of this, we retained half the seats after being in power for 10 years," he added.



VICTORY BEATS: BJP supporters celebrate Rao Inderjit's win in Gurgaon

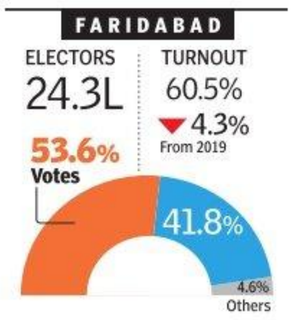
BJP's Gurjar makes it a three-peat in Faridabad

Vishakha.Chaman
@timesgroup.com

Faridabad: BJP candidate Krishan Pal Gurjar secured a third consecutive victory in the Lok Sabha elections, defeating Mahender Pratap Singh of Congress by a margin of 1,72,914 votes. From the outset, Gurjar maintained a steady lead throughout the counting process, emerging victorious with a total of 7,88,569 votes, while his main rival Singh secured 6,15,655 votes, which accounted for 41.8% of the total votes cast.

However, compared to his resounding victory in 2019 – when he won by 6,38,239 votes – the incumbent MP's winning margin witnessed a significant decline. His vote share dropped from an impressive 68.68% in 2019 elections to 53.6% in the 2024 contest. Gurjar (67) had won the 2014 elections by a margin of 4.6 lakh votes. Faridabad seat covers two districts, Faridabad and Palwal. The nine assembly segments include Hathin, Hodal, Palwal, Prithla, Faridabad NIT, Badkhal, Faridabad, Ballabgarh and Tigaon.

People have voted for development and good governance, Gurjar said, adding he is committed to delivering on these promises. "As I embark on my third term, I pledge to work to address the needs and aspirations of people. I will dedicate myself to implementing initiatives that improve the lives of every citizen, ensuring that no one is left behind," he said.



Party	Votes
BJP Krishan Pal Gurjar	7,88,569
Cong Mahender Pratap	6,15,655
Others	74,558

BJP GAINS IN NCR EVEN AS PARTY LOSES GRIP IN UP

It's a hat-trick for Sharma in GB Nagar, victory margin of 5.6L biggest in state

Shafaque.Alam
@timesgroup.com

Noida: BJP's Mahesh Sharma secured his third win from Gautam Budh Nagar, leading by a margin of 5.6 lakh votes – the highest among the 80 seats in UP and over three times the 1.5 lakh victory margin of Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Varanasi.

Sharma secured 8.6 lakh votes, about 59.7% of the 1,437,244 votes cast in the NCR constituency, to better his performances in the last two elections — he won the Lok Sabha polls by a margin of 2.8 lakh votes in 2014 and by 3.4 lakh votes in 2019.

SP's Mahendra Nagar finished second with nearly 3 lakh votes, which is 20.8% of the vote share, while BSP's RS Solanki bagged 2.5 lakh votes (17.5%). Twelve other candidates, including four Independents, were in the fray but none of them could garner more than 4,000 votes. NOTA accounted for fourth largest share of votes at 10,324.

Ramesh Sharma



IT GETS BETTER: Mahesh Sharma meets supporters after the win

Sharma maintained a consistent lead since the counting began. Till 10 am, he had cornered 73,925 votes compared to Nagar's 27,279 and Solanki's 18,108. By noon, Sharma's margin widened to 3.3 lakh, while Nagar was still at 1.15 lakh and Solanki at 78,682. By 5 pm, Sharma took a formidable lead of more than 5 lakh votes.

Sharma's win underscores his firm hold in the region and highlights the sustained support for the BJP in both urban and semi-urban areas.

Sharma told **TOI** that the huge victory margin reflected the love and affection the people showered on him.

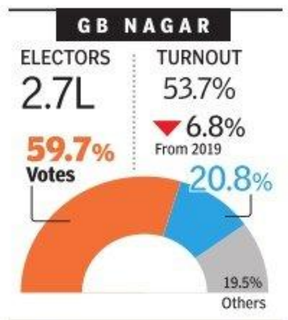
"I congratulate the people and party workers for their unprecedented love and support for letting the lotus (the party's symbol) bloom under the able leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. I am overwhelmed by your love and affection. We will together make a strong and developed Gautam Budh Nagar," he posted on X (formerly Twitter).

Sharma began his political journey as a grassroots worker but rose through the ranks quickly. He contested the Lok Sabha election from GB Nagar in 2009 and secured 2.3 lakh votes but lost to BSP's Surendra Nagar by 16,000 votes. In 2012, he won the assembly elections from Noida with 77,226 votes, defeating BSP's Omdutt Sharma, who secured 49,582 votes.

In 2014, riding the 'Modi wave', Sharma cornered 5,99,702 votes, defeating SP's Narendra Bhati, who garnered over 3 lakh votes. Sharma served as the MoS (independent) culture and tourism in Narendra Modi's cabinet.

In 2019, Sharma was polled 8,30,812 votes to defeat his nearest rival, BSP's Satveer Nagar, by a 3.4 lakh margin.

SP's national spokesperson Pradeep Bhati said despite the party's poor show in GB Nagar, it made gains across UP — with 37 seats, SP put its best Lok Sabha performance in the state, while Congress won six seats (its vote share rising from 6.5% to nearly 10%. "The INDIA alliance has got a lot of support from people who are badly affected by the policies of the Modi govt. It will not be easy for the BJP to form the govt," Bhati said.



Party	Votes
BJP Mahesh Sharma	8,57,829
SP Mahendra Nagar	2,98,357
Others	2,81,058

Saffron run unbroken in Gzb as Garg cruises: 'Faced dissent, misinformation but all well now'

Abhijay.Jha@timesgroup.com

Ghaziabad: BJP's Atul Garg defeated his nearest rival – Dolly Sharma of Congress – by a margin of over 3.3 lakh votes, securing over 58% of the total votes polled.

It's also the party's third biggest victory margin in the state after Mahesh Sharma's 5.6 lakh from GB Nagar and Rahul Gandhi's 3.9 lakh from Rae Bareli.

This marked the fourth consecutive win for BJP in Ghaziabad, considered a "safe seat" for the party.

Since 2009, when Ghaziabad was carved out of Hapur after delimitation, BJP has never lost a general election from there.

Garg (66), who has held the Ghaziabad assembly seat twice — in 2017 and 2022 — thanked party workers and PM Modi, who held a roadshow in the city to campaign for him.

Umesh Kumar



NO SURPRISES

"Through my campaign, I kept telling the electorate that I am seeking votes in the name of Narendra Modi. I owe my victory to Modi ji and party workers," he said.

Garg – who replaced VK Singh as the candidate this time – said he faced a lot of discontent among voters, particularly among the Rajputs who were unhappy with the party as few members from the community were given tickets.

"This win is personally relieving for me. A lot of misinformation was spread against me by the opposition. I battled dissent as well. But as they say, all's well that ends well. NDA, under Modi ji, is set to create history by forming the govt the third time in a row," he added.

Garg, who maintained his lead from the first round itself, bagged 8.5 lakh votes by the end of the 62nd round. Dolly Sharma of Congress – the INDIA Bloc candidate – secured 5.2 lakh votes. She secured 35.2% of the total votes polled while Garg bagged over 58%.

"Honestly speaking, I was hopeful of a win this time. I had worked hard for it. But even in defeat, I can say this is Congress's best performance in years. It was a battle well-fought," she said.

In the last Lok Sabha polls of 2019, Sharma managed just 7% of the votes polled and lost to VK Singh, emerging third.

BSP's Nand Kishor Pundir ended up with a little over 75,000 votes.

"At least we tried. The final verdict, however, rests with 'janta janardan'. We respect their decision," he said.

Apart from BJP, Congress and BSP candidates, there were 11 more nominees in the fray from the seat.

At 0.47%, their combined vote share was even lower than that of NOTA, which accounted for 0.5% of the total votes polled. All of them had their deposits forfeited.

Party	Votes
BJP Atul Garg	8,54,170
Cong Dolly Sharma	5,17,205
Others	99,055

3 TAKES FROM WINNERS

Rao Inderjit Singh | Gurgaon

What do you have to say to voters?
I want to thank the people of Gurgaon and Ahirwal for showing trust in me and giving me a sixth term as MP. I also want them to be prepared for upcoming assembly elections
What is your main focus for the next term?
I will complete pending development projects that could not be completed in the previous term and focus on issues that need to be addressed
One promise you'll make to voters right now
I promise people of my constituency that I will be available for them and work for their betterment

Krishan Pal Gurjar | Faridabad

What do you have to say to voters?
People have once again put their faith in the leadership of PM Narendra Modi and BJP. This victory is a testament to voters' desire for development and good governance
What is your main focus for the next term?
Will prioritise development and effective governance. Primary objectives will be to improve infrastructure, ensure a cleaner Faridabad, create jobs and improve city's connectivity
One promise you'll make to voters right now
Voters have placed their faith in my abilities and vision. I am deeply humbled by this trust, and I am committed to working tirelessly to meet their expectations

Mahesh Sharma | Gautam Budh Nagar

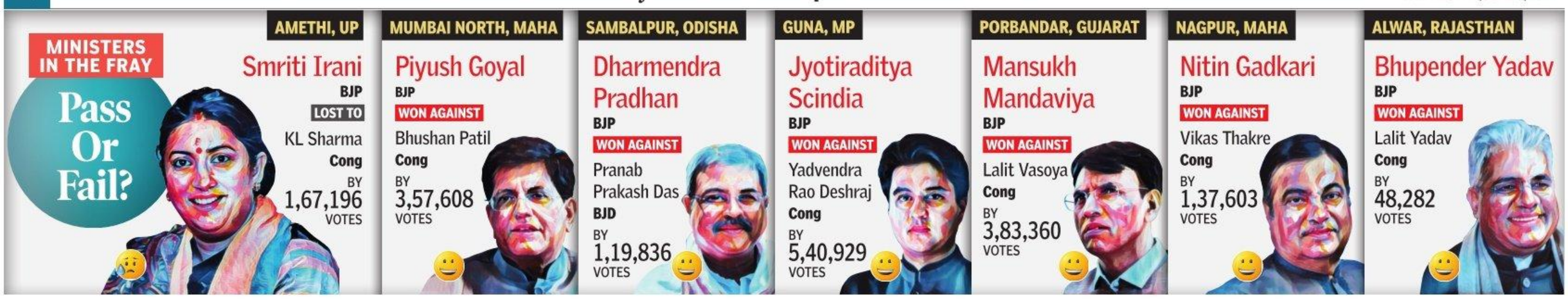
What do you have to say to voters?
The 5.6 lakh victory margin reflects their love and affection. But this was expected as we have done a lot of development work in the district. I express my gratitude to the people
What is your main focus for the next term?
The Lok Sabha election results have just been declared. We will sit together soon and discuss our priorities and development issues for the next term
One promise you'll make to voters right now
It will be premature to comment, but builder-buyer issues, pollution and farmers' demands are important, and we will address them at the earliest

Photo: Umesh Kumar



Atul Garg | Ghaziabad

What do you have to say to voters?
Dhanyavad (thank you). I will strive to make India and the district 'Viksit Rashtra' and 'Viksit Ghaziabad'
What is your main focus for the next term?
Will take up unfinished projects, including international stadium and metro extension. Efforts will be made to start more flight services from the Hindon civil terminal
One promise you'll make to voters right now
I will be with the people day and night. As their representative, I will take up local issues in the parliament and coordinate with the Centre and ministries too



Change Rides On SP's Cycle

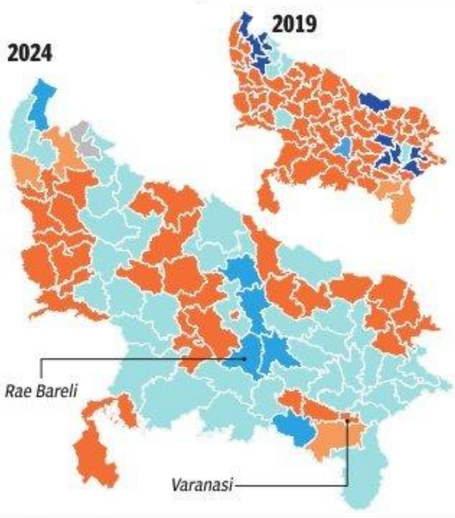
SP-Cong Bag 43, Limit BJP+ To Just 36; BSP Decimated

TEAM TOI

Lucknow: In a stunning setback to NDA in UP, SP-Congress combine won 43 Lok Sabha seats, restricting BJP and its allies to just 36 which was a loss of 28 seats compared to the 64 seats that NDA won in 2019. BJP vote share dropped from 49.97% in 2019 to just over 41% this time.

SP and Congress won 37 and 6 seats, respectively — a significant rise of 37 seats than in 2019 when the two had together won six seats.

Smriti Irani was among the seven Union ministers who lost in the state. Irani's loss to Gandhi family loyalist KL Sharma in Amethi by a margin of over 1.6 lakh votes evinced keen interest as she had defeated Rahul Gandhi in this seat last time by over 55,000 votes.



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	33	62	41.4	50.0
RLD	2	0	1.0	1.7
Apna Dal	1	2	0.9	1.2
SP	37	5	33.6	18.1
Congress	6	1	9.5	6.4
BSP	0	10	9.4	19.4
Others	1	0	4.2	3.2

While PM Narendra Modi and defence minister Rajnath Singh saw their victory margins falling, Rahul won by over 3.9 lakh votes. SP won all five seats from where members of the Yadav first family contested — Kannauj (Akhilesh Yadav), Mainpuri (Dimple Yadav), Badaun (Aditya Yadav), Farrukhabad (Akshay Yadav) and Azamgarh (Dharmendra Yadav).

SP's emphatic win was a perceptible increase compared to 2019 when the party, in alliance with BSP, could win only five seats.

Congress, too, sprung a surprise by winning six seats including both its stronghold of Rae Bareli and Amethi. Congress also won from Saharanpur after a gap of 40 years.

Nagina was won by Azad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) chief Chandrashekhar Azad, in a development that endorsed his political rise in west UP. At the same time, Mayawati-led BSP faced a complete decimation with its vote share dipping from over 19% in 2019 to just around 9% this time, turning the spotlight back on the Dalit outfit's sharply plunging political relevance in UP.

BJP ally RLD managed to win its two seats of Baghpat and Bijnor, thereby coming back to national politics after its two consecutive decimations in the previous two Lok Sabha polls at the hands BJP.

But BJP's other ally Apna Dal could retain only one seat, Mirzapur, from where Union minister Anupriya Patel won. Two other allies, SPSP and NISHAD party, lost in Ghosi and Sant Kabir Nagar, respectively.

SP vote share increased from 18.11% in 2019 — it had then contested on 37 seats — to over 33% this time when it contested on 62 seats. The increase was essentially because of the comprehensive consolidation of Muslims behind the alliance. SP is also reported to have received the support of a section of OBCs and Dalits who had drifted away from BSP and BJP.

SP's significantly improved tally bolstered its position as BJP's main rival in Uttar Pradesh, in what could potentially set a poll narrative in the run-up to the 2027 UP polls.

With 11 seats, desert state helps INDIA quench thirst

TEAM TOI

Jaipur: Rajasthan's Lok Sabha mandate Tuesday defied predictions to dash BJP's hopes of making a clean sweep of the desert state's 25 Lok Sabha seats for the third consecutive election.

Congress, along with its INDIA bloc partners, won 11 seats to not only dent BJP's ambitions but also prove wrong exit poll projections that had given the saffron party around 20 seats.

While BJP was restricted to 14 seats, Congress snagged eight, just over six months after the saffron party unseated the erstwhile the Ashok Gehlot govt in the assembly polls. INDIA bloc partners won in Sikar (CPM's Amra Ram), Banswara (BAP's Rajkumar Roat) and Nagaur (RLP's Hanuman Beniwal).

BJP's vote share dipped from 59.1% in 2019 to 49.2%, reflecting the party's sudden slide after a strong showing in the assembly polls.

Anti-incumbency against sitting MPs, the supposedly underwhelming performance of the new state govt and Congress's poll campaign focused on safeguarding the Constitution and SC-ST reservations are being cited as the decisive factors in the poll.

Victory margins of Congress in six of the eight seats it won was less than a lakh votes each. Also, most of the seats that Congress and its allies won had voted in Phase-I on April 19.

Among the Phase-II seats, which went to polls on April 26, Congress won Tonk-Sawai Madhopur and Barmer, while BAP got Banswara. PM Modi's "mangalsutra" remark criticising Congress's wealth redistribution promise was first heard at a rally in Banswara on April 24.

Union minister Kailash Choudhary lost badly from Barmer, finishing third. Congress candidate Ummedaram Beniwal defeated independent candidate and sitting Sheo MLA Ravindra Singh Bhati by 1.2 lakh votes from here.

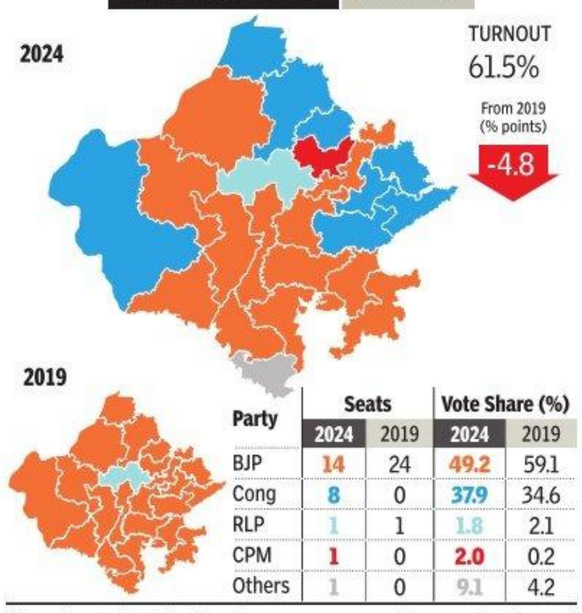
Union ministers Bhupendra Yadav (Alwar) and Arjun Ram Meghwal (Bikaner) won by slim margins, while Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Jodhpur) recorded a convincing victory by 1.1 lakh votes. Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla won Kota by around 42,000 votes.

BJP's loss in Bharatpur, which is CM Bhajan Lal Sharma's home turf, left the saffron brigade perplexed. There, Congress greenhorn Sanjana Jatav defeated former MP Ramswaroop Koli of BJP by nearly 52,000 votes.

East Rajasthan saw a strong performance from Congress. The party also did well in north and northeast Rajasthan, winning Ganganagar, Churu and Jhunjhunu. In west Rajasthan, Congress won Barmer, but former CM Gehlot's son, Vaibhav, lost Jalore by over 2 lakh votes.

BJP's Mahima Kumari Mewar had the biggest win margin, defeating Congress's Damodar Gurjar by 3.9 lakh votes in Rajsamand. The closest contest was for Jaipur Rural, where BJP's Rao Rajendra Singh defeated Congress's Anil Chopra by 1,615 votes.

Ex-CM Gehlot wrote on X, "The first phase of voting in Rajasthan sent a message to the entire country that the dictatorial nature of this government can be fought against. The wave that started in the first phase in Rajasthan reached the entire country. India alliance winning double digit seats in Rajasthan shows that the public felt that despite good schemes and good governance, BJP misled people and took votes and formed the government (in Rajasthan). I think that as a kind of atonement, the public has taught BJP a lesson (in LS polls)."



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	14	24	49.2	59.1
Cong	8	0	37.9	34.6
RLP	1	1	1.8	2.1
CPM	1	0	2.0	0.2
Others	1	0	9.1	4.2

Minority report: 4/4 for SP's Muslim picks

TEAM TOI

Lucknow: All four Samajwadi Party (SP) Muslim candidates fielded came out with flying colours despite facing tough BJP competition as the community voted en bloc in favour of the Akhilesh Yadav-led party as well as his INDIA ally Congress.

SP fielded just four Muslims in a bid to shrug off its image as a party of Muslims and Yadavs (MY). This was against 20 put into the fray by BSP. The pattern was so stark that the 20 BSP candidates not only failed to win but managed to get a very small share of votes. The four SP Muslim winners were Iqra Hasan (Kairana), Mohinullah Nadvi (Rampur), Zia Ur Rehman (Sambhal) and Afzal Ansari (Ghazipur).

The outcome this time is a far cry from not too long ago when Muslims were seen as a deciding factor on at least a dozen seats of BJP-governed UP's 80 Lok Sabha seats.

Then came a stage when BJP managed to bring most castes under Hindutva umbrella, rendering minorities' votes almost redundant. The state's 19% Muslim population was regarded by many as fragmented "tactical voters" who would vote for anyone in a position to defeat the saffron party.

That pattern has snapped this time, with Muslims managing to break the two moulds and voting as a homogeneous entity for SP and INDIA bloc, irrespective of the candidate.

THE GAME CHANGERS

As per the exit polls assessments available in public domain, 87% of the Muslim votes polled went to the INDIA bloc across the state which reflected a massive increase of 38% from 2019 polls. Most of these voters — 34% to be precise — were those who voted for BSP in the last parliamentary polls. The exit polls found that only 2% of the Muslim votes went to BSP, down from 36% in 2019. The exit poll has also found that against the 12% Muslim votes that went to BJP in the last Lok Sabha elections, this time only 6% went to the saffron party.

BJP made Muslims a large part of its 2024 Lok Sabha campaign, with various party leaders and even Prime Minister Narendra Modi asking the community to vote keeping in mind the future of the generations to come. In UP, the coming together of Congress and SP worked to consolidate the community votes in a big way. The growing perception in the community that Mayawati had sided with BJP, only helped the opposition alliance better.

In 2019 LS polls, 6 Muslims made it to Parliament, three of whom were from Mayawati's party —Danish Ali (Amroha: BSP), Afzal Anasari (Ghazipur: BSP) and Fazlur Rehman (Saharanpur: BSP).

HILL STATES DO NOT CHANGE COLOUR

Kings & queen in all 4 HP seats swear by saffron

TEAM TOI

Shimla: The "Modi factor" appears to have done the trick once again for BJP in Himachal Pradesh, making it a hat-trick of victories for the party in all four Lok Sabha seats.

After failing to open its account in the 2014 and 2019 LS polls, the governing Congress's hopes of victory were dashed a third time.



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	4	4	56.4	69.7
Cong	0	0	41.7	27.5
Oths	0	0	1.9	2.8

Despite both the CM and deputy CM being from Hamirpur, Congress could not win this LS seat, nor could it win Shimla seat despite half the cabinet hailing from here.

Failure to pit a strong candidate against BJP's Anurag Thakur, who was contesting his fifth consecutive election from Hamirpur Lok Sabha seat, cost the governing party.

Congress had initially planned to field deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri and his daughter, Aastha Agnihotri, but they refused, citing family reasons. There was also speculation that CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's wife would contest, but the party finally settled on former Una MLA Satpal Raizada.

Congress's attempt to make Agniveer, the old pension scheme and expansion of the rail network as election issues did not help it against BJP.

Saffron candidate Kangana Ranaut won in Mandi. Congress politicians had targeted her on the "beef" issue but it seems BJP's slogan "Mandi ki Beti" and Modi's defence of her worked in her favour, as did support from women voters.

Congress candidate and state PWD minister Vikramaditya Singh, son of the late former CM Virbhadra Singh and state Congress president Pratibha Singh, could not cash in on the "royal" factor or developmental works carried out by his late father in Mandi Lok Sabha area.

BJP had relied on sitting MP Suresh Kashyap by fielding him once again from Shimla, while Congress had fielded Kasauli MLA Vinod Sultanpuri, whose father, the late KD Sultanpuri, had won this seat six times. But Kashyap managed to win.

In Kangra, after BJP denied a ticket to sitting MP Kishan Kapoor, who had won the 2019 LS election by 4,77,623 votes, and fielded Rajeev Bhardwaj from this seat, Congress was hoping to win and had fielded former Union minister Anand Sharma. But BJP managed to counter Sharma by projecting Bhardwaj as a "son of the soil". Kangra's voters were also not happy with the representation of the constituency in govt.

It's a five-star performance by BJP, and a hat-trick too

TEAM TOI

Dehradun: With a hat-trick of wins in Lok Sabha polls in Uttarakhand, BJP has consolidated its position further in the Himalayan state. It registered comfortable wins in all five seats of Garhwal, Haridwar, Nainital-Udham Singh Nagar, Tehri Garhwal and Almora.

In particular, the clinching of two crucial seats of Haridwar and Garhwal, where ex-CM Trivendra Singh Rawat and BJP's national spokesperson Anil Baluni were in the fray respectively, is being considered by analysts as the highlights of the win this time since Baluni was up against former state Congress chief Ganesh Godiyal (who put up a good fight) while Trivendra battled it out against ex-CM Harish Rawat's son Virender whose campaign was largely helmed by his father.



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	5	5	56.8	61.7
Cong	0	0	32.8	31.7
Oths	00	00	10.4	6.6

29-0: MP healer for BJP, horror for Cong

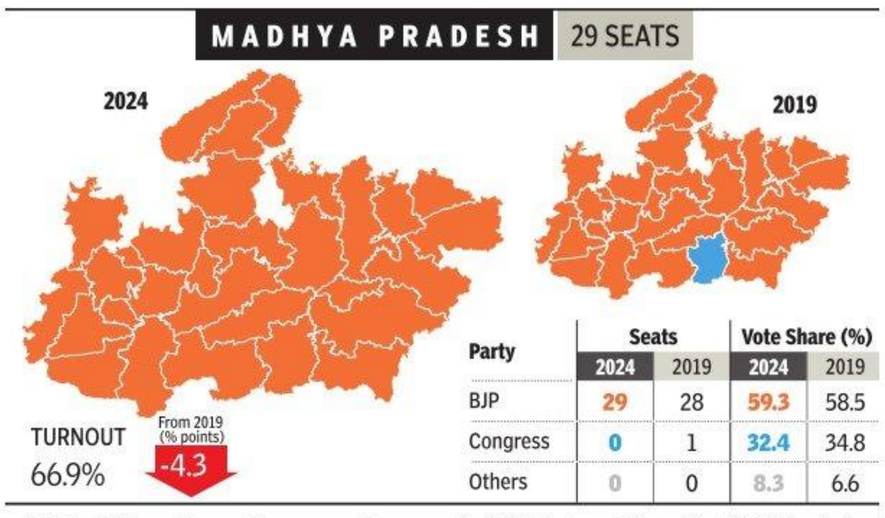
TEAM TOI

Bhopal: BJP may have suffered a bruising in UP, Maharashtra and Rajasthan, but the party has 29 reasons to celebrate in MP, the original saffron heartland.

BJP's slogan of "400 paar" had fizzled out by noon on Tuesday, but in MP the call for 29-0 was ringing out loud and clear. Even Congress' last bastion, Chhindwara, fell. MP has never proven its loyalty to BJP more emphatically. The victory margins said it all — the least was nearly 52,500 (Morena) and the highest was a record 11.7 lakh (Indore).

Indore made another record — 2.18 lakh votes for NOTA. "No choice" turned out to be Indore's second choice, making up 14% of votes cast.

For CM Mohan Yadav, propelled from the backbenches to the state's top post, the clean sweep comes as a morale booster. He will take all 29 newly elected party MPs to Delhi early Wednesday morning.



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	29	28	59.3	58.5
Congress	0	1	32.4	34.8
Others	0	0	8.3	6.6

While BJP workers celebrated across MP, there was silence in Congress offices. Never before has Congress been reduced to zero in MP. Its second-rung leaders were routed in the Nov 2023 assembly elections, and now the top leadership has been decimated. Digvijaya Singh, who didn't want to contest the 2024 election, suffered his second consecutive LS defeat — Bhopal in 2019 and Rajgarh in 2024. Nakul Nath lost Chhindwara, placing the Nath family political legacy at risk. Rumours in Feb of the Naths' possible switch to BJP — rumours that the father and son took their time denying — seem to have cost them dearly. Former Union minister and Congress' tribal face Kantilal Bhuria lost by over 2 lakh votes to BJP newcomer Anita Nagar Singh Chouhan.

"Thank you Chhindwara," CM Yadav tweeted.

Nath and Digvijaya — Congress' Jai and Veeru — are not riding into a glorious sunset.

It was a different story for BJP's stalwarts. From Shivraj Singh Chouhan to Jyotiraditya Scindia and VD Sharma, they won by massive margins.

Chouhan, who was denied a fifth term as CM, won by over 8.2 lakh votes, proving that "Mama" is still BJP's tallest leader in MP. After such an emphatic win, the BJP brass can longer ignore him. But a Union ministry berth may not be enough for BJP's longest serving CM, who is a six-time MP and former state party chief.

Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has made a comeback in Guna, his family seat, which he had lost to a former aide, KP Yadav, in 2019. BJP denied a ticket to Yadav and Scindia won by over 5.4 lakh votes, the highest ever on this seat. With this victory, he has strengthened his clout in the party he joined four years ago.

For Congress, it's a soul-shattering defeat. Its new state chief, Jitu Patwari, will be walking the razor's edge. MP sticks out as a sore thumb on a day Congress was celebrating elsewhere.

Guaranteed win? BJP scores 5th straight victory

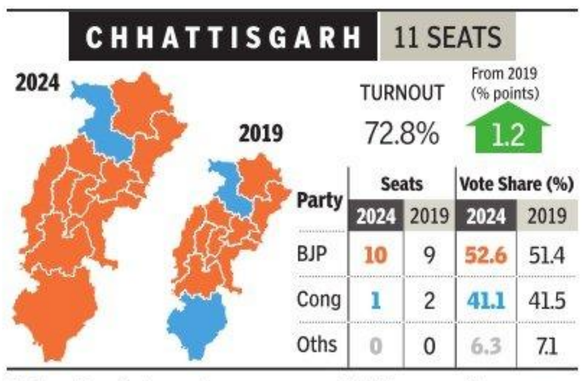
TEAM TOI

Raipur: Chhattisgarh has never disappointed BJP in Lok Sabha elections. It stood by it yet again on Saturday when the saffron camp was looking for numbers.

While neighbouring MP handed over all 29 seats to BJP, the saffron camp looked headed for victory in 10 of the 11 seats in Chhattisgarh at 9pm, Korba being the lone Congress victory.

BJP has always dominated in parliamentary polls in Chhattisgarh, winning 10 seats each in 2004, 2009 and 2014, and nine in 2019. Now, it's back to 10.

Chhattisgarh is a healing win for BJP after setbacks in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan, and also puts first-time chief minister Vishnu Deo Sai on a stronger footing. After unseating Congress in the assembly elections in Nov last year, the thumping Lok Sabha election results indicate that Sai, the state's first tribal CM, has succeeded in consolidating BJP's position and his own stature in the party.



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	10	9	52.6	51.4
Cong	1	2	41.1	41.5
Oths	0	0	6.3	7.1

Building on the momentum of the 2023 assembly polls, BJP won Naxal-hit Bastar and Kanker. In Bastar, BJP's Mahesh Kashyap defeated former Congress minister Kawasi Lakhma by over 55,000 votes. Kanker went down to the wire and BJP scraped through by 1,884 votes.

BJP's win in Bastar division is significant because it comes in the wake of the most sustained anti-Maoist offensive in two decades — 118 Maoists have been eliminated in just five months.

Former Congress CM Bhupesh Baghel, too, had to bite the dust in Rajnandgaon. He was trailing by over 44,400 votes against BJP sitting MP Santosh Pandey. On Monday, the eve of results, Baghel had alleged discrepancies in serial numbers of EVMs in Rajnandgaon, saying the numbers given by EC before voting didn't match with those on Form 17C.

In Raipur, minister Brijmohan Agrawal had an unassailable lead of over 5.2 lakh votes, and in Durg BJP sitting MP Vijay Baghel was leading his Congress rival by 4.2 lakh votes.

CM Sai thanked BJP workers for putting up a winning show. He admitted that NDA didn't meet expectations in some states but pointed out that it did exceptionally well in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. "Once again we are going to form govt under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said.

"Modi guarantee has resonated across the country. Beneficial schemes of the state and Centre have had a positive impact. Certainly, better results will be achieved in the future," he said.

State Congress president Deepak Baij acknowledged that the election results in Chhattisgarh did not meet their expectations but drew solace from INDIA bloc's strong show elsewhere.



Didi's Double Delight: Weak Centre, Weaker State Oppn

TEAM TOI

Kolkata: Bengal's voters gave BJP a feeble mandate in 2024 Lok Sabha elections, helping Trinamool Congress (TMC) contain the saffron party largely to its pockets of influence and giving CM Mamata Banerjee the double delight of a weakened Centre and a weaker opposition in the state.

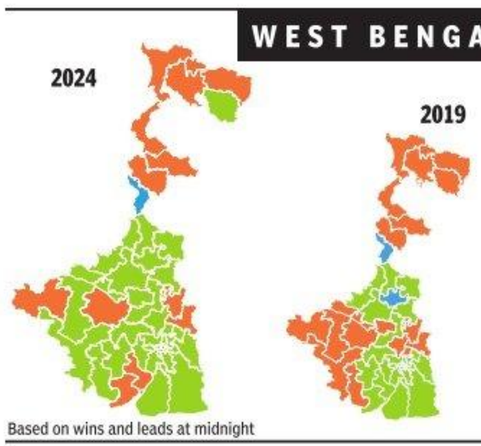
BJP won or led in 12 of 42 seats in Bengal — down from its 2019 tally of 18. Trinamool increased its count from 22 to 29. Congress managed to retain one of its bastions in Malda (South) but, in one of the biggest upsets of this election, old warhorse Adhir Chowdhury lost his Behrampore seat for the first time since 1999 to Trinamool newbie and former Team India cricketer Yusuf Pathan. Left Front, which fought as part of INDIA bloc, repeated its 2019 no-show in Bengal.

Trinamool increased its vote share from 43.7% in 2019 to 45.7%, while both BJP and Congress-LF combine saw theirs sliding. BJP slid from 40.6% to 38.7% and the combined Congress-LF vote share slipped from 13.2% to 10.3% this time.

BJP won Contai and Tamluk in East Midnapore, the home district of its state poll mascot, Suvendu Adhikari, by not-so-impressive margins, but saw two of its three Union ministers lose —

Subhas Sarkar in Bankura and Nisith Pramanik in Coochbehar. The third junior Union minister, Shantanu Thakur, won in Bongaon.

WEST BENGAL 42 SEATS



Based on wins and leads at midnight

TURNOUT 79.3% — From 2019 (% points) -2.5

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	12	18	38.7	40.6
TMC	29	22	45.8	43.7
Cong	1	2	4.7	5.7
Left	0	00	5.9	7.5
Others	0	00	4.9	2.5

Former state BJP chief Dilip Ghosh, too, lost in Burdwan-Durgapur, where he was shifted just before the election season from his old seat of Midnapore. The party, in the bargain, also lost Midnapore. BJP lost Barrackpore as well, where it fielded Arjun Singh. Voter confusion over his multiple flip-flops and which party he was representing this time may have played a part.

North Bengal and a few isolated pockets like Purulia, Bishnupur and Ranaghat gave BJP some comfort but, everywhere, the margin seemed to be coming down substantially.

Trinamool ticked all the boxes in this election. A large part of its impressive showing came from the support of women voters, who benefited from welfare schemes like Lakshmir Bhandar and Sabuj Sathi. Voters benefiting from Swasthya Sathi played a role, too.

BJP failed in almost all its



poll pitches. The Sandeshkhali narrative that it built during the start of the campaign seemed to have come apart after the release of sting videos, which showed local BJP functionaries admitting that women were coached to file rape complaints. BJP lost Basirhat and, more significantly, trailed in Sandeshkhali assembly segment.

Trinamool also thwarted BJP's CAA-NRC pitch, sowing apprehension and confusion among voters over how things would play out after they applied for Indian citizenship under CAA. BJP retained both Ranaghat and Bongaon — where Matuas are a substantial chunk — but appeared to be doing so with reduced margins.

BJP's last-ditch attempt to play the "appeasement" card against Trinamool failed to make any significant impact.

The Bengal campaign of PM Narendra Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah started with a focus on development and "Modi ki guarantee", but changed tracks midway, with an increased glare on Trinamool's "appeasement" politics. This preempted any chances of a large-scale split of Muslim votes between Trinamool and Congress-LF combine. Trinamool would have gained from the resultant Muslim vote consolidation, but there was no substantial Hindu vote consolidation to help BJP.

Trinamool successfully countered the last weapon in BJP's arsenal — "corruption" in the state administration — with an amplified message to voters that Centre was playing political vendetta in denying the state its share of funds.

TDP, JD(U) won't break INDIA: Didi

The LS poll results showed PM Modi had lost all credibility, and both he and Union home minister Amit Shah, should "resign on moral grounds", Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee said on Tuesday.

Extending support to INDIA bloc, she said she would "certainly help" in its bid to form govt. Mamata, however, said she would skip the INDIA bloc meeting on Wednesday.

She mocked BJP, saying the party now has to "beg" TDP and JD(U) to form govt. "I know them (Chandrababu Naidu and Nitish Kumar) very well. They won't break India," Mamata said. TNN

Written off, Nitish surprises all and equals BJP's dozen

TEAM TOI

Patna: Bihar CM Nitish Kumar-led JD(U) and BJP registered victories in 12 seats each as NDA won 30 of 40 Lok Sabha constituencies in Bihar, while the opposition INDIA bloc had to be content with nine and an independent won one to wrap up the count on Tuesday.

Among the other NDA partners, Chirag Paswan-led LJP (RV) took five, winning all the seats it contested, while former CM Jitan Ram Manjhi-led HAMS secured victory in one.

NDA lost nine seats compared to 2019, when the alliance steamrolled the opposition to win 39 seats, with Congress winning only Kishanganj. However, BJP had been relatively consistent in the state. The party had won 22 seats in 2014 and all the 17 it contested in 2019.

Among INDIA bloc allies, RJD won four seats, Congress three and CPI-ML (Liberation) two, while Pappu Yadav won in Purnea as an independent. The opposition alliance gained eight seats. This year, Congress added Katihar and Sasaram to its kitty, while retaining Kishanganj.

Union ministers Giriraj Singh and Nityanand Rai retained Begusarai and Ujiyarpur seats, respectively, but their central colleague and power minister RK Singh lost his traditional Ara seat to CPI-ML (Liberation)'s Sudama Prasad by around 60,000 votes.

Former CM Manjhi, who heads Hindustani Awam Morcha-Secular, succeeded in making his parliamentary debut at the age of 79, registering victory from the reserved seat of Gaya. However, NDA partner Upendra Kushwaha, a former Union minister who heads Rashtriya Lok Morcha, faced a humiliating defeat in Karakat.

LJP (RV) candidate Shambhavi, 25, won by a margin of more than 1.87 lakh votes. During his campaign in Bihar, Modi hailed Shambhavi as the "youngest candidate" in this year's LS polls.

At least four sitting MLAs — Manjhi (Imamganj), Surendra Yadav (Belaganj), Sudama Prasad (Tarari) and Sudhakar Singh (Ramgarh, Kaimur) — as well as one sitting RS member Misa Bharti has won. This will lead to bypolls to four assembly seats and one RS seat.



PTI

SONRISE: Chirag (seen here with his mother) proved with his party's decisive victory that he is the 'real' political heir of Ram Vilas Paswan

Chirag registers 100% strike rate

After over three years of struggle, LJP (Ram Vilas) president Chirag Paswan through his decisive victory has finally proved he is the "real" political heir of his father Ram Vilas Paswan, who died in Oct 2020.By winning all the five LS seats his party was allotted in the NDA alliance, Chirag has not only maintained LJP's previous track record of keeping 100% strike rate but also established that he is the new Dalit icon on the political landscape of Bihar. In 2019 polls, LJP under Ram Vilas had won all the six seats that were allotted to the party under the seat--sharing pact. Everyone was surprised when BJP allotted five seats to Chirag's party while sparing none to his rival faction Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party, headed by his uncle Pashupati Kumar Paras. TNN

Rudy's third win against Lalu kin

Former Union minister Rajiv Pratap Rudy scored a hattrick for BJP in Saran by defeating Lalu Prasad's daughter Rohini Acharya by over 13,000 votes, each time getting the better of a member of RJD chief's extended family. Neither Rohini — popularly as "kidney girl" for having donated one of her kidneys to her ailing father around two years ago — nor anyone in her circles had anticipated that her poll debut would turn out to be baptism by fire. In 2014, Rudy had defeated Lalu's wife and former Bihar CM Rabri Devi by 41,000 votes. Five years later, Rudy widened the gap, beating former state minister and RJD nominee Chandrika Rai by nearly 1.4 lakh votes. Rai is the father-in-law of Lalu's eldest son and ex-minister Tej Pratap Yadav. Lalu had defeated Rudy in 2004 and 2009. TNN

Manipur & 3 N-E states dump NDA

TEAM TOI

Guwahati: NDA experienced setbacks in the North-east, losing three seats from its 2019 LS tally while Congress saw a resurgence in the region once considered its bastion. Of the seven LS seats Congress won in the region, Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra had traversed through six.

NDA's biggest dent was in trouble-torn Manipur, where Congress defeated BJP in Meitei-dominated Inner Manipur and its ally NPF in the tribal-majority outer Manipur.

In Mizoram, ZPM wrested the lone seat. In Nagaland, Congress trumped NDPP-BJP, winning the lone seat despite not having a single MLA. In Meghalaya, NDA partner NPP lost to Voice of the People Party in Shillong and to Congress in CM Conrad Sangma's home seat Tura, where his sister and sitting MP Agatha Sangma lost.

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma blamed leaders of a particular religion for NDA losses in Nagaland and Meghalaya.

NORTHEAST

States		BJP	BJP+	Cong	Oth
Arunachal Pradesh (2 seats)	'24	2			
	'19	2			
Meghalaya (2 seats)	'24			1	1 VOTPP
	'19		1 NPP	1	
Manipur (2 seats)	'24			2	0 NPF
	'19	1	1 NPF		
Tripura (2 seats)	'24	2			
	'19	2			
Nagaland (1 seat)	'24			1	0 NDPP
	'19		1 NDPP		
Mizoram (1 seat)	'24				1 ZPM
	'19				1 MNF
Sikkim (1 seat)	'24				1 SKM
	'19				1 SKM

Himanta doffs hat to Cong hero Rakibul

TEAM TOI

Guwahati: NDA secured victory in 11 of Assam's 14 Lok Sabha seats, increasing its tally of 2019 by two, leaving the remaining three for Congress. The election results Tuesday sprang two significant surprises — the exit of AIUDF chief Badruddin Ajmal and the return of regional party and NDA partner AGP to LS after 10 years.

CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said that no party governing Assam had ever won these many Lok Sabha seats in the state. "Not even (former CM) Tarun Gogoi could achieve this feat," he said.

According to the CM, the biggest victory in the state belonged to Rakibul Hussain of Congress, who defeated Ajmal in Dhubri by 1,012,476 votes. "He has finished with the highest winning margin in the country and so he is the hero of the day," Sarma said.

ASSAM 14 SEATS



Note: LS seat boundaries were redrawn in Assam last year following delimitation; figures till midnight

TURNOUT 81.6% — From 2019 (% points) -0.04

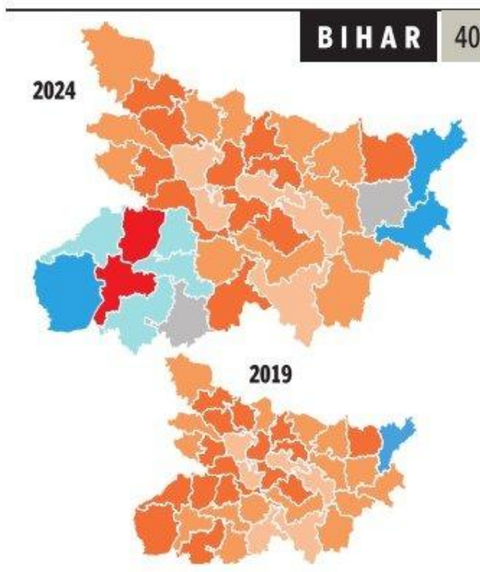
Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	9	9	37.4	36.4
AGP	1	0	6.5	8.3
UPPL	1	0	2.4	2.3
AIUDF	0	1	3.1	7.9
Cong	3	3	37.5	35.8
Oths	0	1	13.1	9.3

BJP's tally, however, remained stagnant at nine, the same number of seats it had won in 2019. Congress, too, failed to increase its tally of three from the last election.

Sarma said NDA's overall vote share in the state climbed to nearly 46%, "a huge jump from the 39% we secured in 2019 Lok Sabha and 44% in 2021 assembly elections". He said: "This we have achieved despite the state having a 40% minority population."

BJP lost two of the 11 seats it had contested, Nagaon and Jorhat, both going to Congress. BJP's biggest defeat was in Jorhat where party MP Tapan Gogoi lost to Gaurav Gogoi, son of Tarun Gogoi. Gaurav shifted to Jorhat after his constituency, Koliabor, ceased to exist due to delimitation last year. "This is a victory for democracy and a blessing for young voters," Gaurav said.

BIHAR 40 SEATS



TURNOUT 56.2% — From 2019 (% points) -1.1

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	12	17	20.5	24.1
JD(U)	12	16	18.5	22.3
LJP (RV)	5	6	6.5	8.0
RJD	4	0	22.1	15.7
Cong	3	1	9.2	7.9
LEFT	2	0	5.2	2.2
Others	2	0	18	13.7

Nine not fine: Single digit for NDA, tribals back INDIA

TEAM TOI

Ranchi: The diminishing Modi magic was reflected in Jharkhand as the BJP-led NDA managed nine Lok Sabha seats out of 14 in the state: BJP won eight and its alliance partner, Ajsu Party, retained its single seat.

The INDIA bloc, on the other hand, increased its tally to five from two in 2019. All the tribal reserved seats went to the INDIA bloc, with analysts saying the ED action against JMM working president and former CM Hemant Soren did not go down well with tribal voters. JMM won Dumka, Singhbhum and Rajmahal seats; it was successful in tapping tribal sentiment as the BJP-led govt at the Centre refused to include a separate Sarna Code in the census register.

The Sarna Code refers to a proposal for a separate religious code for tribal communities in India who follow Sarna, or nature worship.

BJP had fielded Shibu Soren's elder daughter-in-law, Sita Soren, from Dumka, but she was defeated by JMM's Nalin Soren by 22,527 votes. In Singhbhum, the saffron party fielded Congress turncoat Geeta Kora but she, too, lost, to JMM's Joba Majhi, by 1,68,402 votes. The case was the same in Rajmahal where JMM's Vijay Kumar Hansdak retained the seat, defeating BJP's Tala Marinade by 1,78,264 votes.

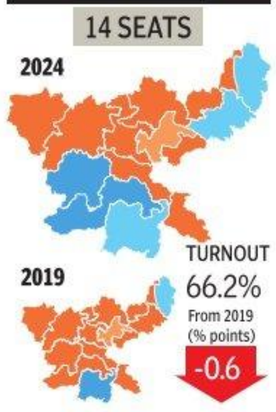
Congress also succeeded in tribal reserved seats — Khunti and Lohardaga, where Kalicharan Munda trounced Union agriculture-cum-tribal-welfare minister Arjun Munda by 1,49,675 votes and Sukhdeo Bhagat defeated Samir Oraon by 1,36,427 votes.

BJP's charisma continue to have effect in the urban pockets of Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Dhanbad, Hazaribag and Godda. It also registered victories in Palamu, Chatra and Koderma, while partner Ajsu Party retained Giridih.

Union junior minister Annapurna Devi was successful, defeating Vinod Singh of CPI (ML) in Koderma by 3,76,240 votes.

For BJP, changing candidates proved expensive as the winning margin, vote share and number of seats dropped in comparison to the previous election.

JHARKHAND
14 SEATS



TURNOUT 66.2% — From 2019 (% points) -0.6

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	8	11	44.6	51.6
AJSU	1	1	2.6	4.4
JMM	3	1	14.6	11.7
Cong	2	1	19.2	15.8
RJD	0	0	2.8	2.4
Oth	0	0	16.2	14.1

In stunning blow, BJD draws a blank. BJP takes 20, Cong bags the other

TEAM TOI

Bhubaneswar: BJP scored a resounding victory in elections in Odisha, surfing a pro-Modi wave in the state to an unprecedented 20 out of 21 seats. Congress retained Koraput, the only seat that didn't go BJP's way.

Not a single BJD candidate won a Lok Sabha seat. In 2019, BJD had won 12 seats and BJP eight. Highlighting the "good work" of the Modi govt, BJP had sought votes for a "double-engine govt" in the simultaneous Odisha assembly and LS polls.

The strategic importance of winning Odisha in PM Modi's political calculus was evident from his victory speech in Delhi. After exclaiming "Bharat Mata ki Jai", he followed up with "Jai Jagannath", highlighting the significance of Odisha in the party's plans. "It will be for the first time that there will be a BJP CM in the land of Mahaprabhu Lord Jagannath," he said.

Behind BJP's success lay its effective campaign strategy that emphasised the importance of voting for Modi. The PM had argued in rallies that votes for BJD would go waste due to its lack of national relevance. BJP also banked on Naveen's "falling health", "outsourced govt" and anti-incumbency.

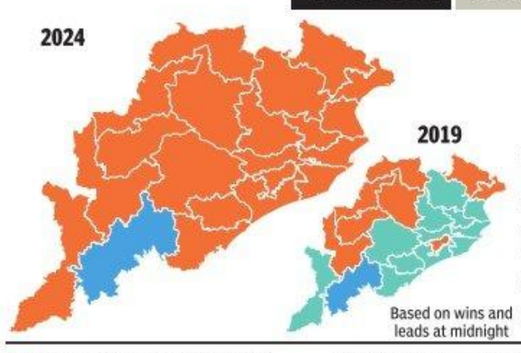
"Thank You Odisha... BJP will leave no stone unturned in fulfilling the dreams of the people and taking Odisha to new heights of progress," Modi said in a post on X.

Analysts said BJD seemed to have lost its independent identity because of its blind support to the Modi dispensation on every initiative.

BJP's success extended to chief minister Naveen Patnaik's home district of Ganjam, where the party won both Aska and Berhampur seats. Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan was leading over BJD's Pranab Prakash Das in Sambalpur by over one lakh votes. Former Union minister Jual Oram was leading former Indian Hockey captain Dilip Tirkey by a similar margin from Sundargarh. In Balasore, former Union minister Pratap Sarangi secured his seat, defeating BJD's Lekhasri Samanatasinghar, who had recently defected from BJP, by more than one lakh votes.

Kendrapara, known as the "karmabhooomi" of the late Biju Patnaik, also fell into BJP's kitty, with Baijayant Panda defeating BJD's Anshuman Mohanty. Pradeep Panigrahy, a former BJD MLA who was expelled from the party, emerged victorious in Berhampur by over 1.6 lakh votes. In another notable contest, BJD veteran Bhartruhari Mahatab, who had joined BJP, defeated Santrupt Misra, a former top executive of the Aditya Birla Group and a political debutant from BJD.

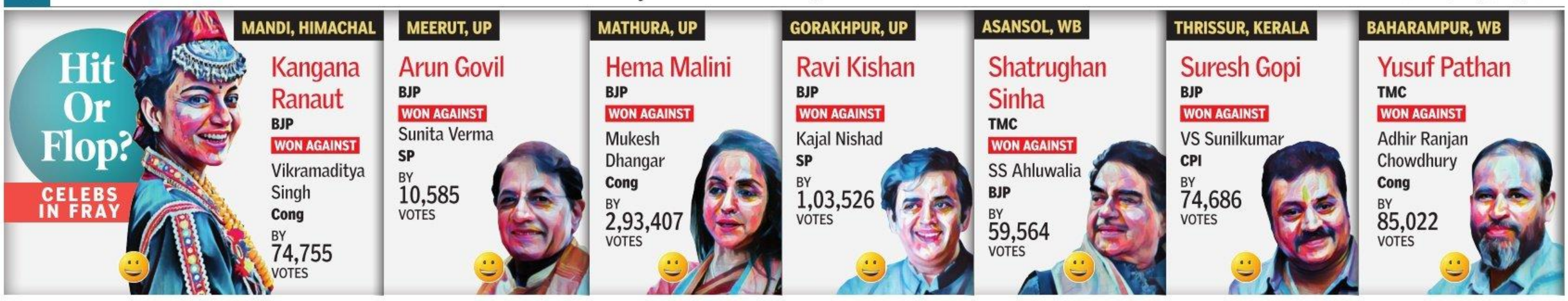
ODISHA 21 SEATS



Based on wins and leads at midnight

TURNOUT 74.4% — From 2019 (% points) 1.2

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	20	8	45.3	38.9
BJD	0	12	37.5	43.3
Cong	1	1	12.5	14.0
Others	0	0	4.7	3.8



Maha Jolt To NDA, Big Boost For INDIA Bloc

TEAM TOI

Mumbai: In the 2019 polls, Maharashtra, which sends the second highest number of MPs to the Lok Sabha in the country, played a key role in PM Modi's victory with the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance winning 41 of the state's 48 seats. But in Verdict 2024, the state has delivered a major blow to the NDA. The opposition-led Maha Vikas Aghadi dominated the state with leads or victories in 30 seats, leaving the BJP-led Mahayuti alliance trailing far behind with leads or wins in just 17 seats. Vishal Patil, the Congress rebel who won from Sangli as an independent, is also expected to add to MVA's numbers.

This is the outcome despite the BJP-triggered split of two regional parties—Shiv Sena and NCP—with the aim of fracturing the opposition and raising its own numbers. Instead, this consolidated the opposition vote, with Congress being the biggest beneficiary. Congress replaced BJP as the single largest party in the state with leads or victories in 13 seats. This was a dramatic turnaround from its historic low of winning just one seat in 2019.

Responding to the results, Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray said the INDIA bloc should stake claim to form the govt at the Centre. "We will be meeting tomorrow (Wednesday) to discuss this. It's not as if BJP has not harassed Nitish Kumar and Chandrababu Naidu who are currently with NDA."

Within Mahayuti, BJP's tally plunged from 23 seats in 2019 to leads or wins in just 9 seats. Shinde's Sena led or won in 7 seats and Ajit Pawar's NCP had to settle for a single seat. Union ministers including Raosaheb Danve (Jalna) and Bharti Pawar (Dindori) were routed and state minister Sudhir Mungantiwar lost from Chandrapur.

Within the MVA, Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT) bagged or led in 9 seats and NCP (SP) led in or won 8 seats. Both parties won more seats than the parties that split from them. In Baramati, the most keenly watched contest in the state, Sharad Pawar's daughter Supriya Sule defeated Ajit Pawar's wife, Sunetra Pawar.

Observers said it's clear that Mahayuti's strategy of relying on PM Modi's appeal did not deliver results. On the contrary, 'Operation Lotus' boomeranged and generated sympathy for Thackeray and Sharad Pawar. Indeed, allying with Ajit Pawar who BJP had strongly targeted during the irrigation scam may have upset the party's core voters.

Also, Modi's statements about appeasement of Muslims during his Lok Sabha poll campaign, his reference to Sharad Pawar as "bhatakti aatma (wandering soul)" and Shiv Sena (UBT) as "nakli Sena" seem to have backfired.

Price rise, unemployment, agrarian distress and the opposition's message that the Constitution would be changed to scrap the SC quota if Modi came back to office were among the macro factors that impacted the results. The Maratha agitation similarly cost the Mahayuti, especially in its epicentre, Marathwada.

Experts said the consolidation of Muslim and Dalit votes helped the MVA. "The youth face unemployment, farmers are upset with Centre's policies and these sections went against Mahayuti. Muslims and Dalits consolidated in favour of the MVA," said an NCP functionary.

The Lok Sabha results will have implications for the state assembly polls which are six months away.

How did the two Senas perform? The Shiv Sena UBT led in 9 seats, just two more than Shinde's Shiv Sena. However, it had also contested 21 seats compared to Shinde's 15. Thackeray's strike rate for victory was 43% compared to Shinde's 47%. But Thackeray dominated in Mumbai, winning two seats compared to one claimed by Shinde in the three contests between the parties in the city. However, in the Thane region, Shinde's party wrested both the seats it contested against Sena (UBT).

In the Konkan belt which has been a stronghold of the Thackeray family, Sena (UBT) lost both seats. Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg was claimed by Uddhav Thackeray's bete-noire, former CM Narayan Rane. This is the first time BJP has won a seat in the Konkan region.

Within the NCP factions, Sharad Pawar's party dominated with leads in 8 seats and a victory in its citadel, Baramati. Ajit Pawar had to console himself with a single victory in Raigad for sitting MP Sunil Tatkare. Pawar Sr had contested 10 seats and had a strike rate of 80%. Ajit Pawar's party contested 4 seats and had a strike rate of 25%.

Congress contested 17 seats and led in 13, leading to a strike rate of 76%. "MVA allies worked together and supported each other, down to booth level. This is what worked for us," said Congress's Prithviraj Chavan.

Meanwhile, BJP which won 9 of 28 seats contested, had a strike rate of 32%. It suffered a major setback in the Vidarbha region from where deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis hails, as its tally fell from 5 seats in 2019 to just 2.

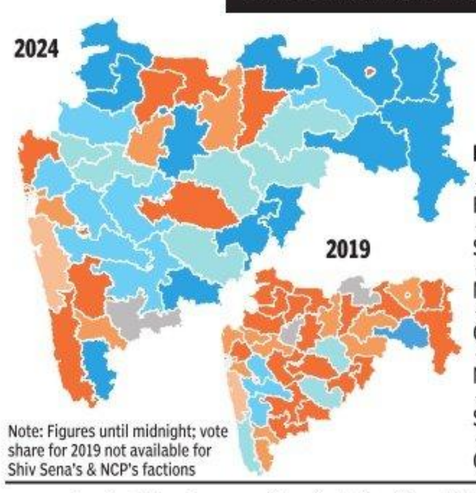
The party did not win a single seat in Marathwada, the heart of the Maratha quota agitation, which has also been impacted by a fierce drought.

BJP's numbers also declined in its bastion North Maharashtra where the Centre's export quota ban on onions, the main crop in the region, became a poll issue. Its seats here fell from 3 to 1. BJP's tally also fell from 4 to 1 in Western Maharashtra and 3 to 1 in Mumbai.

Responding to the verdict, Thackeray said, "This is a victory of democracy. The PM should have held more rallies. The BJP lost in locations where he campaigned."

Fadnavis tweeted, "The unfortunate outcome of the results is that the opposition attempted to win the seats through its propaganda that we would change the Constitution. But in elections, the people's mandate has to be accepted as it is."

MAHARASHTRA 48 SEATS



TURNOUT 61.3% — From 2019 (% points) 0.3

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	10	23	26.1	27.8
Shiv Sena (ES)	7	13	13.0	NA
NCP (Ajit)	1	1	3.6	NA
Congress	13	1	17	16.4
NCP (Sharad)	7	3	10.2	NA
Shiv Sena (UBT)	9	5	16.8	NA
Others	1	2	13.6	16.6

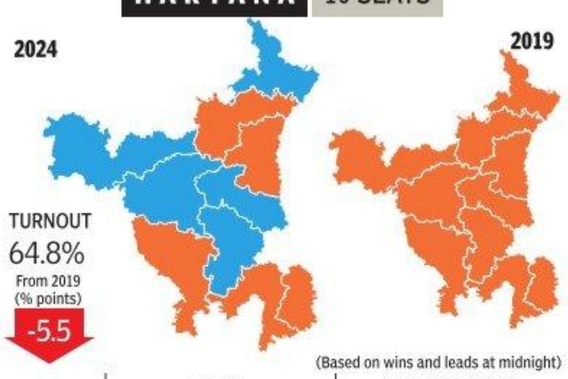
Note: Figures until midnight; vote share for 2019 not available for Shiv Sena's & NCP's factions

In family bastion Baramati, Pawar's daughter trumps his nephew's wife

A Pawar defeated a Pawar to retain Baramati Lok Sabha seat, reaffirming Sharad Pawar's enduring influence over the family stronghold, and damaging the morale of Ajit Pawar's NCP. Senior Pawar's deep personal connection with the electorate and the ability of her daughter, NCP (SCP)'s Supriya Sule, to leverage his legacy proved decisive in securing her victory against her sister-in-law and Ajit's wife, Sunetra Pawar, by over 1.5 lakh votes. Supriya, three-time MP from Baramati, had to fight off a strong challenge mounted by the might of a combined BJP, Shiv Sena and NCP as she took on Sunetra. In her campaign speeches, she ensured to hammer home the point that she was battling "forces from Delhi", and the electoral battle was not just another fight in the family. Her grassroots campaign, the emotional resonance of her appeals to Maharashtrian pride against "Delhi's forces", and her strategic use of a new party symbol, the Tutari, in her slogan "Ram Krishna Hari, Vajava Tutari" helped her romp home to victory. Much before the poll, Sharad started paving the way for Sule's victory. He met many old rivals in the run-up to polls, soliciting their support.

Congress to the fore as BJP loses seats, vote share

HARYANA 10 SEATS



TURNOUT 64.8% — From 2019 (% points) -5.5

(Based on wins and leads at midnight)

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	5	10	46.1	58.2
Congress	5	0	43.7	28.5
AAP	0	0	3.9	0.4
JJP	0	0	0.9	4.9
INLD	0	0	1.7	1.9
Others	0	0	3.7	6.1

TEAM TOI

Chandigarh: The "Modi wave" that helped BJP sweep Haryana's 10 seats with unprecedented margins in 2019 failed to cut much ice with the electorate this time as the ruling party could manage to retain only five seats, that too with massively reduced margins. Congress has made a strong comeback with the gain of five seats. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which was contesting only in Kurukshetra, lost in a close fight.

The results indicate that the farmers' issue, unemployment, the Agnipath scheme, and the old pension scheme (OPS) had an impact on voters this time. Besides, there was strong anti-incumbency against the state BJP government, especially against former CM Manohar Lal Khattar.

In Karnal, Khattar won by a margin of over 2.3 lakh votes, whereas the seat was secured in 2019 by BJP MP Sanjay Bhatia with a margin of more than 6.56 lakh votes.

Although the party replaced Khattar with Kurukshetra MP Nayab Singh Saini just before the announcement of the Lok Sabha polls to beat the strong anti-incumbency current, Khattar led the party in the parliamentary polls, with both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah promising to accommodate him at the Centre.

The fact that BJP could not perform on expected lines even though Modi, Amit Shah and UP CM Yogi Adityanath had campaigned in Haryana is a big worry for the saffron party.

The results are not a positive sign for BJP with state assembly polls slated for Oct this year. The victory of Congress candidates has indicated that Bhupinder Singh Hooda is the party's only crowd-puller in the state. Most of the Congress tickets in Haryana were given on his advice.

Hooda's surprise pick, Satpal Brahamchari, from Haridwar, also surprised everyone by registering victory in the Sonipat seat. His surprise pick from Gurgaon, Raj Babbar, lost to BJP's Rao Inderjit Singh but gave a tough fight to the Union minister.

All candidates of Indian National Lok Dal (INLD), which was once the state's main opposition party, and its splinter group, Dushyant Chautala-led JJP, which was a partner in power with BJP for the past four-and-a-half years, lost their deposits on all seats.

Prominent leaders who won in Haryana are Kumari Selja (Congress) from Sirsa, Hooda (Congress) from Rohtak, Khattar (BJP) from Karnal, and both Union ministers — Rao Inderjit Singh and Krishan Pal from Gurgaon and Faridabad, respectively. Those who lost include former deputy PM Devi Lal's son Ranjit Singh Chautala (BJP), former Union minister Rattan Lal Kataria's widow Banto Kataria (BJP), former RS MP Sushil Gupta (AAP), Congress MLA Rao Dan Singh, and BJP MLA Mohan Lal Badoli.

Banaskantha trips BJP's hat-trick of clean sweeps

TEAM TOI

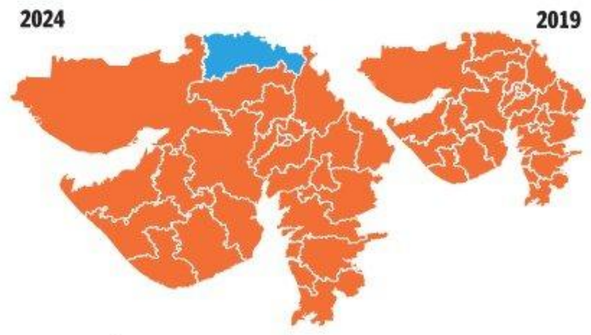
Gandhinagar: Amid electoral setbacks across the country, Gujarat did not fail its son-of-the-soil Narendra Modi as BJP won 25 out of 26 LS seats in the state. However, Gujarat was not totally immune to the resurgence of the opposition as Congress's Geniben Thakor wrested the Banaskantha seat from BJP after a decade. This singular loss robbed BJP of a hat-trick of clean sweeps in Gujarat.

BJP had pocketed the Surat seat even before votes were counted, with party candidate Mukesh Dalal being declared an uncontested winner during the filing of nominations.

Riding on PM Modi's guarantees, BJP garnered a vote share of 62.5%, marginally up from 62.2% vote share in the 2019 general election. Congress's vote share stood at 31.5% in 23 LS constituencies in 2024 against 32.1% in 2019, when it fielded candidates on all 26 seats. AAP pocketed a 34.6% vote share on the two seats it contested as part of the INDIA bloc. Polling did not take place on the Surat LS seat.

Stalwarts of the saffron party put up a stellar performance, smashing electoral records on their way to emphatic wins. Union home minister Amit Shah stamped his dominion on the prestigious Gandhinagar seat, defeating Sonal Patel of Congress by a margin of 7.4 lakh votes, bettering his 5.6 lakh victory margin of 2019. Shah's victory margin was the second highest of the 2024 general election in Gujarat.

GUJARAT 26 SEATS



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	25	26	61.9	63.1
Congress	1	0	31.2	32.6
AAP	0	0	2.7	NA
Others	0	0	4.2	4.4

TURNOUT 60.1% — From 2019 (% points) -4.4

State BJP president C R Paatil broke his own record, winning the Navsari seat by 7.7 lakh votes, trouncing Naishadh Desai of Congress. This was the highest winning margin in Gujarat and likely the fourth highest in the 2024 general election across India.

Union ministers Mansukh Mandaviya and Parshottam Rupala won from the Porbandar and Rajkot seats, respectively. The Kshatriya agitation against Rupala's anti-royal utterances failed to assert any bearing on the poll outcome as he defeated Congress's Paresh Dhanani by an impressive margin of 4.5 lakh votes. Mandaviya won the Porbandar seat with a margin of 3.8 lakh votes.

In four seats, BJP candidates posted impressive wins with more than 5 lakh margins. On 10 seats, however, BJP's victory margins dwindled in 2024 compared to the 2019 general election. Geni Thakor won with the lowest margin of 30,406 votes in a nail-biting finish.

Congress's INDIA bloc partner AAP failed to record a win as both its candidates—sitting MLAs Chaitar Vasava and Umesh Makwana—suffered comprehensive defeats at the hands of their BJP rivals. AAP's Bharuch candidate Vasava lost to BJP's tribal veteran Mansukh Vasava by 85,696 votes amid resentment by family members of late Congress stalwart Ahmed Patel. They were vociferous against AAP being given Patel's home seat. In the Bhavnagar seat, AAP's Makwana lost to BJP's Nimu Bhambhaniya by 4.6 lakh votes.

Panthic politics back with Amritpal, Beant's son

TEAM TOI

Chandigarh: The intense multi-cornered contest in 13 parliamentary constituencies in Punjab amid sweltering heat culminated in Congress winning seven constituencies, ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) three, Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) one. Two independent candidates, including jailed pro-Khalistan Sikh preacher Amritpal Singh from Khadoor Sahib, also won.

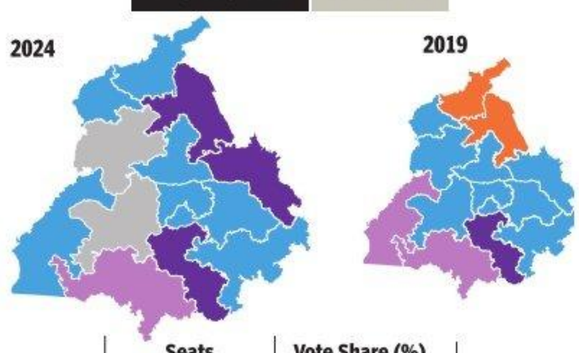
Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assassin Beant Singh's son Sarabjit Singh Khalsa, is the second independent candidate who clinched the Faridkot (reserved) constituency on his main poll plank of seeking justice for the October 2015 Guru Granth Sahib desecration case at Bargari. The results of Khadoor Sahib, Faridkot and Sangrur constituencies highlights simmering discontent among Sikhs against traditional political parties.

Amritpal Singh, who contested as an independent, won the Khadoor Sahib seat by the highest margin in Punjab — over 1.97 lakh votes. Former chief minister and Congress candidate Charanjit Singh Channi won the Jalandhar (reserve) by over 1.75 lakh votes. However, Congress's Sher Singh Ghubaya just managed to scrape through, beating AAP's Jagdeep Singh Kaka Brar, by the lowest margin of 3,242 votes.

The SAD and the BJP contested this election without alliance for the first time since 1996. Though the BJP failed to retain its two existing seats of Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur, it succeeded in increasing its vote share to 18.56% against SAD's 13.42%, which points to BJP's consolidation of Hindu votes.

Out of seven sitting MPs who were renominated by their parties, only three—SAD's Harsimrat, Congress's Dr Amar Singh (Fatehgarh Sahib), and Congress's Gurjit Singh Aujla (Amritsar)—could save their seats. Congress's sitting MP from Anandpur Sahib, Manish Tewari, who was contesting from Chandigarh this time, was successful, but with a very slim margin.

PUNJAB 13 SEATS



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	0	2	18.6	9.7
Congress	7	8	26.3	40.6
AAP	3	1	26.0	7.5
SAD	1	2	13.4	27.8
Others	2	00	15.7	14.4

TURNOUT 62.8% — From 2019 (% points) -2.1

A total of 12 MLAs, including five cabinet ministers of the AAP government, were in fray in the June 1 Lok Sabha elections. Of these, only one cabinet minister and Barnala MLA Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer could win his Sangrur constituency. Other than Meet Hayer, only two MLAs were successful—Congress's Dera Baba Nanak legislator Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa (Gurdaspur) and Dr Raj Kumar Chabbewal, who was elected to assembly on Congress ticket and now has won the Lok Sabha seat on AAP ticket.

Also, Vidhan Sabha speaker accepted the resignation of AAP's Jalandhar West MLA Sheetal Angural, who joined BJP before the Lok Sabha polls.

It's 1-1 in Goa as BJP fails southern test

TEAM TOI

Panaji: Weighed down by distrust and disenchantment, BJP failed to lift itself despite PM Modi's two rallies in three months, as it allowed Congress to defend its South Goa seat.

The verdict also put paid to BJP's efforts to send Pallavi Dempo, one of the richest candidates, as the party's first woman Lok Sabha member from Goa. Pallavi lost to Congress' Capt Viriato Fernandes by a margin of 13,535 votes.

A missive from the archbishop of Goa and Daman proved to be one of the turning points, as Salcete taluka overwhelmingly voted against BJP. The anti-BJP sentiment among the ST community also contributed to the loss.

GOA 2 SEATS

TURNOUT 76.1% — From 2019 (% points) 0.9

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	1	1	50.8	51.9
Cong	1	1	39.7	43.6
Oths	0	0	9.5	4.5

The only solace for BJP was that it retained its North Goa citadel, with Union minister Shripad Naik securing the seat for a historic sixth term, with a record margin of 1.2 lakh votes against former Union minister Ramakant Khalap of Congress. BJP state president Sadanand Shet Tanavade blamed the South Goa loss on consolidation of votes on religious lines.

Rumble in the Valley as Mehbooba, Omar lose

TEAM TOI

The first Lok Sabha elections held after the abrogation of Article 370 and bifurcation of J&K into two Union territories five years ago delivered unexpected results. Former CMs Omar Abdullah of National Conference (NC) and Mehbooba Mufti of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) conceded defeat even before the counting of votes concluded on Tuesday.

BJP maintained its stronghold in Jammu region. Union minister Jitendra Singh, seeking his third consecutive term, won in Udhampur, while party colleague and sitting MP Jugal Kishore retained Jammu.

JAMMU & KASHMIR | LADAKH 6 SEATS



TURNOUT 59.7% (J&K) — From 2019 (% points) 14.5

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	2	3	24.4	46.7
Cong	0	0	19.4	28.6
NC	2	3	21.3	7.9
PDP	0	0	8.5	2.4
Others	2	0	26.1	14.4

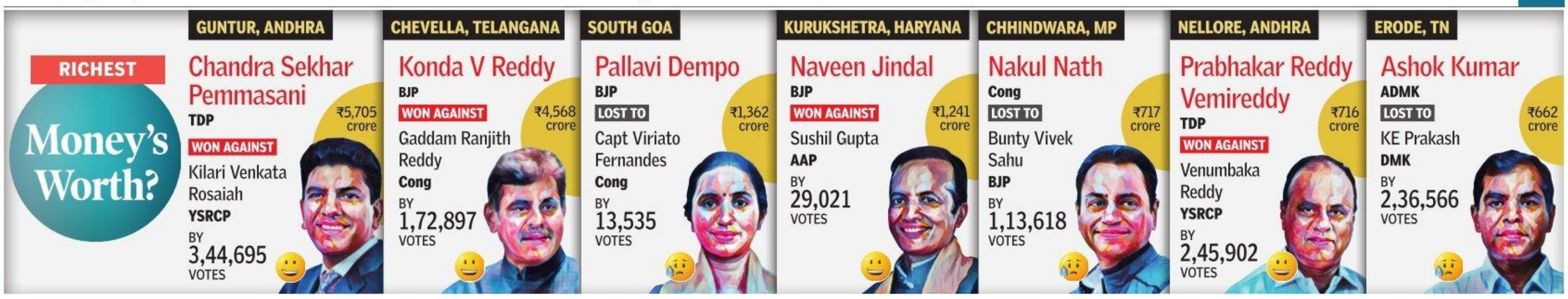
In 2019, NC had secured all three seats in the valley, while BJP won both seats in Jammu region.

In Ladakh, now a separate Union territory, the lone seat went to independent candidate Mohmad Haneefa, a former NC member who contested after leaving the party with the entire unit from the Shia-majority Kargil region. Haneefa triumphed over Tsering Namgyal of Congress and BJP's Tashi Gyalson.

In the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat, NC's Aga Roohullah Mehdi defeated PDP youth president Waheed Para. Mehdi pledged to raise the abrogation of Article 370, saying: "I will take the people's voice to Parliament and seek its restoration. This mandate increases my responsibility."

PDP chief Mufti lost to NC candidate Mian Altaf Ahmad in Anantnag-Rajouri. In Baramulla, former MLA and independent candidate Sheikh Abdul Rashid, also known as Engineer Rashid and currently incarcerated in Delhi's Tihar jail in a terrorist-funding case, defeated NC vice-president Abdullah. People's Conference president Sajad Gani Lone came third.

Rashid, arrested by NIA in 2019, is the first mainstream politician to be charged under the anti-terrorism UAPA. His sons — Abrar and Asrar — campaigned on his behalf.



Poll Guarantees Lift Cong Vote Share, Stop BJP March

TEAM TOI

Bengaluru: The much-hyped five poll guarantees announced by Congress have boosted the party's vote share in Karnataka but they failed to help it win enough seats.

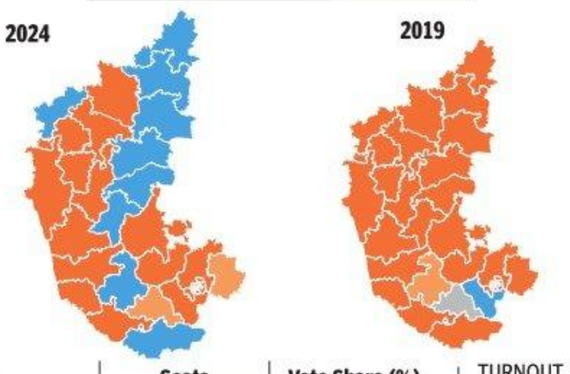
Congress was hoping that its schemes—free bus rides for women, free electricity, free rations, and allowances for women and unemployed youths—for which state govt earmarked Rs 52,009 crore in the budget, along with the Rs 1 lakh offer to women heads of family in its national manifesto, would influence voters and help it reach the double-digit mark. But the party fell short by one seat.

Despite the focus being on women, the party did not see an uptick in the number of seats it won. The vote-share difference of less than 1% between Congress and BJP spoke volumes.

BJP's 'Modi ki guarantee', in response to Congress's guarantees, worked for the saffron party in securing 17 constituencies, though it failed to reach the target of 20-plus seats. BJP crafted a narrative challenging the guarantee schemes, claiming that these welfare initiatives, though appealing, are being funded at the expense of taxpayers, leading to a rise in the cost of daily essentials and hampering development works.

While Congress performed well in the north and central Karnataka regions, winning 7 of the 14 seats, it failed to deliver in the Vokkaliga-dominated south where it secured only two of the 14 seats. In 2019, BJP won 12 seats in the south and 14 in the north.

KARNATAKA 28 SEATS



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	17	25	46.1	51.7
JDS	2	1	5.6	9.7
Congress	9	1	45.4	32.1
Others	0	0	2.9	6.4

TURNOUT 70.6% From 2019 (% points) 1.8

Senior party functionaries said Congress this time managed to win the maximum seats in Kalyana Karnataka (Hyderabad-Karnataka), largely because of the consolidation of Muslim and SC/ST votes. While Muslim consolidation was on expected lines, the SC/ST consolidation was due to Congress central campaign theme alleging that the Constitution (reservation) is under serious threat if BJP returned to office.

After former Uttara Kannada BJP MP Anantkumar Hegde said the Constitution could be changed if BJP won a thumping majority in Parliament, Rahul Gandhi and other senior Congress functionaries upped the rhetoric to specifically declare that this election was about protecting the 'samvidhan' (Constitution) and 'gareeb' (poor). Though BJP denied Hegde a ticket and kept assuring that the Constitution would remain untouched, it did not help its cause.

In BJP's stronghold of Kittur-Karnataka (Mumbai-Karnataka), Congress managed to wrest only Chikkodi, and it is being said that this was largely due to a personal feud between the Jarkiholi brothers and women and child development minister Laxmi Hebbalkar.

Party insiders revealed there was an unwritten rule wherein the Jarkiholi brothers, despite being in different parties, would support BJP in Belagavi and Congress in Chikkodi. This arrangement was made to ensure the victory of PWD minister Satish Jarkiholi's daughter Priyanka, and defeat Hebbalkar's son Mrunal, especially considering her proximity to Congress state president and deputy CM DK Shivakumar, who has been actively involved in efforts to gain control over Belagavi.

AFP



MIXED BAG: 'Modi ki guarantee' helped the saffron party secure wins in 17 constituencies

Another significant factor that worked in favour of Congress was the display of unity. BJP had hoped to exploit the differences between chief minister Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar. However, Congress made sure to exhibit enough camaraderie, both publicly and internally. Both leaders took part in joint campaigns across the state.

Following a disappointing performance in last year's assembly elections, the saffron party was hoping for a resurgence in the state under the new leadership of state BJP president BY Vijayendra, son of former CM BS Yediyurappa, by single-handedly winning over 20 seats. Yediyurappa had fought against all odds to secure the Karnataka BJP chief post for his son. However, the results have turned out to be a mixed bag, thanks to infighting within the party.

The father-son duo failed to prove their influence over the party in north Karnataka, where the major Lingayat community to which they belong, resides.

Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, who were vying to prove their mettle in south Karnataka, have failed to make a significant impact. However, it was AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge who stole the march, ensuring a big victory for the party in Kalyana Karnataka.

Nevertheless, the results proved that the alliance between BJP and JD(S) proved helpful for both parties to check Congress dominance in the Vokkaliga-dominated areas of the Old Mysuru region. Though they lost Hassan, political pundits attribute the negative result more to JD(S) candidate Prajwal Revanna than the parties.

The biggest setback has been for Shivakumar, who had emerged as the Vokkaliga face wresting influence from the Gowda family in the assembly polls held last year. The community seems to be miffed with the Congress govt over a host of issues in the past 12 months, including the caste census report.

The 2024 poll outcome in the state also clearly indicates that Karnataka has voted differently in national and state elections. Since 2004, Karnataka voters have consistently supported the saffron party, even during the Congress-led UPA govt's strong performances in 2004 and 2009.

40-40: TN voters give it all to DMK alliance

TEAM TOI

Chennai: Forty out of forty. That's what Tamil Nadu chief minister M K Stalin told his party cadres last month, urging them to ensure that DMK and its allies win all the 39 Lok Sabha seats in the state and the one in neighbouring Puducherry. And INDIA bloc ticked all the 40 boxes on Tuesday.

The big win in the three-cornered fight gives credence to the alliance's ideological bonding strengthened by the common opposition to BJP. It also leaves AIADMK and BJP, former electoral partners, in doldrums to rethink their strategies before the 2026 assembly election.

While AIADMK's unimpressive line-up failed to impress the electorate, BJP couldn't do any better with its high-profile candidates like state president K Annamalai (Coimbatore), Union minister L Murugan (Nilgiris) and former Telangana governor Tamilisai Soundararajan (Chennai South). Ousted AIADMK leader O Panneerselvam, who contested in Ramanathapuram as an NDA-backed independent, lagged behind DMK ally IUML's K Navaskani by a margin of more than 1.6 lakh (yet to be announced).

The counting gave some anxious moments to many candidates. After leading initially, BJP's Tirunelveli candidate and MLA Nainar Nagendran fell by the wayside and Congress candidate Robert Bruce won by more than 1.6 lakh votes. AIADMK ally and DMDK Virudhunagar candidate Vijay Prabhakar, maintained a lead over his Congress rival Manicka Tagore, who finally registered a thin margin of more than 4,000 votes. PMK's Dharmapuri candidate and Sowmiya Anbumani (NDA) gave a tough fight to DMK's A Mani before losing by a margin of 21,000 votes. At the end of counting, DMK's Ganapathy Rajkumar was ahead of Annamalai by more than one lakh votes.

ANI



SUN-RISE CONTINUES IN TAMIL NADU

Clearly, a divided opposition and a vitriolic anti-NDA campaign that centred on allegations of divisive-communal politics by BJP and Centre starving state of funds helped INDIA bloc's success in TN. Stalin's strategy to showcase his priorities of politics and governance helped win over the Tamil audience. In Puducherry, too, Congress candidate and sitting MP V Vaithilingam won, beating his BJP rival A Namassivayam by a margin of around one lakh votes.

As soon as the trends showed INDIA bloc leading in most of the constituencies, Stalin visited his father M Karunanidhi's memorial on Marina beach in Chennai and paid his respects. Later in the evening, Stalin said, "I know my height," repeating his father's famous words when asked about his aspirations and probability of his playing a role at the national level.

Stalin will leave for Delhi on Wednesday morning to take part in the INDIA bloc meeting. He thanked his alliance leaders and cadres for their efforts "to defeat fascism and to safeguard democracy and the Constitution".

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the DMK-led alliance bucked the national trend to win 38 seats in TN, leaving only the Theni seat to the then united AIADMK in the company of BJP, and grabbing the lone Puducherry seat as well. With the 2024 Lok Sabha poll victory in TN, Stalin has pulled off a hattrick with his successes in 2019 and 2021 (assembly election) after taking over the DMK reins. Party colleagues and allies say the victory is a referendum for Stalin's governance.

In the opposition camp, while AIADMK rejoiced its second position with an overall vote share of 20%, having contested 32 seats, the BJP was muted in its celebration, having lost all the 19 seats it contested.

The opposition contest and campaign centered on "exposing" DMK and Stalin with attacks on their failure to keep the pre-poll promises and practicing corruption and dynasty politics. The 'DMK files' (audio recordings of alleged conversations of some DMK functionaries), allegations of misgovernance, poor law and order, arrest and IT searches of senior ministers and charges of nepotism following the elevation of Stalin's son Udhayanidhi failed to cut ice with the electorate.

For first time in God's Own Country, lotus blooms as Left wilts, UDF retains its share

TEAM TOI

Kochi: UDF won 18 out of 20 seats in Kerala, almost mirroring its 19-1 sweep in 2019, but the jubilation was overshadowed by nothing short of a historic BJP win in Thrissur, a prestigious constituency with almost 50% minority votes and where the three-cornered contest was supposed to underline that, try as they might, the saffron party's polarising politics had no place in this 'progressive' state.

The UDF won by an above-1 lakh margin in 11 of 18 constituencies, including in Wayanad where Rahul Gandhi trumped his nearest rival Annie Raja of CPI by 3,64,422 votes. UDF's second-biggest partner Muslim League retained its stranglehold on its fiefs Malappuram and Ponnani—winning by margins of 2,98,303 and 2,34,778 votes, respectively—amidst speculation that LDF was making substantial inroads among Malabar Muslims. In Thiruvananthapuram, three-time Congress MP Shashi Tharoor survived an early scare by finally defeating his nearest rival Rajeev Chandrasekhar of BJP by 15,000 votes, a steep fall from his handsome 90,000 plus margin in 2019.

KERALA 20 SEATS



TURNOUT 71.3% From 2019 (% points) -6.6

*UDF others is RSP and KEC(M)

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
Cong	14	15	35.1	37.5
IUML	2	2	6.1	5.5
UDF oth*	2	2	4.0	4.6
LEFT	1	1	25.8	32.1
BJP	1	0	16.7	13.0
Others	0	0	12.3	7.3

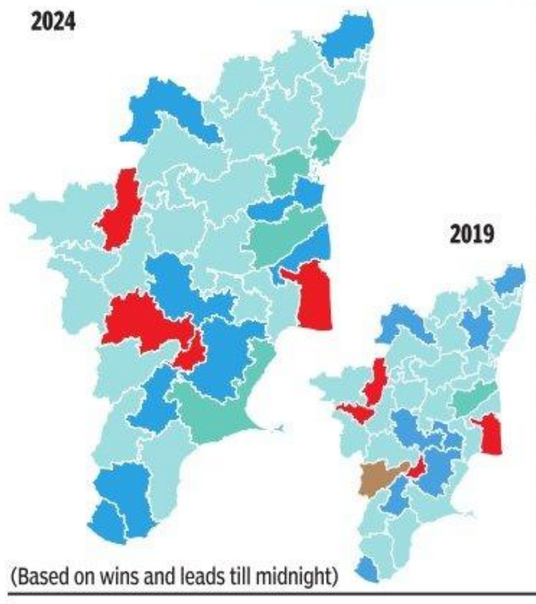
The LDF, in contrast, barely saved face with a win at the Alathur reserved seat where K Radhakrishnan, a minister in the Pinarayi cabinet, won by 19,587 votes and came excruciatingly close at Attingal, its candidate losing by just 1,708 votes. Alathur, interestingly, also saw the largest number of NOTA votes in the state at 12,033. The LDF's Lok Sabha campaign, led by the chief minister from the front, had banked on an aggressive strategy to cast itself as the sole protector of minorities and champion of secularism but failed miserably.

The bulk of Muslim and Christian votes appeared to have gone UDF's way.

BJP-led NDA had put up a stiff fight in all 20 constituencies this time and had expected to come a close second in Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur. In the event, actor-turned politician Suresh Gopi's triumph in Thrissur by a margin of 74,686 votes was as surprising as sensational.

Surprising, because he was ranged against two formidable candidates, while 39% of the electorate in the constituency comprises minority votes—16% Christian and 23% Muslim votes. BJP had pursued an aggressive statewide strategy of seeking Christian support and it appears to have paid dividends, especially among its more affluent sections in Thrissur.

TAMIL NADU 39 SEATS



TURNOUT 69.7% From 2019 (% points) -2.7

Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
Cong	9	8	10.7	12.6
DMK	22	24	26.9	33.5
AIADMK	0	1	20.5	19.4
BJP	0	0	11.2	3.6
PMK	0	0	4.3	5.4
Left	4	4	4.6	4.8
VCK	2	1	2.2	1.2
MDMK	1	0	1.2	NA
IUML	1	1	1.2	1.1
Others	0	0	17.2	18.4

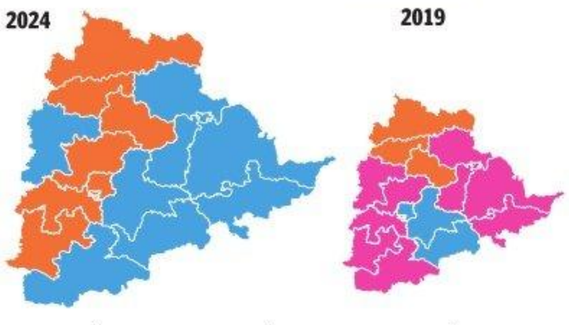
In T battle, saffron hue wipes out pink party; Cong's honeymoon continues

TEAM TOI

Hyderabad: For the first time since the formation of Telangana in 2014, Congress and BJP have become dominant political forces in the state, both sharing the spoils of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections with eight seats each of the 17 up for grabs. This was largely a result of a formidable force like the BRS being decimated.

BJP's performance is especially remarkable given that it had no traditional base here like Congress. The four seats it won in 2019 gave it hope of building a base in the southern states beyond Karnataka and the party started working towards making it a gateway to the south. BJP was eying 10 seats but managed eight. BJP had won only one seat in 2014 and four in 2019. While it retained four—Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar and Secunderabad—it added Malkajgiri, Chevella, Mahbubnagar and Medak to its tally.

TELANGANA 17 SEATS



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	8	4	35.1	19.7
Cong	8	3	40.1	29.8
BRS	0	9	16.7	41.7
Others	1	1	8.1	8.8

TURNOUT 65.7% From 2019 (% points) 2.9

The saffron party swept the Greater Hyderabad region, leaving only Hyderabad for Asaduddin Owaisi.

Congress rode the honeymoon period it was enjoying since winning the assembly election in Dec last year. In 2014, it had got only two seats and three in 2019.

The Lok Sabha polls outcome strengthens chief minister A Revanth Reddy, who also heads the Telangana Congress unit. Revanth had openly declared that these results were a referendum on state govt's performance and projected it as a battle between Congress and BJP, while dismissing BRS as a 'fringe player'.

BRS had 11 seats in 2014 and nine in 2019 but drew a blank this time. This is the only election where the pink party could not win a single seat since its inception in 2001, losing even the Medak seat, which BRS supremo K Chandrashekar Rao had won in 2014.

Chandrababu Naidu plays his cards right, catapults onto national stage

TEAM TOI

Hyderabad: The last-minute electoral patch-up with BJP and a return to the NDA fold has resulted in a windfall for TDP in Andhra Pradesh. It also brought forth the fact that TDP has always won big whenever it went to polls in alliance with other political parties in the past—whether BJP, Jana Sena, Left, Janata Dal, BSP or Janata Party. Except for an occasion or two, TDP did not fight any poll without having an electoral understanding with others since its formation in 1982.

TDP, which parted ways with the BJP-led NDA in 2018, was virtually in political oblivion and was kept waiting by BJP national leadership till the eleventh hour.

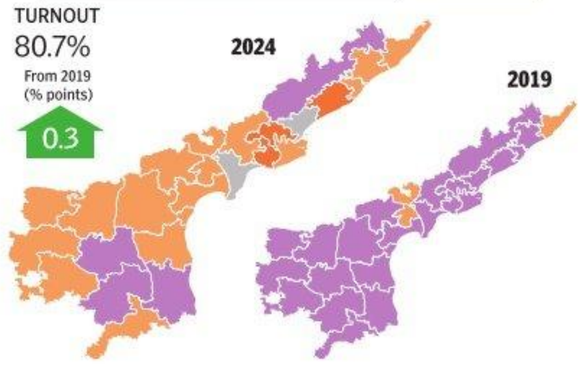
Like in the past, the poll alliance paid rich dividends not only to TDP and Jana Sena, but also to BJP, which has a negligible presence in Andhra Pradesh. In fact, TDP president and chief minister-in-waiting N Chandrababu Naidu has also emerged as a key player in national politics. While YSRCP, which fought the polls alone, could win in four of the 25 Lok Sabha seats in the state, TDP and its partners won 21.

The election was not fought on any major issues in Andhra Pradesh. Even the major demand in 2014 and 2019 polls—special status for AP—had taken a back seat in 2024. But a silent anti-incumbency wave and lack of visible development in the past five years were Jagan's undoing.

An over-confident YSRCP relegated Jagan's father, late YS Rajasekhar Reddy, to the back seat during the campaign, which also did not go down well with the voters.

ANDHRA PRADESH 25 SEATS

TURNOUT 80.7% From 2019 (% points) 0.3



Party	Seats 2024	Seats 2019	Vote Share (%) 2024	Vote Share (%) 2019
BJP	3	0	11.3	1.0
TDP	16	3	37.8	40.2
YSRCP	4	22	39.6	49.9
Congress	0	0	2.7	1.3
Others	2	0	8.6	7.6

Change (▼▲) in seats over 2019
Change (▼▲) in vote share in percentage points
Figures have been rounded off to single digit

Results as of 11.45pm on June 4, 2024

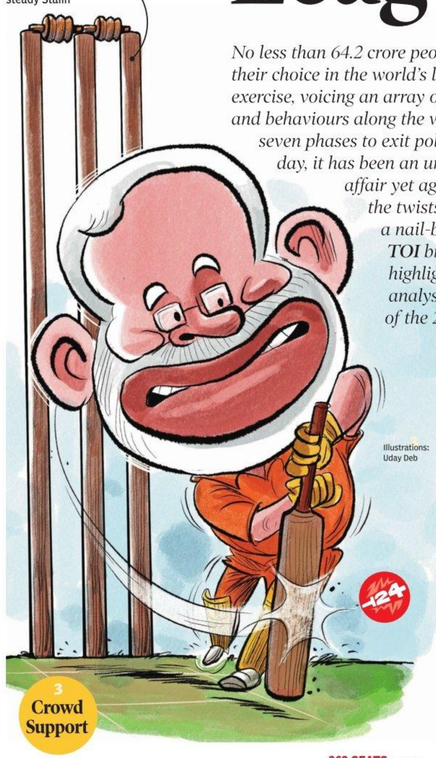
Effective vote share is the votes won by a candidate against the total electors in the constituency

Leader Board

PARTY	BJP	Cong	SP	TMC	DMK	TDP	JDU	SENA (UBT)	SENA	YSRCP	LJP
SEATS WON	240 ▼63	99 ▲47	37 ▲32	29 ▲7	22 ▼2	16 ▲13	12 ▼4	9 ▲4	7 ▼6	4 ▼18	5 ▼1
SEAT SHARE %	44.2%	18.2%	6.8%	5.3%	4.1%	2.9%	2.2%	1.7%	1.3%	0.7%	0.9%
VOTE SHARE %	36.6 ▼0.7	21.2 ▲1.7	4.6 ▲2	4.4 ▲0.3	1.8 ▼0.5	2.0 ▲00.0	1.3 ▼0.2	1.5 ▲1	1.2 ▼0.4	2.1 ▼0.4	0.4 ▼0.1
EFFECTIVE VOTE %	24.3%	14.1%	3.1%	2.9%	1.2%	1.3%	0.8%	1%	0.8%	1.4%	0.3%

PARTY	NCP (SP)	NCP	AAP	RJD	CPM	JDS	BJD	VBA	ADMK	SAD	PMK
SEATS WON	7 ▲3	1 --	3 ▲2	4 ▲4	4 ▲1	2 ▲1	1 ▼11	0	0 ▼1	1 ▼1	0
SEAT SHARE %	1.3%	0.2%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	0.4%	0.2%	0%	0%	0.2%	0%
VOTE SHARE %	0.9 ▲0.6	0.3 ▼0.8	1.1 ▲0.7	1.6 ▲0.5	1.8 --	0.3 ▼0.3	1.5 ▼0.2	0.2 ▼0.4	1.4 ▼0	0.3 ▼0.3	0.3 ▼0.1
EFFECTIVE VOTE %	0.6%	0.2%	0.7%	1.0%	1.2%	0.2%	1.0%	0.2%	0.9%	0.2%	0.2%

Indian Political League



Illustrations: Uday Deb

No less than 64.2 crore people have made their choice in the world's largest election exercise, voicing an array of preferences and behaviours along the way. From the seven phases to exit polls to counting day, it has been an unpredictable affair yet again, much like the twists and turns of a nail-biting IPL finish. TOI brings you the highlights and analyses the trends of the 2024 verdict

Modi's hat-trick bid was trickier than BJP would have liked it to be but hardhitters Nitish and Chandrababu came in handy. INDIA proved agile on the field, with a bowling array that spanned the feisty Rahul, wily Akhilesh, combative Mamata and steady Stalin

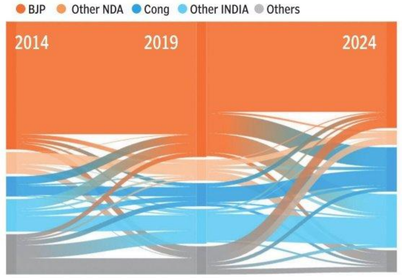
1 Clean Sweep

FLIP SEATS

Seats That Changed Parties

Turncoat seats, which switched from BJP, boosted INDIA tally

Doesn't include seats in Assam, J&K and Dadra & Nagar Haveli



For comparison, 2014 and 2019 results are visualised with current NDA and INDIA alliances

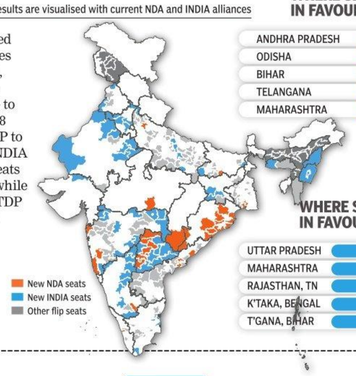
208 SEATS FLIPPED

41 SEATS FLIPPED FROM BJP TO CONG

47 SEATS FLIPPED FROM BJP TO NON-CONG INDIA ALLIES

9 SEATS FLIPPED FROM CONG TO BJP

In 2019, 178 seats flipped from incumbent parties While BJP grabbed 55, Cong wrested 33. This time, the number rose to 208, with as many as 88 seats flipping from BJP to Congress and other INDIA allies. In UP, saffron seats went to SP and Cong while in Andhra, NDA ally TDP benefited hugely from YSRCP.



WHERE SEATS FLIPPED IN FAVOUR OF NDA

ANDHRA PRADESH	16
ODISHA	11
BIHAR	8
TELANGANA	8
MAHARASHTRA	5

WHERE SEATS FLIPPED IN FAVOUR OF INDIA

UTTAR PRADESH	37
MAHARASHTRA	23
RAJASTHAN, TN	10 each
K'TAKA, BENGAL	9 each
T'GANA, BIHAR	8 each

2 Impact Players

VICTORY MARGINS

Big Wins Up, Record Set

Close contests, where the margin was less than 10,000 votes dipped over 2019, as did big winners who won by more than 3 lakh votes. One of the most exciting results was in Mumbai North West where the Sena (UBT) candidate was declared to have won by one vote before Ravindra Waikar of Sena (Shinde) clinched it with 48 votes.

2019	MARGIN FREQUENCY	2024
2	Less than 1,000	3
28	1,000-10,000	17
64	10,000-50,000	97
79	50,000-1 lakh	120
239	1 lakh to 3 lakh	232
127	3 lakh to 6 lakh	67
4	Over 6 lakh	7

IN INDORE **2,18,674** NOTA VOTES POLLED WAS A RECORD AS WAS THE WINNING MARGIN

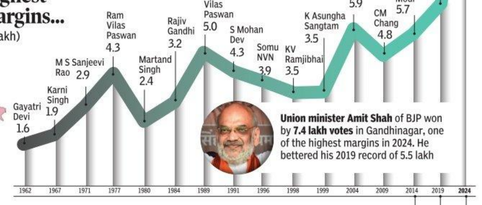
Same Seat!



11,75,092 Record margin won by **Shankar Lalwani** of BJP in Indore

An increase in population and polling have led to victory margins rising over time

Highest Margins... (in lakh)



Union minister Amit Shah of BJP won by **7.4 lakh votes** in Gandhinagar, one of the highest margins in 2024, He bettered his 2019 record of 5.5 lakh

...And The Lowest



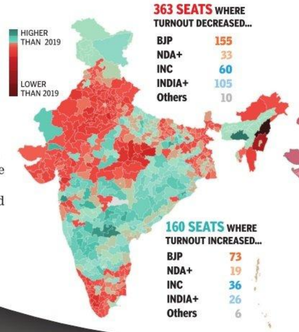
Lowest Victory Margin | **Ravindra Dattaram Waikar** Shiv Sena (Shinde), Mumbai North West **48**

3 Crowd Support

VOTING TURNOUT

Number Game

Turnouts repeatedly made headlines these elections, from low participation in the first few phases to allegations against EC of delaying release of final figures. The searing heatwave in the north affected polling percentages.

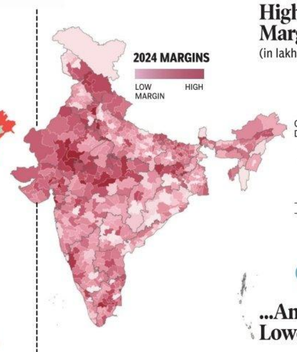


363 SEATS WHERE TURNOUT DECREASED...

BJP	155
NDA+	33
INC	60
INDIA+	105
Others	10

160 SEATS WHERE TURNOUT INCREASED...

BJP	73
NDA+	19
INC	36
INDIA+	26
Others	6



Stump Mike

Tempo To Biryani, 2024 Campaign In 9 Objects

From the useful washing machine to the ubiquitous tempo on the roads, some objects have been elevated politically this election season. An X-Ray, for instance, doesn't just show up bones and cracks doctors want to see, but apparently, also the plot and party pad you don't particularly want the govt to see. TOI takes a look at innocuous articles that have been converted into campaign ammo

X-Ray: Rahul Gandhi's description of the caste census as an 'X-ray of the country' turned a medical tool into a formidable scanning device that, he claimed, would ensure an equitable society. Modi countered by saying that the 'shehzaada' was planning a wealth X-ray. Alas, there is no X-ray to heal our fractured political landscape

Mangalsutra: The centrepiece of many a Bollywood climax scene where it defeats everything from bad intentions to evil cosmic forces, the mangalsutra became the theme of many of Modi's speeches, the essence being, 'beware of those who will snatch the mangalsutra from our mothers, sisters and daughters'. Countered by Priyanka Gandhi's emotional pitch of how her mother sacrificed her mangalsutra for the country. Either way, Nirupa Roy would have approved

Tempo: Move over suitcases, the new cash vehicle is here. PM Modi's swipe at the opposition that tempos full of currency notes were reaching them from Adani-Ambani didn't just stir up a vivid image, but also his opponents who dared him to order a probe. That said, tempos, minivans and other vehicles evidently had a busy run ferrying not just cash, but liquor, gifts and gold across the country. Seizures by Election Commission added up to Rs 4,658 crore even before polling began



Ration: 'Tis the season of giving. BJP's Covid offer of free ration for over 80 crore people was extended in Nov 2023 for 5 years, with the hope that the duo of 'rashan-shasan' would woo voters. INDIA bloc tried to up this by promising to double the ration (10kg) if it is voted to office, along with cash doles and other freebies. Dal-chawal is not just comfort food for the stomach, it seems to be way to the voter's heart

4 Matchup Stats

STATE OF THE OPPOSITION

Bipolar Order?

While the latest Lok Sabha elections, along with those in 2019 and 1977, were largely bipolar contests, where 424, 464 and 514 seats, respectively, saw just the two top contenders rake in over 80% of the votes, the period from 1991 to 2014 saw more seats turning into multi-sided fights. The 2024 elections also had one seat where there was no polling, *Surat, as all the other candidates withdrew their nomination.
A bipolar contest indicates united opposition, which was the case this year. Multi-conrnered contests happen when opposition is fractured. In 2024, there were 108 seats where the two leading candidates polled between 60 and 80% of the votes.

MOST BIPOLAR — MOST MULTIPOLAR

Combined votes of winner and runner-up

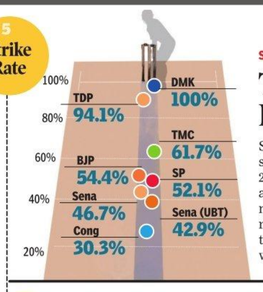
	<40%	40-60%	60-80%	>80%
1977	0	1	25	514
1991	0	52	173	309
1996	2	50	225	266
1998	0	6	208	329
1999	0	29	144	370
2004	0	38	146	359
2009	1	62	208	272
2014	0	15	279	249
2019	0	3	76	464
2024	1*	10	108	424

5 Strike Rate

SEATS WON OVER CONTESTED

Team INDIA's Master Blaster From South

Stalin-led DMK has been nothing short of a swashbuckling opener, notching up 100% in 2019 and 2024. Chandrababu Naidu's TDP was a close second. INDIA allies Trinamool and SP notched up an impressive 62% and 52% respectively, effectively boosting the alliance total. The laggards — AIADMK and BSP — were out for a duck.



6 Changing Room

VOTE SHARE SHIFT

BJP Sees Big Dip In Rajasthan, Haryana

BJP's overall vote share fell marginally from 2019, while that of Congress rose nationally by over 2 percentage points. The saffron party's loss of vote share was significant in Rajasthan and Haryana, falling to 49.2% and 46.1% from 58.5% and 58%, respectively, in the previous polls, which could be a fallout of anger over the Agniveer scheme. TMC seems to have reclaimed lost ground, netting 45.8% of the vote share, while BJP's dipped.



7 Economy Rate

HOW MANY VOTES IT TOOK TO WIN A SEAT

Regional Parties Prove To Be Smart Finishers

Votes amount to little unless a party can convert them into seats. Better conversion means a party won a seat with a small haul of votes. SP and TDP boosted tallies in their alliances in UP and Andhra. JD(U), which added to NDA numbers in Bihar, proved to be a smart finisher too.

2019		2024
7,56,029	BJP	9,81,402
22,97,985	Cong	13,80,226
11,33,151	TMC	9,71,587
5,57,917	JD(U)	6,69,778
31,29,441	SP	7,98,559
41,71,782	TDP	7,90,386
5,98,472	DMK	5,30,186
7,06,228	YSRCP	33,02,865



Rahul Gandhi, who has been an MP since 2004, is 53 years old

Score Card

NDA **291** BEAT INDIA **234** FOR THIRD INNINGS

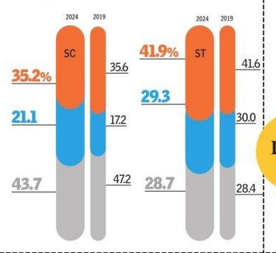
RESERVED CONSTITUENCIES

Dalits Shun BSP, Fewer SC/STs Pick BJP; Cong, SP Gain

	SC 84 seats		ST 47 seats	
	2024	2019	2024	2019
BJP	29	46	24	31
Cong	20	6	13	5
Others	35	32	10	11

While BJP won 46 of 84 SC seats back in 2019, it could manage only 29 of them this time and BSP scored a duck. Congress and SP seemed to have gained from the loss, winning 20 and 7 seats, respectively. TMC won 6. BJP also lost ST support, scoring 24 seats. Congress more than doubled its tally to win 13.

8 Power Play



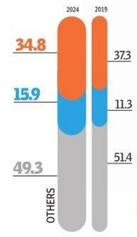
MUSLIM-INFLUENCE SEATS

TMC, Cong, SP Scale Up; Hindi Belt Loss For BJP

Continuing the trend from 2019, BJP lost some Muslim-influence seats, again mostly in Uttar Pradesh. From 48 seats in 2019, the saffron party fell to 37, including the loss of 7 seats in the Hindi belt. Trinamool Congress, Congress and Samajwadi Party improved their tally from the last LS polls, winning 23, 14 and 11 seats, respectively. Muslims, like Dalits, ignored Mayawati's BSP.

MUSLIM 105 seats	2024	2019
BJP	37	48
Cong	14	11
TMC	23	19

VOTE SHARE



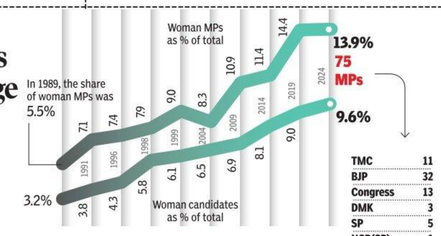
9 Inside Edge

10 Maiden Over

SHARE OF WOMEN IN LOK SABHA

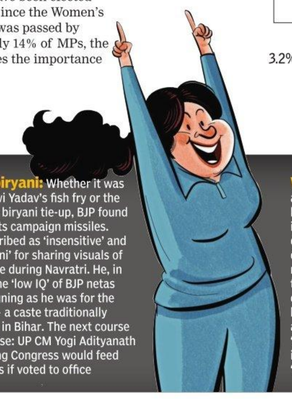
Ist Poll After Women's Bill, But No Big Change

From the available data for 537 seats, 75 woman MPs have been elected in the first polls since the Women's Reservation Bill was passed by Parliament. Barely 14% of MPs, the number buttresses the importance and urgency of implementing the law.



TMC	11
BJP	32
Congress	13
DMK	3
SP	5
NCP(SP)	1

155 LS constituencies had zero women candidates this poll season



Fish/mutton/biryani: Whether it was RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav's fish fry or the Rahul-Lalu mutton biryani tie-up, BJP found meaty matter for its campaign missiles. Tejashwi was described as 'insensitive' and a 'seasonal sanatani' for sharing visuals of non-vegetarian fare during Navratri. He, in turn, questioned the 'low IQ' of BJP netas who were campaigning as he was for the votes of Nishads — a caste traditionally linked to fishing — in Bihar. The next course of political discourse: UP CM Yogi Adityanath and PM Modi saying Congress would feed biryani to terrorists if voted to office

Washing machine: Once a symbol of prosperity in Indian households, the washing machine is now laundering stains of a different kind. From memes of netas looking into washing machines from plane windows to the actual gadget being perched on a stage, opposition parties had a field day with jibes about corruption charges being 'cleaned' in the 'BJP machine'. But in politics, unlike in advertising, 'daag achche nahin hain'

Pen drive: No less than 25,000 pen drives left at bus stops, 2,900 obscene videos, and a midnight flight on a diplomatic passport. There was sex and dhokha, and no love lost, as polls in Karnataka heated up with allegations of a sex abuse scandal involving former PM H D Deve Gowda's son and grandson. Among unanswered questions: who left the pen drives unattended and who circulated them?

Buffalo: If stray cows and beef took up mindspace in the 2019 elections, the animals of interest (AOI) this time around were buffaloes and camels. Explaining inheritance tax, PM Modi warned that if people had two buffaloes, Congress would take away one by levying a tax on assets. In his trademark repartee, former Bihar CM Lalu Yadav offered Modi his camel



Samvidhan: A rare occurrence, all parties are on the same page on this one: "They want to change it, we don't." And everybody is saving it, never mind from who or what. INDIA bloc alleged that BJP was aiming for 400-plus seats so that they could remove the provision for reservation in the Constitution. The saffron party hit back saying oppn govts had already violated the Constitution by introducing religion-based reservation. Never has the C-word been bandied about so much

11 Not Out

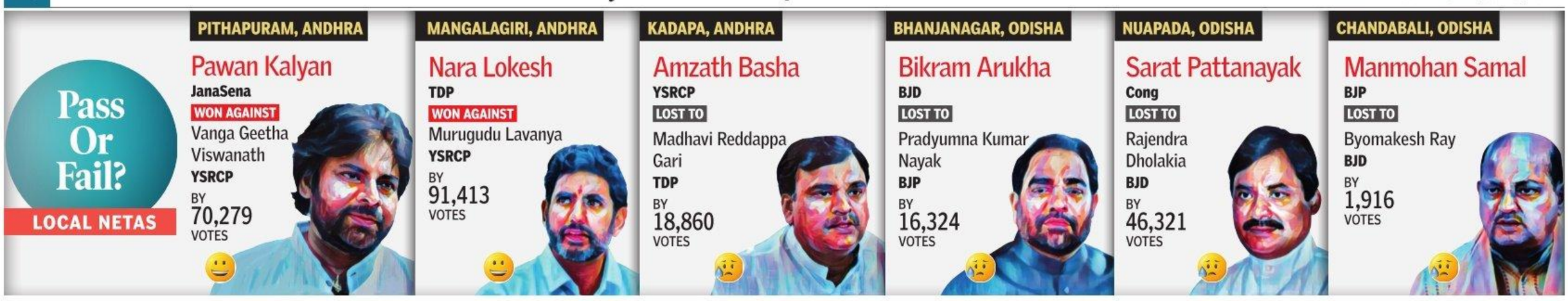
AVERAGE AGE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

Youngest, Oldest Candidates Win

Congress's Sanjna Jatav, SP's Pushpendra Saroj and Priya Saroj became the youngest candidates to win at 25 years, while DMK's T R Baalu (82) became the oldest.

BJP	57 yrs
Congress	54.4
DMK	55.1
TMC	57.8
SP	53.5





AP hits refresh button, TDP halts Jagannaut

TEAM TOI

N Chandrababu Naidu is set to create history by becoming the first chief minister of Andhra Pradesh to get a fourth term with his landslide victory in the assembly elections. His father-in-law and TDP founder NT Rama Rao had got three terms in united Andhra Pradesh.

Naidu also registered his eighth assembly win, making him the most senior politician in the state assembly.

The results saw another piece of history in making — outgoing CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy losing the status of the leader of opposition in the new assembly as his party YSRCP could not win the minimum 18 seats to get the status. In 1994, Congress, like the YSRCP this time, had lost the status of leader of opposition. NTR was then sworn in as the CM for the third time.

The results mirrored the outcome of the 2019 polls with the TDP now taking the position of YSRCP. TDP and its alliance partners, BJP and Jana Sena, have together now bagged 164 of the 175 assembly seats, leaving just 11 to YSRCP. Of these, TDP bagged 135. In contrast, YSRCP had won 151 in the 2019 elections.

An analysis of three different regions, Rayalaseema, and south and north coastal Andhra, reveals that a silent anti-incumbency factor coupled with a shift in the traditional vote bank (Muslims, Christians and Dalits) of YSRCP resulted in a big victory for the TDP-led alliance.

Factors like super six promises of the TDP including free bus travel for women, increase in monthly pensions to the elderly and widows from Rs 3,000 to Rs 4,000, alliance with the BJP and Jana Sena, padayatra by his son and TDP leader Nara Lokesh and arrest of Naidu in the alleged skill development scam by the Jagan govt too worked in TDP's favour. Near inaccessibility of Jagan to even his own MPs and MLAs, lack of a development narrative in major cities and overconfidence in the party leadership, went against YSRCP. The results highlighted that women and working classes backed TDP despite YSRCP claiming that it had extended financial benefits to these sections of society.

TDP has never won such massive electoral support in the last three decades. The only time the party came close to such a landslide was in 1994 when NTR won 216 of the 294 assembly seats. Such was the endorsement by voters this time that YSRCP lost all but two of its ministers — Jagan and P Ramachandra Reddy.

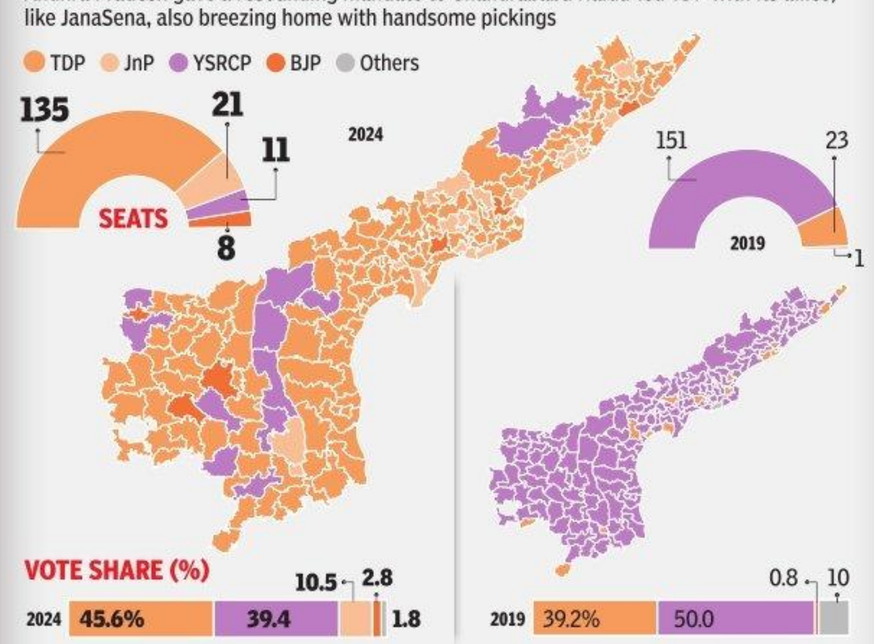
YSRCP lost its base even in places considered as its bastion — mainly in Rayalaseema. That the Kapu community vote bank stood firmly behind TDP is evident from the outcome in undivided East and West Godavari districts, where Kapus are numerically strong. The assembly elections also saw the emergence of film actor-turned-politician Pawan Kalyan as a new political force. The party had struggled for 10 years to stay afloat but this time it made it big at the hustings — both assembly (won 21 seats) and Lok Sabha (two). Pawan had lost from the two places he contested in 2019. This time, the 55-year-old won big from Pithapuram.

BJP, which has negligible political base in AP, struck rich thanks to the alliance. It won seven assembly and three Lok Sabha seats. As in 2014 and 2019 polls, the Congress failed to open its account in the state.

ANDHRA PRADESH 175 SEATS

A Total Swap Out

Andhra Pradesh gave a resounding mandate to Chandrababu Naidu-led TDP with its allies, like JanaSena, also breezing home with handsome pickings



SHARE OF CONTESTED SEATS WON

76.6% TDP won three of every four seats it contested in Andhra this time

6.9% Crashing to a heavy defeat, YSRCP's strike rate was below 10%

4.6% BJP's 8 seats returned a meagre conversion ratio of less than 5% in Andhra

NO. OF VOTES IT TOOK TO WIN A SEAT

TDP needed 1.1 lakh votes on average to win each seat; for YSRCP, it was 12-times that figure



Sea change in Odisha: BJP wave drowns BJD & Naveen

TEAM TOI

BJP is all set to form its maiden independent govt in Odisha, with the state voting for a change, bringing to an end the Biju Janata Dal's unbroken 24-year stint led by CM Naveen Patnaik, 77.

Riding anti-incumbency against Naveen, BJP — which had shared power with him as a junior coalition partner in Odisha from 2000 to 2009 — diligently crafted its campaign strategy for a double engine govt, blending emotive issues like Odia asmita (pride), people's aspirations and the decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. BJP has bagged 78 seats, BJD 51, Congress 14 and CPM one, with three Independents completing the tally. Naveen himself lost one of the two seats, Kantabanji, but managed to win Hinjili making it his sixth straight win.

"It's a vote for change. An entire generation of people in their early 40s or younger in Odisha has never seen a second CM. Young voters clearly wanted change," said RK Satapathy, a retired professor of political science.

BJP's landmark victory thwarted Naveen's ambition of becoming the longest-serving CM in India, a milestone he would have reached by Aug this year. Naveen had never lost since he first fought the assembly polls in 2000.

Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah campaigned extensively in Odisha, emphasizing on local concerns such as the missing keys of the Ratna Bhandar, the sacred treasure trove of Lord Jagannath at the iconic Puri temple, the increasing influence of Tamil Nadu-born IAS officer-turned-BJD strategist VK Pandian in Naveen's govt, and the CM's declining health and advanced age.

Asking people if they were ready for a CM from Tamil Nadu in Pandian, BJP promised a young and native Odia to occupy the position.

Sensing that public sentiments were turning against his confidante, just ahead of the final phase of the elections on June 1, Naveen announced that Pandian was not his successor. Naveen also tried to convince people that he is healthy enough to lead the state. But it was too late as voters had made up their minds.

"In the polls being held against the backdrop of failed coalition talks between BJP and BJD, the latter was in a weak position in terms of people's perception. This is because BJP unilaterally withdrew from the alliance plan, citing disagreements with the regional party on issues of Odia asmita and the welfare of the people of Odisha," Satapathy said.

The shift from the long-standing BJD stint to a BJP-led govt is anticipated to bring about changes in various facets of the state's development and governance.

Speaking during a victory celebration in the party office in Bhubaneswar, BJP's national vice-president Baijayant Panda termed the day as "historic," marking the beginning of efforts for "a new Odisha for a new India" where "Odia asmita" remains important.

The focus has now shifted to who may become the CM. Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan has emerged top contender though BJP central brass may well spring a surprise. BJD state chief Manmohan Samal, who was also in the reckoning, lost the Chandabali seat by 1,916 votes.

BJP's manifesto promises, such as procuring paddy at Rs 3,100 per quintal against the current minimum support price of Rs 2,183, solidified farmers' support, while the Rs 50,000 cash voucher pledge for women under the Subhadra Yojana eroded BJD's loyal women voter base. BJP managed to connect itself with Odia sentiments by raising the Ratna Bhandar issue at Puri.

Historically, Odisha has been governed by Congress-led govts for more than four decades and the Janata Dal (1977-1980 and 1990-1995). Regional parties like the Swatantra Party and Utkal Congress have governed the state for approximately five years (1967-1971 and 1971-1972).

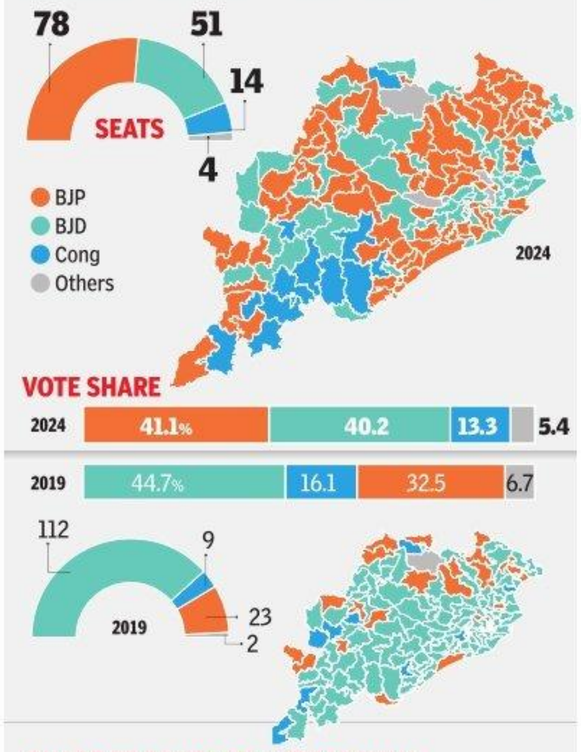
The results have pushed BJD, which has dominated Odisha's political landscape for nearly 25 years under Naveen, to an existential crisis. Since he joined politics following his father Biju Patnaik's demise in 1997, Naveen has always been in the hot seat, first as Union minister from 1998 to 1999 and then as CM.

Whether he will choose to become opposition leader or assign the responsibility to a party colleague will be interesting to watch.

ODISHA 147 SEATS

Saffron Surge

BJP and BJD first looked to join hands, but after alliance talks failed, the saffron party made an aggressive push in the coastal state, sending Naveen Patnaik's party out of office



SHARE OF CONTESTED SEATS WON

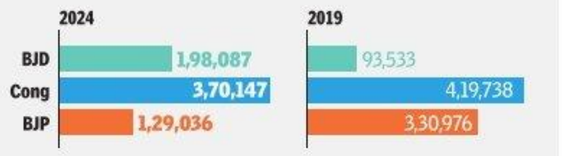
53.1% Virtually non-existent in 2019, BJP won over half the seats it fought this time

34.7% BJD could win only about a third of the seats as it ceded ground to BJP

9.5% Once the main opposition, Cong saw its strike rate and vote share drop sharply

NO. OF VOTES IT TOOK TO WIN A SEAT

BJP needed a little less than 1.3 lakh votes to win each seat while the figure was close to 2 lakh votes for BJD



CEO Naidu books corner office in Andhra & Centre

Srikanth.Aluri@timesgroup.com

He has seen it all — from a student leader to chief minister to kingmaker of central govts to being pushed into political wilderness and even to jail in an alleged corruption case. But the latest victory in Andhra Pradesh must be the most satisfying for N Chandrababu Naidu, 74, the tech-savvy 'CEO' in a long time.

After winning the 2019 assembly polls, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and his YSRCP cadres tried to relegate Naidu to merely a Kamma community leader by attracting other communities with welfare schemes. But in the past year, Naidu not only managed to break free of the shackles, he also stitched together an alliance with BJP and actor Pawan Kalyan's Jana Sena — a consolidated caste bloc against YSRCP.

While Naidu will prefer to be the Andhra CM, he would once again don his old robe of a kingmaker at Centre with his 16 Lok Sabha seats. He lost the role of a mover and shaker of central govts in 2004, after the UPA came to power and Y S Rajasekhara Reddy helmed a Congress win in united AP. YSR and his welfare politics pushed Naidu into oblivion for two terms until he regained power in 2014.

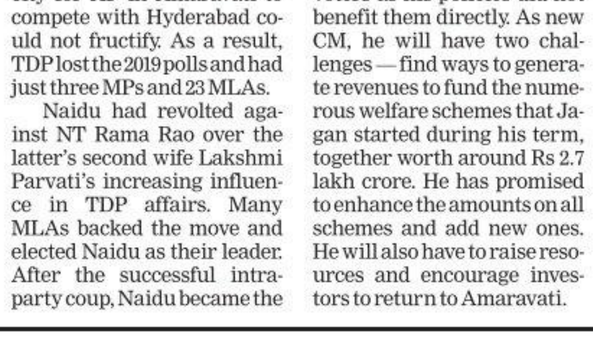
Just like former president Pranab Mukherjee, considered by some to be the 'best prime minister India never had', Naidu is one of the best tech-savvy PMs India never had. Mukherjee aspired to be PM, but Naidu declined it in 1996.

Naidu was the convener of United Front (1996-98) and NDA (1999-2004). He was the most influential regional party leader back then. He played a key role in choosing the PM candidates and presidents during coalition govts.

With AP having bifurcated and left with only 25 MP seats (42 before), and BJP forming govt at Centre on its own post 2014, Naidu could not dictate terms to the Union govt as in the past. His vision for a greenfield world class capital city for AP in Amaravati to compete with Hyderabad could not fructify. As a result, TDP lost the 2019 polls and had just three MPs and 23 MLAs.

Naidu had revolted against NT Rama Rao over the latter's second wife Lakshmi Parvati's increasing influence in TDP affairs. Many MLAs backed the move and elected Naidu as their leader. After the successful intra-party coup, Naidu became the youngest CM of united AP at 45 and won bouquets and brickbats. The concepts of good governance by integrating technology stood as a role model for many states and at national level. He is often considered as one of the pioneers of IT in India on the administrative side by bringing industry-friendly policies. Hyderabad has developed into an IT hub and the most attractive destination for investments after his policies changed its face.

He faced backlash from voters as his policies did not benefit them directly. As new CM, he will have two challenges — find ways to generate revenues to fund the numerous welfare schemes that Jagan started during his term, together worth around Rs 2.7 lakh crore. He has promised to enhance the amounts on all schemes and add new ones. He will also have to raise resources and encourage investors to return to Amaravati.



ANI

CAKEWALK: N Chandrababu Naidu celebrates with son and TDP national general secretary Nara Lokesh and family members

Jagan 'splurge' fails to dole out YSRCP win

Samdani.MN@timesgroup.com

Do doles do what netas want them to do? Not always. That's what YS Jagan Mohan Reddy learnt the hard way. Chandrababu Naidu swept away all hopes of a rerun by outgoing Andhra CM Jagan who was riding on the massive spending on a slew of welfare schemes. Now, they have not only left YSRCP in the dumps, the schemes have crippled AP's economy too.

While the people seemed clearly not content with 'doles,' Jagan's narrative on class war — that the polls in Andhra Pradesh were fought between the poor led by YSRCP and feudal forces led by TDP — escalated tempers, prompting many electors to take the side of 'development' and vote him out.

Jagan, who marched to power in 2019 following a historic padayatra, was accused of rarely coming out of his bungalow to meet people. Even his ministers and legislators complained he was not accessible.

His social engineering experiments, too, distanced the party's strong voters from the influential caste groups. He blocked 50% of the posts in the nominated boards, corporations, temple and market committees for SC, ST, BC, and minorities. He also brought women into the 50% reservation bracket in the nominated posts.

Jagan's village/ward volunteer system to deliver govt schemes at the doorsteps of beneficiaries seemed to have boomeranged as party functionaries and cadres were kept out of this mechanism. They did not have any role and left upset.

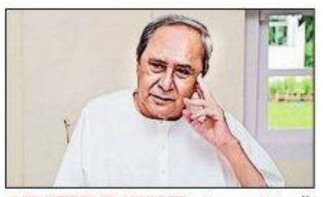
Patnaik makes way for neo-*naveen*

Ashok.Pradhan@timesgroup.com

He could have etched his name in the annals of India's electoral history as the country's longest-serving CM if he had, yet again, won the polls in Odisha this time. But Naveen Patnaik — the man who is said to have been a reluctant politician who had no intention to join politics after his father Biju Patnaik's death 27 years ago — missed the milestone by a whisker.

Trumped by BJP after close to two-and-a-half decades at the helm, Naveen fell short of former Sikkim chief minister Pawan Chamling's term of 24 years and 165 days. He could have gone past the post in Aug.

People did not endorse Naveen's populist measures, like cash incentives for farmers, youth and women, besides the promise of free electricity for middle class. His governance model and work in health, education, and women empowerment failed to boost party's prospects.



MILESTONE MISSED: Naveen Patnaik

Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana, which the BJD projected as superior to and more inclusive than the Centre's Ayushman Bharat, failed to make a mark. BJP had been criticising Naveen for not implementing the central scheme and "depriving" the people of Odisha of its benefits.

The Odisha upset also puts a question mark on the acceptability of VK Pandian, who was considered by many as Naveen's successor. An entire generation in their 40s and below, who have only seen Naveen's govt since they voted for the first time, will see a new brand of politics now.

The fall guy: Will party pander to Pandian now?

Ashok.Pradhan@timesgroup.com

One of BJP's creative social media campaigns included a mock airline ticket for VK Pandian, 'booked' from Bhubaneswar to Tamil Nadu on the fictitious 'BJDGo' airlines for June 4.

While the Tamil Nadu born IAS-turned-politician may not leave his 'karmabhoomi' Odisha, he definitely finds himself at a political crossroads following BJD's massive poll debacle — both in the Lok Sabha and assembly polls — in Odisha.

Pandian's much-touted position as a key figure within the BJD has come under scrutiny. The party's disappointing showing has led to speculation about his political trajectory and the impact it may have on his influence within the organization.



Pandian had announced he would quit politics if BJD failed to return to power with a three-fourth majority.

He had dared Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan to adopt a similar stand if he lost. If Pandian does that, his political career would span just six months since he joined BJD in Nov last year after taking voluntary retirement from the services. Pandian drew his strength from Naveen Patnaik's unfaltering faith in him.

But now, many BJD functionaries who had remained silent may speak out. They may question his acceptability and role within the party. On the eve of the last-phase polls, Naveen had hurriedly announced Pandian will not succeed him.

A new 'pradhan' in Odisha soon?

Ashok.Pradhan
@timesgroup.com

During one of his poll rallies in Odisha, Union home minister Amit Shah credited his cabinet colleague **Dharmendra Pradhan** for leading the team that formed the manifesto for the Odisha assembly elections this time. A few days later, Union defence minister Rajnath Singh indicated a bigger role for Pradhan.



With BJP securing majority to form its first govt in Odisha, Union education minister Pradhan has emerged as the top contender for the CM's job.

Pradhan, 54, a postgraduate from Utkal University, has been a key lieutenant of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Shah in the past decade and is BJP's most prominent face in the eastern coastal state.

The manifesto that Shah credited Pradhan with, is one of the key factors that swung the result BJP's way, with its promise of buying paddy at Rs 3,100 per quintal, cash voucher of Rs 50,000 to women under Subhadra Yojana and fight for Odia asmita.

And, it's not just the manifesto. Pradhan joined forces with Modi and Shah to highlight two other issues that provided ammunition in BJP's fight — attack on IAS-turned-politician VK Pandian as an outsider and the emotive issue of "missing keys" to sacred Ratna Bhandar (treasure trove) at the Puri Jagannath Temple.

Like in 2019, he played the lead role in managing BJP's poll strategy this time too, including overseeing day-to-day affairs in the run-up to polls, apart from drawing up the manifesto.

Parivars in Politics

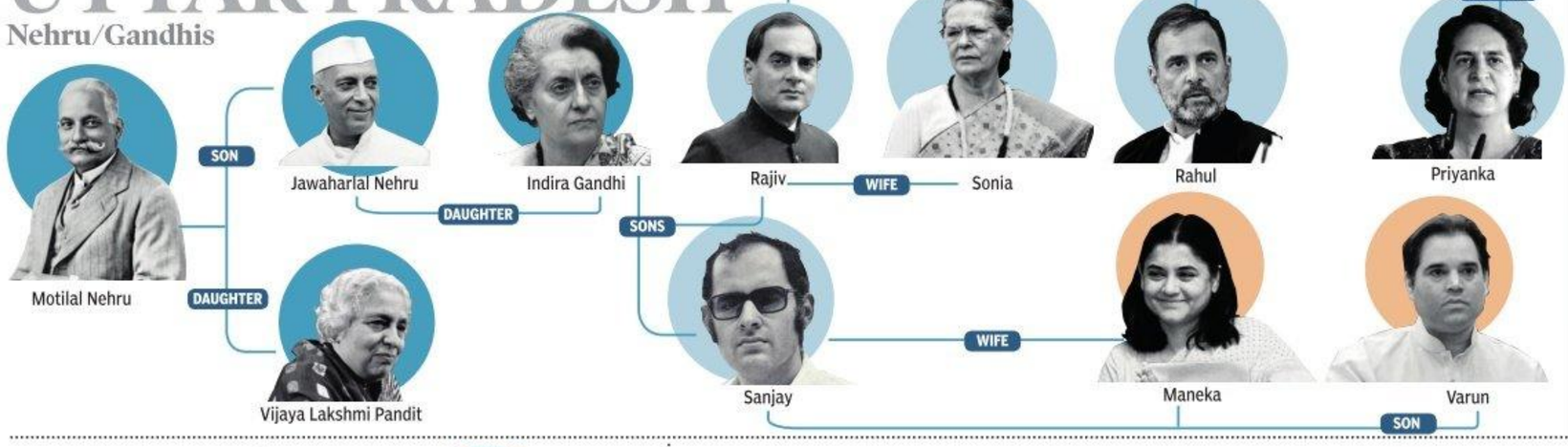
The politics of a country of now 137 crore people has been dominated by a few dynasties. What do Rahul Gandhi, Jyotiraditya Scindia, Nakul Kamal Nath, Sukhbir Badal, Supriya Sule and Vaibhav Gehlot have in common? They represent one of **nearly 75 prominent political families** (and this is not an exhaustive count) across the spectrum — barring the Left — found by **TOI**'s inhouse research



All state-level political families and several two-generation families (e.g. Pilots of Rajasthan or Bahugunas of UP) were excluded for reasons of space

UTTAR PRADESH

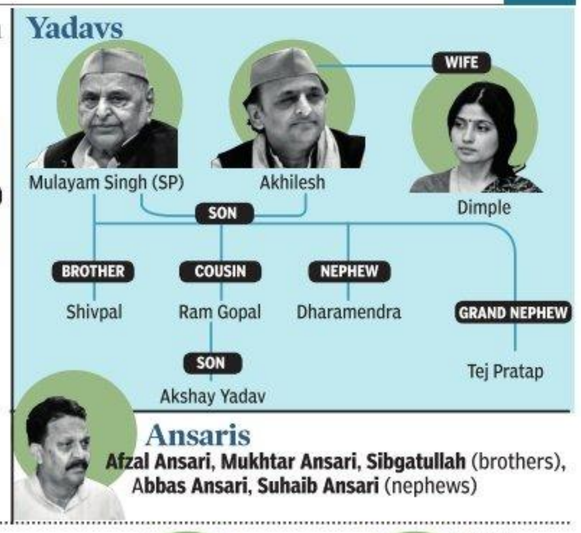
Nehru/Gandhis



Charan Singh



Yadavs

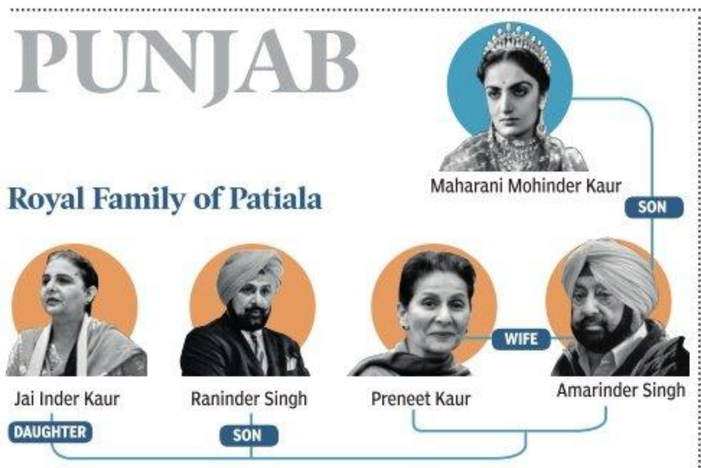


Ansaris

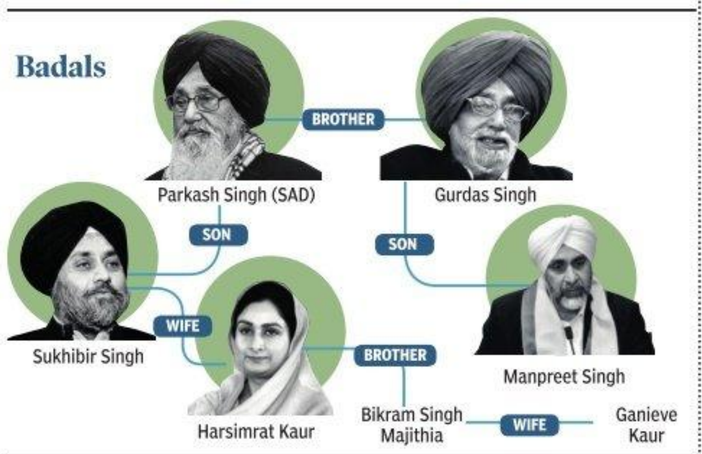
Afzal Ansari, Mukhtar Ansari, Sibgatullah (brothers), **Abbas Ansari, Suhaib Ansari** (nephews)

PUNJAB

Royal Family of Patiala



Badals

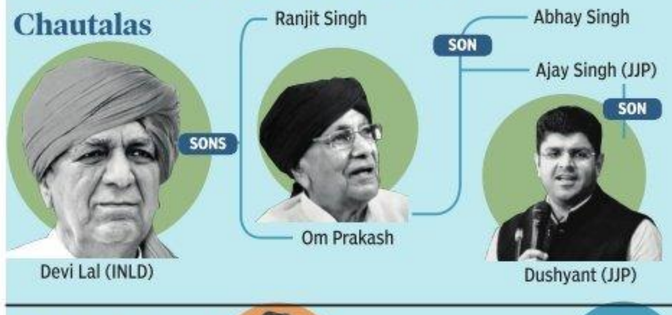


Kairons

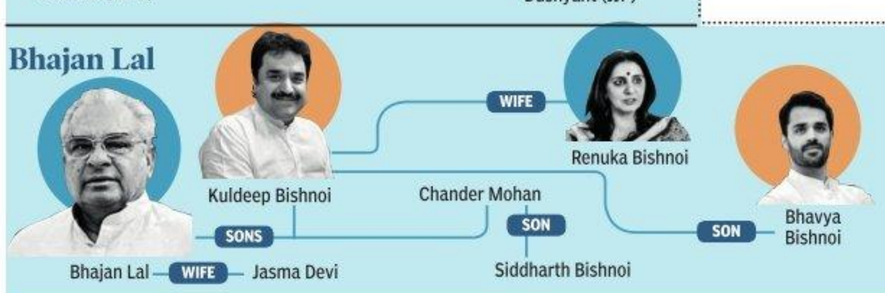
Partap Singh Kairon (former CM of Punjab), **Surinder Singh Kairon** (son of Pratap Singh), **Adesh Partap Singh Kairon** (grand son of Pratap Singh)

HARYANA

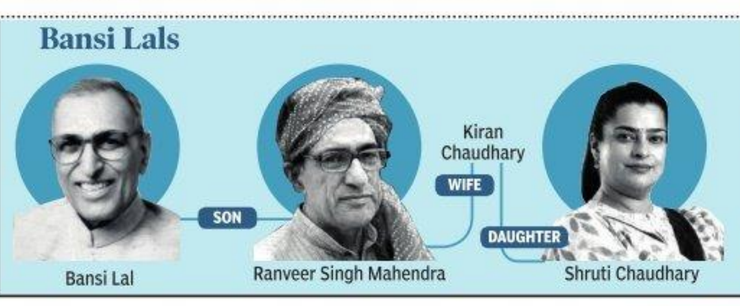
Chautalas



Bhajan Lal

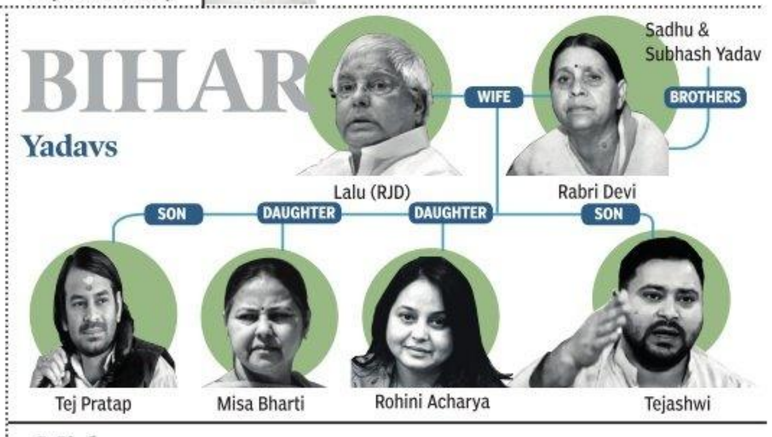


Bansi Lals



BIHAR

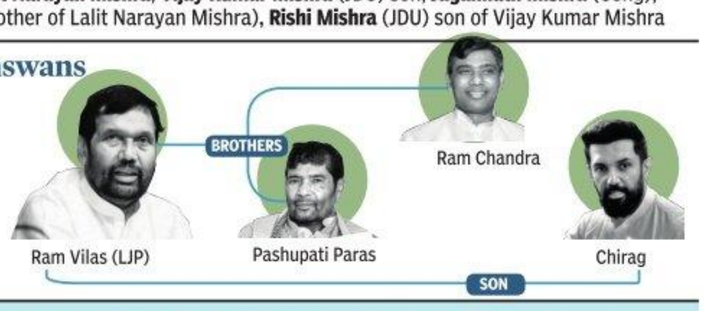
Yadavs



Mishras

Lalit Narayan Mishra, Vijay Kumar Mishra (JDU) son, **Jagannath Mishra** (Cong), (Brother of Lalit Narayan Mishra), **Rishi Mishra** (JDU) son of Vijay Kumar Mishra

Paswans



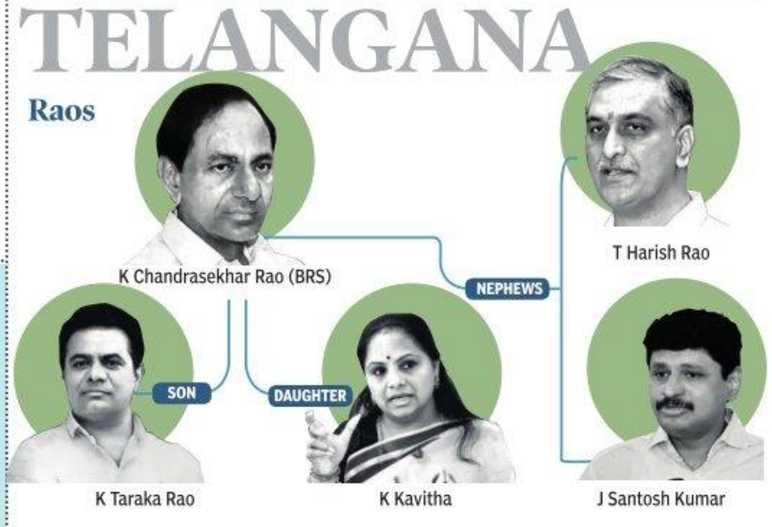
JHARKHAND

Sorens



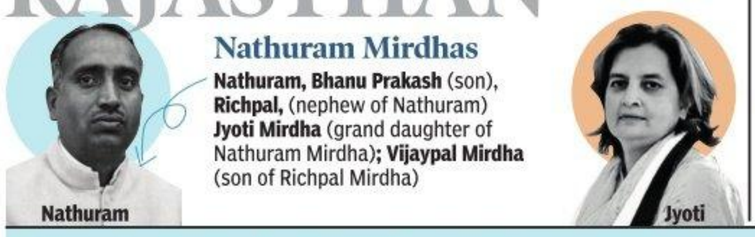
TELANGANA

Raos



RAJASTHAN

Nathuram Mirdhas



Nathuram, Bhanu Prakash (son), **Richpal,** (nephew of Nathuram) **Jyoti Mirdha** (grand daughter of Nathuram Mirdha)**; Vijaypal Mirdha** (son of Richpal Mirdha)

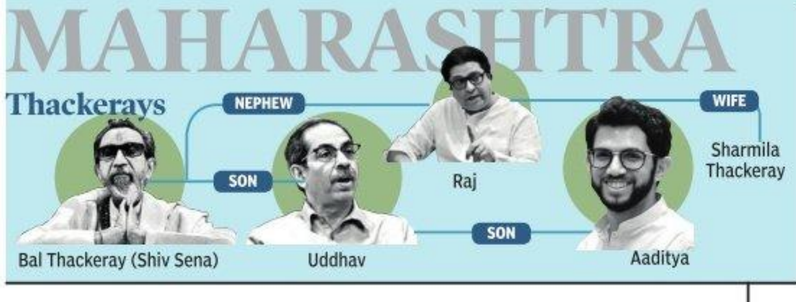
MP/RAJASTHAN

Scindias

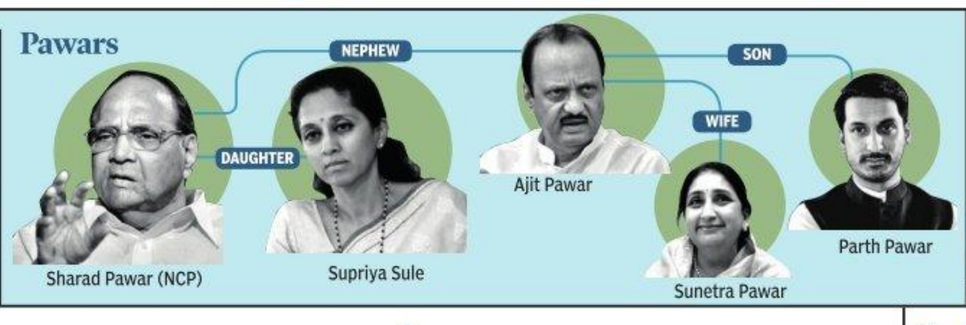


MAHARASHTRA

Thackerays



Pawars



Chavans

Shankarrao Chavan, Ashok Chavan, son (Former CM of Maharashtra)



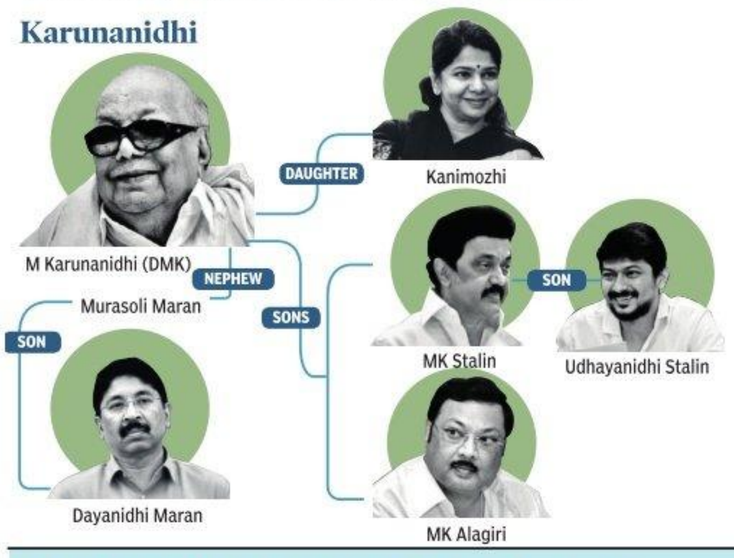
ODISHA

Biju Patnaiks



TAMIL NADU

Karunanidhi



ANDHRA PRADESH

Raos

NT Rama Rao (TDP), **Nandamuri Harikrishna** and **Nandamuri Balakrishna**, NTR's sons, **Daggubati Purandeswari**, NTR's daughter, **Daggubati Venkateswara Rao**, NTR's son-in-law, **Nara Chandrababu Naidu**, NTR's son-in-law

Reddys

YS Rajasekhara Reddy (Cong), **YS Vijayamma** YSR's wife, **YS Jagnmohan** (YSR's son), **YS Sharmila** (YSR's daughter), **YS Vivekanand Reddy** (YSR's brother)

Patnaiks

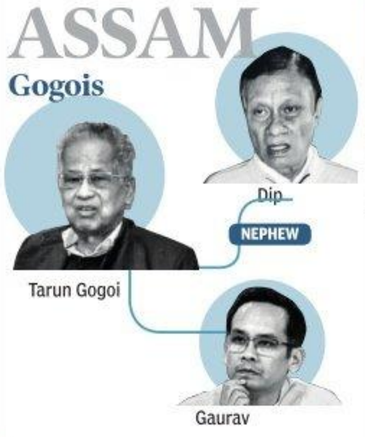
JB Patnaik (Congress), **Soumyaranjan Patnaik** (BJD) (son-in-law), **Niranjan** (Soumyaranjan's elder brother)

Deos

Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo (Swatantra Party), grandsons **Kalikesh** and **Arkesh** (BJD), Rajendra's brother's son **K V Singh Deo** (BJP), KV's wife **Sangeeta** (BJP)

ASSAM

Gogois



KARNATAKA

Yediyurappas

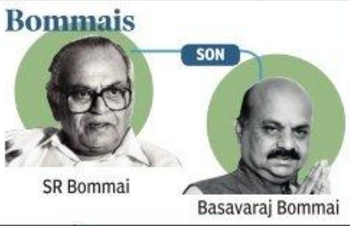


BS Yediyurappa **BY Vijayendra** and **BY Raghavendra** (sons of BSY)

Deve Gowdas



Bommais



Reddys

Ramalinga Reddy, Sowmya Reddy (daughter)

Patils

Siddaramagouda, Shivananda Patil (son), **Samyukta Patil**

Jarkiholi

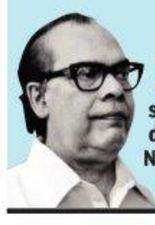
Laxmanrao, Satish, Balachandra, Ramesh Bhimashi Jarkiholi, Lakhan (sons)

Satpathys



WEST BENGAL

Choudhurys



Ghani Khan & brothers Abu Hasem, Abu Nasar (TMC), sister Rubi Noor & her daughter Mausam Benazir Noor (TMC), Ghani Khan's nephew Isha Khan (Cong)

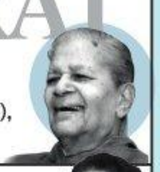
Adhikaris

Sisir Adhikari, Suvendu, Dibyendu, Soumendu (sons)



GUJARAT

Solankis



Madhavsinh Solanki (Former CM), **Bharat Solanki** (Former MP)

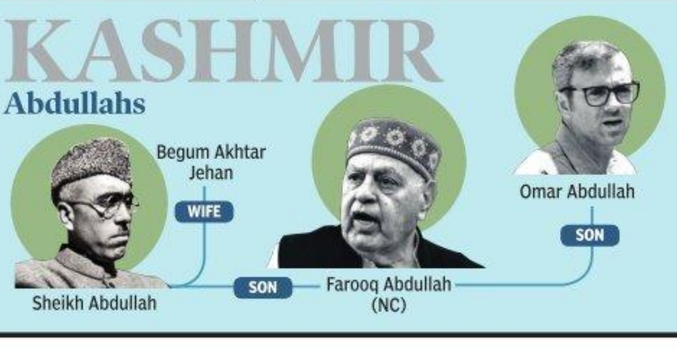
Chaudharys



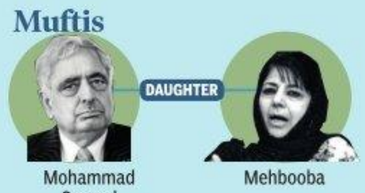
Amarsinh Chaudhary, Tushar Chaudhary

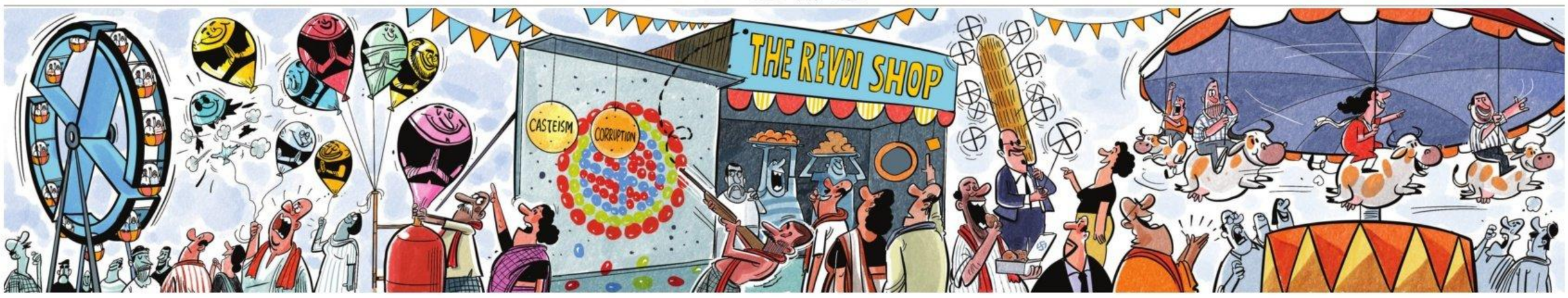
KASHMIR

Abdullahs



Muftis





Politics Returns To The Old Normal

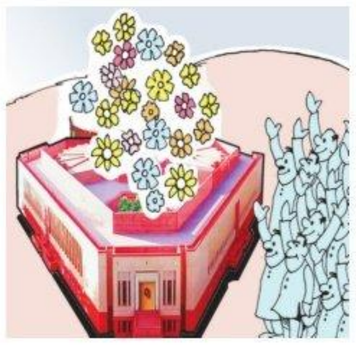
BJP's coalition govt must read the verdict right: basics matter

India's voters can't be taken for granted. An election where the outcome was widely held to be a foregone conclusion, has given a result with many surprises, overturning many assumptions. None of the takeaways is brand new to Indian politics. But they were quite unexpected in 2024.

End of exceptionalism | After a decade of single-party dominance, which led to successive majority verdicts in elections characterised by a pan-India theme, LS 2024 reverted to an earlier pattern. There wasn't a single overriding issue that animated the electorate. Neither did candidates fade into near-irrelevance in a presidential type of contest. In that sense, LS polls went back to being normal and should lead to the restoration of democracy's checks and balances.

Coalitions and allies matter | This is a natural extension of a return to the old way. Smartly constructed alliances worked well for both BJP and Congress. The best examples for the two parties were AP and UP, respectively. Conversely, avoiding an alliance with BJD in Odisha helped BJP cross a frontier in the state.

For the first time since 2009, a new govt will be a coalition. Unlike the last two occasions, allies cannot be brushed aside. They will have a say in critical decisions. Managing inconsistent demands from allies will be a skill that will have to take centre stage again. Therefore, we are now unlikely to see hugely disruptive decisions introduced at short notice. But that doesn't preclude the likelihood of reforms, as coalition govts earlier have carried out significant changes.



Messaging and reality need to be in sync | A look back at BJP's campaign shows that the stated target of exceeding 400 seats didn't age well. Not only did it smack of taking the electorate for granted, but it may have also introduced a sense of complacency. Moreover, it provided opposition a tactical opening to stoke anxieties about the Constitution and reservation. The BJP messaging clearly didn't hit home. GOI's jobs data shows that the benefits of high GDP growth have simply not percolated down. When Modi and BJP talked up their performance, it was out of sync with what the electorate was experiencing. If there's a lesson here, it's that the messaging needs to be close to ground reality. More so, when there's no overriding emotive theme.

INDIA's tactical shrewdness | This was a coalition that seemed to be falling apart in the months leading up to the election. When one of its catalysts, Nitish, suddenly switched over to NDA, it seemed to symbolise the fragility of INDIA. It didn't help that in Bengal TMC chose to go it alone.

Notwithstanding early setbacks, INDIA played its cards well. In UP it defied all odds. A state that was regarded as BJP's trump card turned out to be its weakness. That was the case in Maharashtra too, giving INDIA a huge boost in the two largest states. In both states, the alliance played a tactically smart game. It sidestepped BJP's strength – Modi's popularity – and stuck to local issues. As the campaign progressed, it began to have a more pronounced effect, and eastern UP turned in big gains for SP.

Welfare and jobs | Welfare packages are now fairly standardised across political parties. Cash transfers to women, concessions on electricity consumption and subsidised or even free cereals are common to most manifestos and state govts. One takeaway from this election is that welfare packages, on their own, do not deliver. One example is AP where YSRCP received a drubbing in assembly and LS elections despite generous welfare measures. Even GOI had an extensive welfare package, underpinned by free cereals since 2020.

Voters have clearly indicated that jobs and economic aspirations matter. India's macroeconomic parameters are sound, and its economy is growing fast. However, unless this translates into greater opportunity for a burgeoning youth population and a belief that upward mobility is within grasp, a party in govt will be in trouble. The economic message from the results is that jobs matter.

New Reality For Modi Sarkar: Play Nice

Lok Sabha elections have given BJP-led NDA a weak mandate to govern. BJP has received its biggest jolt since 2014, having been humbled in its bastion of UP and many other sub-regions of west and north India. It no longer has a majority of its own, brought down by its own hubris. Gains elsewhere were not enough to compensate for the losses in its strongholds.



R JAGANNATHAN

The second big losers are the exit pollsters, who clearly suffered from confirmation biases and got their numbers badly wrong. In particular, their projections in UP, Maharashtra and Bengal were way off the mark. The other losers are candidates who did not belong to either BJP or opposition alliances. Gains made by INDIA bloc came not just at the cost of BJP but also third party candidates. India has become a two-front polity once more, as it was between 1998 and 2014, even though BJP has expanded its core vote base under Modi.

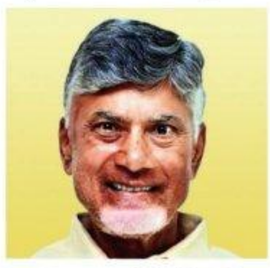
But the big reality is reputational damage done to Modi. In a party used to giving him all credit for victories in the past, BJP's inability to even get a simple majority of its own cannot but weaken him politically, both inside his own party and in NDA. He cannot now govern with a PMO-centred decision-making apparatus. Of course, there is a chance that many new MPs (and smaller parties) can be enticed into BJP to give it more comfortable numbers in Parliament, but these numbers will be unstable.

Congress and its alliance parties will be cock-a-hoop, having finally broken the jinx of the last decade and scoring wins in many parts of north and west India, including Haryana, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and UP. Mamata Banerjee's TMC has delivered a huge defeat to BJP in Bengal. AAP will be less thrilled, having had to cede seats to its 'ally' Congress in Punjab. A resurgent SP will emerge as a big challenger to BJP in UP, posing problems for the double-engine sarkar.

Consolation prizes for BJP came from Telangana and Odisha. Seat gains in Andhra Pradesh were largely because it made the right decision to ally with TDP and Jana Sena, while mere vote share gains in Kerala and Tamil Nadu suggest that it is still not quite among the top contenders there.

Clearly, BJP was too cocky, but it also made huge errors of commission. While it was quick to grab allies, even by splitting parties, the only ally who won big was Naidu in Andhra along with Jana Sena. It is worth noting that, till the last moment, BJP was hesitant to join this alliance. As for the parties it broke – Shiv Sena and NCP in Maharashtra – this has dented BJP's own credibility. Clearly, electorate is not amused by *tod-phod* politics.

The defining trend in this general election, both at Parliament and assembly levels, seems to be anti-incumbency. BJP correctly anticipated that it would need allies this time, but it was too cocksure and took many voter blocs, including the beneficiaries of its welfare schemes, for granted. Incumbents in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh too assumed that they were unbeatable, and here it was BJP and its allies who benefited.





The humbling of BJP in its core areas of strength means that in his third term, Modi will have to adjust to the reality of coalition politics. Both Naidu and Nitish will need to be kept in good humour, and major legislative changes cannot be done without a wider consensus not only among allies, but also among opposition. We can forget about One Nation One Poll, Uniform Civil Code and big-ticket economic reforms. Opposition will now be less likely to play dead, both in Parliament and in states.

The lessons BJP needs to learn are many.

- First, it is wrong to assume that just because Modi is popular, he will always carry the day. India is too diverse and an average voter too independent to allow anyone to rest on his laurels. Every leader, every party has to work hard, and even then victory is not assured.
- Second, BJP has to build more local leaders, and the decision to sideline someone like Vasundhara Raje in Rajasthan surely cost it big. While UP results suggest that Yogi Adityanath also needs to introspect, many party insiders believe that Yogi may have been circumscribed by higher powers in Delhi who see his rise as a threat to their own standing post-Modi.
- Third, events like the Ram Mandir *pran prathistha* can help the party in a limited way among core voters, but for the wider electorate, bread-and-butter issues matter more. We cannot at this point estimate whether the lack of freebies from BJP – unlike Congress, which has promised the moon to youth and women – cost it many votes. Free ration of 5kg rice clearly was not enough. Jobs may have mattered more this time. In contrast, in 2019, when BJP was uncertain about victory, it made concessions to taxpayers and farmers just before the elections. This time, the party assumed that Modi's guarantee alone would be enough. It wasn't.
- Fourth, party has to introspect on whether it can afford to base electoral calculations only on a consolidation of Hindu vote. This time, Muslims seem to have fully backed any party capable of beating BJP, and the Hindu counter-consolidation was not as strong.

For Congress, the lessons are positive. Its stubborn opposition to BJP has finally paid dividends, and both Rahul Gandhi and his allies, mainly in UP, have reasons to rejoice. Additionally, the old strategy of relying heavily on minority votes and dividing the majority community with sharply targeted welfarist schemes has worked this time. But Congress does owe an apology for the kind of calumny it heaped on EC.

Overall, this election proves once more that most elections are won in the states, and not nationally.

Good Democratic Politics: Create Jobs

High on the list of consequences of BJP returning to being dependent on a coalition, rather than having a majority of its own, would be the pressures on the economic front.

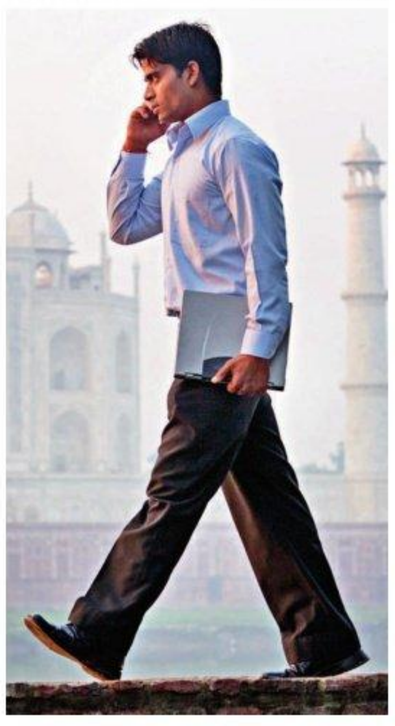
Ever since the liberalisation of the 1990s, conventional wisdom has been that economic policy needs to focus entirely on growth. Economists associated with govt have often explicitly argued that inequality does not matter as long as there is sufficient growth to take the poor above the poverty line. The 2024 general election results provide the first concrete challenge to that view.

The idea that high growth would provide the resources to take care of the interests of those at the base of the pyramid did not begin with BJP govts. It gathered momentum with the decision of UPA 1 to launch the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme. BJP provided further impetus to this approach by using the revenue from unequal growth to provide free food and other welfare measures.

This approach did bring an increasing share of Indians above the poverty line defined by economists, but the poverty line in the minds of the poor began to change. As the country celebrated extremely high levels of consumption, it raised the aspirations of those at the bottom of the pyramid.

Rahul Gandhi, in his first successful political initiative, spotted the dissatisfaction with the measures that merely raised the poor above the poverty line. The guarantees of Congress went far beyond tackling absolute poverty. He not only promised higher cash transfers but, in states like Karnataka, the idea of free bus travel for women dramatically altered their relationship with the world outside their homes.

The promises of INDIA have not been enough to remove PM Modi and his politics of majority dominance at home and Indian dominance of the world, but the performance of the alliance suggests that the rising aspirations of the poor can no longer be easily brushed aside. The next BJP govt will be under pressure to, if not match some of the cash transfers that INDIA promised, at least make economic policy more sensitive to inequality.



To begin with, the dependence on regional party allies could well result in regional inequality gaining more attention than it has had in decades. The growth-with-inequality strategy led to the creation of a few metropolises that were too expensive to house less skilled labour and their families.



NARENDAR PANI

This resulted in the workers being forced to migrate for short-term assignments in the city while keeping their families in their villages. Their efforts to earn in cities so that they could spend in villages took a toll on their health and family lives. This cost was accepted as the earnings from the city changed their status in the village. Once their status changed, though, they wanted jobs closer to their homes. Unemployment became an issue that affected their votes.

Addressing the unemployment challenge has been made more difficult by the political narrative that emerged from the growth-with-inequality strategy. The welfare measures it used to offset the political costs of the strategy created their own narrative. These measures were seen as an individual's right, which had to be protected by govt. The impression was thus easily created that the jobs that were being promised would be govt jobs.

The expectation of govt jobs may well encourage regional allies to demand large payouts from the Centre. It does not help that BJP govt would be dependent on support from Naidu and Nitish, both of whom represent states that have long-standing demands from Centre. Andhra Pradesh had been promised a substantial grant when the original state was divided, and Bihar had been promised a special grant. These grants could generate govt jobs, but they would fall far short of the numbers needed to make a serious dent in unemployment.

Beyond the quick fixes of central grants, the challenge of employment generation would require a fresh look at investment strategies. The current emphasis on attracting global capital, or Indian capital with a global presence, may not be effective, as this capital tends to prefer economies dominated by larger metropolises. The two states that have gained political significance from the 2024 election results – Andhra Pradesh and Bihar – do not have any of the country's major metropolises in them.

It may be time to consider alternative patterns of industrialisation that are not only more effective in generating employment but can also be located at urban centres that are more hospitable to less skilled workers. Such an approach may also require greater reliance on the accumulation of local capital, rather than depending on attracting capital from outside. If the results of 2024 do generate such an alternative economic strategy, the return of coalitions may not be such a bad outcome.

Back To Practical Hinduism

Just as pundits settled into the comfort of magical thinking – faith in Modi's charisma and grand national narratives – India's voters have given us a lesson in political realism. While the digital classes in Delhi and Bengaluru cheered the moon landing and the G20 summit, and the magnates in Gujarat celebrated the temple in Ayodhya, other matters have been on the minds of people in deep India.



ANASTASIA PILIAVSKY

India's swelling GDP and its new status as the world's fifth largest economy have been closely tracked by soaring unemployment, which has risen from 3.2% to 7.6% since 2013. This contrast reflects the gulf between the benefits of Modi's economics for the rich and the poor.

India's banks are no longer crippled by bankrupt billionaires, foreign investment has acquired confidence. While physical and digital infra, from airports to the digitisation of money, have expanded, life choices of the country's poorest and most vulnerable have shrunk. Crores of India's farmers and migrant workers have been left behind.

Lakhs of small and tiny, often grey-market, businesses that run day-to-day India and form the country's economic backbone, are still recovering from demonetisation and GST policies. The small-enterprise sector has shrunk to 19% of India's GDP, from 27.5% pre-Modi. While inflation soars, there has hardly been any growth in real wages since 2014 and the share of educated young people among the unemployed rose from 54.2% to 65.7% over the two Covid years.

Manufacturing growth is painstakingly slow, agri profits have fallen precipitously, private consumption expenditure descended to a two-decade low, while household debt rose to an all-time high. According to World Inequality Database, India's economic inequality is worse than it has been in a century.

While pundits brooded over political messaging and national ideologies, predicting a Modi-4-eva govt, voters in the fields and on the streets were rethinking their loyalties. Modi rode high on hope with two wildcards he received in the previous elections. This year, he was judged less on his promises than on what he has already done.

The verdict does not only damn Modinomics, it drastically cuts his image to size. Ensconced in a bubble of media pundits, political technologists and sycophants, critics say the PM has become an auto-devotee, believing himself divinely ordained to lead single-handedly the new Bharat. Ignoring local leaders, failing to reward veteran party workers and sidelining RSS have cost the party dozens of seats. Seats won in UP, Kerala, Odisha and Rajasthan went to known and trusted community leaders, not Modi's envoys.

Modi's polarising comments, arguably made when he realised this election will not be an easy ride, may have backfired, leaving many Hindus unimpressed. "India does not need to talk of Hindus and Muslims," says a *chaiwallah* in Jaipur, "We need roads and jobs."

In a survey conducted across Indian cities, 35% of BJP supporters said they had no interest in Ayodhya. Even the middle-class Hindu women, who, as the keepers of faith, are more susceptible to Hindu nationalism, joined the party mostly through economic self-help groups, not theological associations.



Once again, India rejected totalising, abstract national ideologies, proving its politics to be as local, pragmatic and pluralistic as the Hinduism actually practised by most. Its political judgments have proven more agile and self-possessed than any sitting-room analyst's.

Heartland's Caste Consensus

Lok Sabha results show caste retains its salience in north Indian politics – but in new, unpredictable ways. Before examining what's new, a look at what lingers from the past. One, dominant castes of north India continue to strongly prefer BJP, which remains a Brahmin-Bania party at the core. Second, peasant groups in UP and Bihar still prefer regional OBC-led parties. Third, Dalit voters continue to be split between the incumbent in New Delhi and small regional parties.

But beyond these, much has changed. BJP has shown over the past decade that it can create broad-based caste coalitions threading together the top, middle, and bottom of Hindu society. Rajputs and Jats and OBC-SC/ST voters endorsed Modi as *primus inter pares*. This was more than social engineering. Long-standing blocs of *jatis* could be disaggregated, and recombined into successful electoral coalitions. Both winners and losers in electoral politics would receive the same spoils of state welfare as the *labharthi* (beneficiaries). As India experimented with universal welfare, more and more *jatis* could be enticed onto the merry-go-round.

But if BJP could do it, so could opposition. In UP, particularly in its central and eastern flanks, SP abandoned its focus on Yadavs and Muslims, to award seats to Dalits according to its PDA – *pichda* (backward), Dalit, *alpasankhya* (minority) – strategy. Many Jatavs, Mayawati's supporters for over three decades, credibly believed a 'danger to the Constitution' obliged them to vote against BJP. As a result, BSP drew a blank even in western UP.



UDAY CHANDRA

Anti-BJP votes consolidated behind INDIA parties. Just as a broad neo-Hindutva coalition worked for BJP, a new socialism (*samajwad*) rooted in the messy everyday realities of caste and class spelt success for the SP-led INDIA coalition in UP.

In Bihar, alliances of middle and lower castes have kept Lalu and Nitish in power since 1990. Yet the BJP-JDU coalition signalled a new trend: Brahmins, Bhumihars, and Rajputs could, after decades, band with Kurmis, Koeris, and Kushwahas. With Paswan's LJP joining NDA, a significant proportion of SC votes consolidated behind the neo-Hindu coalition.

In practice, this is a shifting social kaleidoscope more than a coalition – when the wily Nitish left NDA to join hands with RJD and Congress in the state, a caste census and a new welfare drive emerged. Every time he returned to NDA, predictably before national elections, he ensured BJP voters rallied behind JDU candidates, and boosted his party's tally in Parliament.

In Bihar, RJD will learn from SP's successes in UP. With state elections next year, Tejashwi will look to woo Dalits and non-Yadav OBCs, who may have voted NDA this time. But for now, RJD and its allies have fared poorly. JDU has recorded its best LS performance since 2009, emerging as Bihar's single-largest party.

But if Nitish now rejoins INDIA, he can end his political career with a top position in Delhi, leaving next year's assembly elections as a tantalising bipolar contest between BJP and RJD.

Universal welfare being the new normal in India, savvy voters are choosing carefully between coalitions of Hindutva and *samajwad*, that offer new public goods. The underserved citizens of India's northern heartland stand to gain after decades of neglect. Each alliance will woo citizens with higher bids in exchange for votes. A world of possibility lies ahead as the north seeks to catch up with the south.



Uday Deb

Why Modi Doesn't Really Need A Makeover



SWAPAN DASGUPTA

Over the years, there have been new layers of conventional wisdom that have shaped the punditry on Indian elections.

The first, which has been demonstrated at frequent intervals since the landmark 1977 elections, is that the term 'safe seat' is a misnomer in India. The second, also demonstrated over many decades, is that the accuracy of opinion polls is suspect. This election, exit polls have joined this list of non-certitudes.

Premature triumphalism | It's one thing for a prematurely triumphalist BJP leadership to proclaim its intention of breaching the 400-seat barrier in Lok Sabha – a feat that was only once possible in 1984, and that too under exceptional circumstances.

It's, however, a different matter to anticipate how the prospect of a steamroller majority after two terms is going to be viewed by the electorate.

Maybe the governing dispensation was misled by the series of opinion polls that suggested a presidential election with one candidate on the ballot. Maybe the expectations of markets were shaped by the optimism of exit polls that suggested an all-India wave for Modi.

Whatever the reality, it was a Black Tuesday for the investing classes, and a grim reality check for BJP activists who had set out in the morning in a celebratory mood.

Stability falls short | Over the past 10 years, since Modi assumed charge, India had got accustomed to not merely stability but dissension-free decision-making at Centre.

By depriving BJP of an outright parliamentary majority on its own and yet giving NDA a comfortable working majority, voters appear to have shunned the decisiveness and certitudes that had become a feature of Modi govt. They have, instead, opted for a greater measure of hesitation and tentativeness, but without embracing the dysfunctionality of INDIA.

Whether this was just a wake-up call to consider the interests of those unable to keep pace with the pace of Viksit Bharat or a larger philosophical message celebrating a plodding approach will have to be assessed by Modi as he looks to begin his third term on a subdued note. How he and his brains-trust assess the election outcome will have a bearing on the immediate future.

Yet, for BJP, the election was only a partial disaster. It failed to cross the 272-majority mark because of reverses in UP, Rajasthan, Haryana, and Maharashtra.

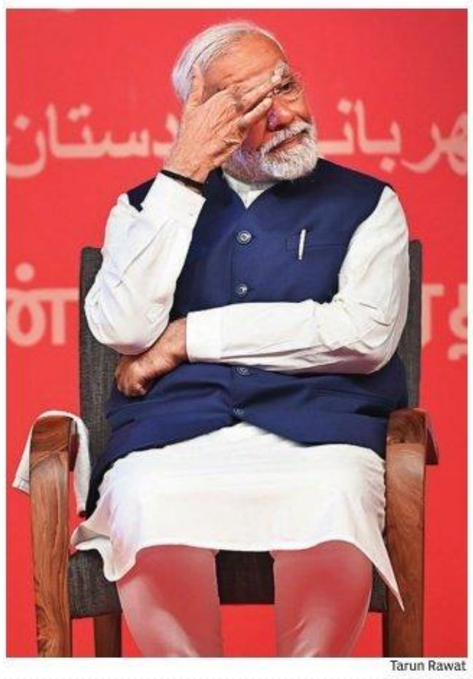
In the first three states, it was a failure of governance and an inability to address the concerns of dominant castes and Dalits.

In Maharashtra, the bid to ensure victory by decimating opposition triggered a moral repugnance that a crafty leader like Sharad Pawar was able to use to his advantage.

Corrective: Soft touch | The impression of high-handedness and arrogance doesn't appear to have served BJP well in this election, and Modi will have to think about a corrective soft touch.

This will also have to involve BJP state units reverting to normal politics and becoming less dependent on investigative agencies.

These distortions must, however, be kept in perspective. Overall, BJP's performance in its other stronghold areas of northern and western India was exemplary. Its ambition of making a mark in non-traditional areas didn't entirely succeed in Tamil Nadu, but who could have anticipated the scale of BJP success in Telangana, Odisha and its ability to finally dent the bipolar consensus of Kerala?



Tarun Rawat

Build on Modi Guarantees | There was disappointment in Bengal, a state where Modi had put in an extra effort. However, the defeat hasn't been at a level to warrant abandoning the project altogether.

Organisational overhaul, a clear line of leadership, and a more culturally nuanced approach could prove to be rewarding for 2026 assembly elections.

The point is that while the Modi Guarantees may have been overwhelmed by the fragmentation of politics in some states, the narrative still holds good in most of the country. Modi remains by far the most popular and acceptable leader, and it's unlikely that BJP will even consider replacing him with someone who appears more consensual.

Even though some of the more radical facets of his agenda will probably have to be put on the backburner, Modi will be misreading the verdict if he chooses to reinvent himself dramatically.

He will be confronted by an energised Congress ecosystem that wants to go for BJP's jugular. Media too will become less friendly, if not hostile.

This isn't an unfamiliar situation. He faced similar challenges as Gujarat CM. How he converts threats into opportunities will channel the nation's attention in the coming months.

Elections That Reminded Netas, People Are The Boss



RAHUL VERMA

The historic mandate that the exit polls had predicted for BJP on Saturday didn't come through on Tuesday. And, given that BJP has fallen short of a simple majority, all bets about the new govt's agenda are now off. Because when BJP does form govt, it would be in a coalition where its power is much diminished. Which would mean a diminishing of both party ability to run political manoeuvres and govt ability to make unilateral decisions.

Where BJP has scored | While BJP has taken a massive loss in seats across core states, it has by and large held on to its vote share, and continues its domination of some states like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Plus, it has managed to expand its footprint in 'new' states such as Odisha, while also increasing its vote share in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It has performed well with allies in Bihar, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Why the setbacks | There is no single theory that can explain all of BJP's setbacks, as different states have gone in different directions.

- In Maharashtra and UP, its alliance math went wrong, while INDIA stole the march.
- In Haryana, there was anti-incumbency; in Rajasthan, internal dissension took a toll. Along with Punjab, these were also farmer-protest affected areas.
- Overall, the party's electoral dominance has taken a hit. Its forward march in Bengal has been stalled for a few more years.

Whither the Modi factor? | BJP's brawny dominance has hitherto been over-dependent on PM's popularity. But this time, his leadership hasn't been able to mobilise the votes quite as robustly. This is not to argue that the PM's appeal doesn't matter for the party's performance, but rather that it has to square off with voters' perception of governance, political freedoms, and economic anxiety.

Is BJP's social coalition weakening? | Certainly, the cracks are beginning to show. In UP, for instance, losses seem to have mounted more in SC-dominated seats than in Muslim-dominated seats, as BSP has been wiped out. Economic anxiety has obviously also taken a toll on its support. Joblessness, in particular, has been a factor costing the youth vote. It is worth underlining now that rations and such kind of welfare can only keep a person or a voter happy for so long – though some of these factors did not mar the party's prospect in many states, including neighbouring Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

Has overconfidence hurt the party? | Many voters did come to associate slogans like 'Ab ki baar 400 paar' with overconfidence and maybe arrogance. This may also have impacted turnout – while the aggregate turnout may have remained the same, the composition of those who stayed away from the polling booth could have affected the results significantly. It could be that committed BJP voters became overconfident and stayed at home on voting day. For the fence-sitter who sways its way, it could be apathy that kept them home. And the impact of it all would have mounted if Congress-leaning voters sensed this was an existential moment for them, and therefore mobilised powerfully.

Is BJP itself tiring? | This is an organisation with a famously well-oiled election machine. But there are signs that the grease is wearing thin in some parts. A sense of having achieved ideological hegemony could also be hurting its cadre's drive. This is also indicated by the loss of the Faizabad parliamentary constituency, which includes the Ayodhya assembly segment. Is it that Hindutva may now be paying retreating dividends.

Many turncoats were nominated, higher re-nominations increasing local anti-incumbency chances, and overall ticket distribution likely went awry, particularly in UP and Rajasthan.

So, what now? | It could be that the Modi-Shah combine will no longer dictate cabinet nominations, as new pressure points take shape. RSS-BJP relationship too could see important shifts. There will also be worry within BJP regarding the states that are going to hold assembly polls later this year – Maharashtra, Haryana and Jharkhand. Because in all these states, the party's LS performance has been poor.

Of course, this time around, BJP will be much more dependent on its allies. An expansionist BJP with ever-rising ambitions had made various allies quite unhappy. But now, it is very possible that some of the same allies will start demanding, and getting, their pound of flesh. This may also have significant implications for governance. For example, the party's big-ticket agenda items like One Nation One Election and Uniform Civil Code may have to be put on the backburner.

Finally, the 2024 LS result shows that India very much remains a competitive electoral democracy, where voters continue to signal an evaluation of govt performance. Elections in this country have always worked as a corrective mechanism. And this time they have underlined that no majority is permanent.

Why Congress Is Back But Isn't Quite There Yet



ASIM ALI

The big story of this election, arguably, has been the budding revival of Congress as a national force. We can take three preliminary indicators.

The first is the near doubling of its seat share, almost reaching the three-figure mark. If we chart Congress's seat share over the last four decades, from 1984 onwards, we see a story of a secular decline. Only on two previous occasions has Congress's seat share increased by over 40 seats (1991 and 2009).

The second is the jump in vote share by about 3 percentage points even though the party contested 93 fewer seats this time. At 328, it was also the only time it contested on fewer than 400 constituencies. Extrapolating vote share on seats contested, Congress's vote share would rival its previous highwater mark of 2009, when it garnered 29% votes.

Third, Congress has regained a footing in party strongholds where it had been wiped out over the last decade. These include Maharashtra's Vidarbha belt, UP's Awadh region, north-central Karnataka, Telangana, and parts of north-eastern Rajasthan.

Six battleground states powered its resurgence. Congress won 49 seats here, where it had won just six in 2019 – Maharashtra (13), Karnataka (9), Haryana (5), UP (6), Rajasthan (8) and Telangana (8).

So, what worked for Congress?

Collaboration | Alliance-centric strategy, where the party, much like in 2004, projected itself as the nucleus of a larger opposition. In UP, for example, it was happy to play second fiddle to SP, helping it shore up its backward caste base for the alliance. In Rajasthan, similarly, it gave space to smaller Jat and tribal centric parties, RLP and BAP, both of which won their seats and pushed up Congress's fortunes in neighbouring constituencies.

Message | The party's narrative articulated a vision that exploited BJP govt's vulnerability. An agenda of social justice, of protecting the Constitution and advancing the caste census, appears to have worked, especially among Dalits, who've returned to the party.

Rahul had sounded the poll bugle in his Nagpur rally, on Congress's foundation day on Dec 28 last year, where he set the campaign narrative of fighting BJP's ideology of 'raja-maharaja' with the ideology of Constitution-based social justice – framing the party as representing 90% of India. Kharge's leadership also helped the party insofar as it could project a national Dalit face. In UP, Congress played no small role in building a bridge for Dalits to cross over to Akhilesh's SP.

Rural support | Congress's creditable performance in semi-rural and rural districts can also be credited to its central focus on farmer distress and wealth concentration. This helped the party garner significant support among agrarian castes such as Jats – Congress has swept the Jat belt in Haryana for the first time since 2009. And perhaps also for the first time since the 1990s, Congress has managed to stitch a winning umbrella alliance in parts of Rajasthan – a Jat-Meena-Gujjar-Dalit alliance.

Where did Congress fail again?

Hindi heartland | It is still weak in large swathes of the Hindi heartland and eastern India, where it used to be the largest party a generation or so back. It got wiped out, or nearly wiped out, once again in MP, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Odisha and Bengal. The party won only four seats here. It had won six in 2019.

Tribal hurdle | Despite Rahul's second Bharat Jodo Nyay yatra, which aimed to boost Congress's base among tribal voters, it fared poorly in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Assam, all en route the yatra. Indifference of tribal voters to the party's nyay (social justice) platform should be a serious source of concern for the party.

What does the future hold for the party?

Opportunity | There's much potential for Congress to build on the momentum from this election. Congress alliance would arguably start as favourite for the three state assembly elections in a few months in Maharashtra, Haryana and Jharkhand.

Maharashtra offers the party opportunity to regain its traditional stronghold, and perhaps somewhat replenish its empty coffers.

Haryana would provide it the best opportunity since 2018 to defeat BJP in a straight contest in the Hindu belt.

Jharkhand could help the party win back its tribal support.

Implosion of parties such as YSRCP in Andhra and BJD in Odisha opens a critical window of opportunity for Congress to regain space in these states by staking claim as the second pole of state politics.

Threats | Absence of structural reforms in the fossilised party bureaucracy, aging leadership in states, and weak central authority are serious threats. The Udaipur roadmap of democratising the party and opening it up to fresher cohorts of younger leaders has been honoured more in its breach.

Congress is still unable to attract backward castes and tribal voters in north-central and eastern India, without which it would struggle to regain its halcyon days.

The present verdict can only be termed a budding revival. The Grand Old Party has only caught a spark, but it would need to conscientiously follow a clear roadmap towards revival to ensure lasting gains.



Videos Told The Story: It's Not One Nation, One Pole



SANTOSH DESAI

Six months ago, this election was a done deal. Then something changed. It didn't happen overnight, but gradually disenchantment against govt began to surface in pockets. The most striking change that we saw this time around was the organic appearance of an independent ecosystem of voices.

Dhruv Rathee perhaps single-handedly acted as the spearhead of the opposition's communication efforts, without being formally aligned with any party. That he managed to garner between 35-40m views for some of his videos is a sign of the tremendous impact he had on voters.

In a peculiar reversal of sorts, the decreasing credibility of all institutions, in particular media, has led to a search for non-institutional voices. There was a time when we looked for institutional certification in order to believe in something; now it seems to be the opposite. Any intermediary institution, no matter how powerful, is viewed with suspicion given the feeling that they all have been penetrated by the current power structure.

This election result has surprises for everyone. The biggest victors of this election are the regional parties. Between them, TDP, DMK, TMC, SP and JDU have performed outstandingly well. UP held the biggest surprise of the elections, with SP winning more seats than BJP. BJP performed below expectations in Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Bengal too and failed to make headway in Tamil Nadu.

For Congress, the results, though not definitive, are a lifeline, an affirmation that the party still has something to offer voters. Rahul Gandhi has redeemed himself to a large extent, by campaigning tirelessly and holding the coalition together.

BJP too has some reason to cheer. It has performed outstandingly well in Odisha. In terms of vote share, it has also made a dent in the south. But overall, this is a significant defeat for the party. Under Modi it is not designed to work in a coalition, and its ideological project is unlikely to get carried out in the changed circumstances. And Nitish and Chandrababu are hardly reliable allies.

The election has a few important lessons that are worth heeding. At its most fundamental level, the verdict has spoken against the idea of a monolithic consolidation of power. The idea of one nation, one party, one religion, and one leader has been shunned. In a sense, it is not as much a vote against Hindutva as it is against any attempt to homogenise the country into any single way of thinking.

For Modi, the message is that there is only so much sway that a single individual can have in a diverse country, no matter how charismatic he might be and no matter to what extent a narrative is built around him. There is also the question of whether relying on a single vote-catching device creates a sense of sameness due to overexposure. The other significant shift that does not seem to have worked is the move away from a forward-looking message and an increasingly angry and negative attack on opposition and minorities.

The problem with silencing other voices is that one effectively removes any chance of getting feedback. Also, the noise generated by a party's support base is so strong and so uniformly aggressive that it compels a reaction. In 2019 this noise could drown out any other competition; this time around things have changed.

For media, there is a salutary lesson to be learned, should it be so inclined. Looking back at exit polls it becomes difficult to believe that all of them suffered from poor methodology and that there was no other agenda involved. The fact that so many people are turning to independent voices instead of relying on mainstream media should give them cause to reflect.

BJP has to ask itself if its current strategy of seeking to form govt in states by any means necessary has not reached its sell-by date. There is only so much power to go around and more the influx of opportunists into a party by offering them inducement, the less that is left over for faithfuls.



It may feel counterintuitive, but in many ways this is the best possible outcome for opposition. Winning a marginal victory would mean an unstable govt and while this alliance has meshed together for a campaign, they are unlikely to function coherently as a govt. This result gives them credibility and room to build something more substantial.

For now, something fundamental has changed even as BJP comes back to govt. Its current model of seeking and exercising absolute control via Modi's hold over the electorate is unlikely to work in the same way. BJP was seeking even greater concentration of power; what it has got is the exact opposite.

What we can hope for is some respite from the relentless barrage of negativity and small-mindedness that has characterised not just the campaign but larger national discourse in the last few years. Absolute power is no one's birthright, and India's electorate has left us in no doubt about that. BJP may have come back to govt but its style of governing the country has received a wake-up call. The voter has drawn the line.

Know Your MP

Andhra Pradesh — 25 seats

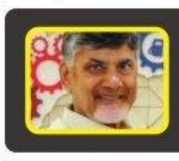
NAME OF CONSTITUENCY	WINNER	PARTY	SEX	AGE (yrs)	ASSETS (₹ cr)
Amalapuram	G M Harish (Balayogi)	TDP	M	33	10.54
Anakapalle	C.M.Ramesh	BJP	M	58	497.60
Ananthapur	Ambica GL Valmiki	TDP	M	60	4.75
Araku	Gumma Thanuja Rani	YSRCP	F	31	0.24
Bapatla	Krishna Prasad Tenneti	TDP	M	64	15.58
Chittoor(Sc)	Daggumalla Prasada Rao	TDP	M	62	38.45
Eluru	Putta Mahesh Kumar	TDP	M	36	72.09
Guntur	Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani	TDP	M	48	5705
Hindupur	B K Parthasarathi	TDP	M	65	16.90
Kadapa	Y. S. Avinash Reddy	YSRCP	M	39	40.43
Kakinada	Tangella Uday Srinivas	JNP	M	38	31.15
Kurnoolu	Bastipati N Panchalingala	TDP	M	45	9.02
Machilipatnam	Balashowry Vallabhaneni	JNP	M	55	133.72
Nandyal	Dr Byreddy Shabari	TDP	F	40	14.76
Narsapuram	Bhupathi Raju S Varma	BJP	M	56	7.17
Narsaraopet	Lavu Srikrishna Devarayalu	TDP	M	41	56.65
Nellore	Prabhakar Vemireddy	TDP	M	68	716.33
Ongole	Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy	TDP	M	70	57.95
Rajahmundry	Daggubati Purandheshwari	BJP	F	67	62.50
Rajampet	P V Midhun Reddy	YSRCP	M	46	146.85
Srikakulam	Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu	TDP	M	36	23.31
Thirupathi(Sc)	Gurumoorthy Maddila	YSRCP	M	38	1.32
Vijayawada	Kesineni Sivanath	TDP	M	55	29.21
Visakhapatnam	Sribharat Mathukumili	TDP	M	35	298.96
Vizianagaram	Appalanaidu Kalisetti	TDP	M	50	6.24

Arunachal Pradesh — 2

Arunachal East	Tapir Gao	BJP	M	59	15.05
Arunachal West	Kiren Rijiju	BJP	M	53	4.94

Assam — 14

Barpeta	Phani Bhusan Choudhury	AGP	M	72	3.28
Darrang-Udalguri	Dilip Saikia	BJP	M	50	2.64
Dhubri	Rakibul Hussain	Cong	M	59	25.30
Dibrugarh	Sarbananda Sonowal	BJP	M	62	4.76
Diphu	Amarsing Tisso	BJP	M	56	22.79
Guwahati	Bijuli Kalita Medhi	BJP	F	45	1.62
Jorhat	Gaurav Gogoi	Cong	M	41	4.91
Karimganj	Kripanath Mallah	BJP	M	50	1.89
Kaziranga	Kamakhya Prasad Tasa	BJP	M	49	2.00
Kokrajhar	Joyanta Basumatary	UPPL	M	48	2.29
Lakhimpur	Pradan Baruah	BJP	M	58	2.42
Nagaon	Pradyut Bordoloi	Cong	M	64	8.39
Silchar	Parimal Suklabaidya	BJP	M	66	1.73
Sonitpur	Ranjit Dutta	BJP	M	67	8.98



Naidu is the biggest comeback story of 2024 — with govt in a state and a stake at the Centre

Bihar — 40

Araria	Pradeep Kumar Singh	BJP	M	58	1.61
Arrah	Sudama Prasad	CPI(ML)	M	56	0.91
Aurangabad	Abhay Kumar Sinha	RJD	M	53	10.77
Banka	Giridhari Yadav	JDU	M	63	1.73
Begusarai	Giriraj Singh	BJP	M	71	14.32
Bhagalpur	Ajay Kumar Mandal	JDU	M	46	1.22
Buxar	Sudhakar Singh	RJD	M	52	6.79
Darbhanga	Gopal Jee Thakur	BJP	M	54	3.91
Gaya	Jitan Ram Manjhi	HAMS	M	78	0.30
Gopalganj	Dr. Alok Kumar Suman	JDU	M	67	2.67
Hajipur	Chirag Paswan	LJP(RV)	M	42	2.69
Jahanabad	Surendra Prasad Yadav	RJD	M	65	13.88
Jamui	Arun Bharti	LJP(RV)	M	45	6.49
Jhanjharpur	Ramprit Mandal	JDU	M	68	10.60
Karakat	Raja Ram Singh	CPI(ML)	M	66	2.59
Katihar	Tariq Anwar	Cong	M	73	19.61
Khagaria	Rajesh Verma	LJP(RV)	M	31	5.39
Kishanganj	Mohammad Jawed	Cong	M	60	15.97
Madhepura	Dinesh Chandra Yadav	JDU	M	72	6.73
Madhubani	Ashok Kumar Yadav	BJP	M	54	5.86
Maharajganj	Janardan Singh	BJP	M	65	1.75
Munger	Rajiv Ranjan Singh	JDU	M	70	13.78
Muzaffarpur	Raj Bhushan Choudhary	BJP	M	46	16.69
Nalanda	Kaushalendra Kumar	JDU	M	65	4.25
Nawada	Vivek Thakur	BJP	M	54	5.06
Paschim C'paran	Dr.Sanjay Jaiswal	BJP	M	58	29.05
Patliputra	Misha Bharti	RJD	F	47	10.26
Patna Sahib	Ravi Shankar Prasad	BJP	M	69	40.61
Purnia	Rajesh Ranjan	IND	M	56	10.34
Purvi Champaran	Radha Mohan Singh	BJP	M	74	4.30
Samastipur	Shambhavi	LJP(RV)	F	25	4.54
Saran	Rajiv Pratap Rudy	BJP	M	62	8.37
Sasaram	Manoj Kumar	Cong	M	40	3.25
Sheohar	Lovely Anand	JDU	F	57	9.46
Sitamarhi	Devesh Chandra Thakur	JDU	M	71	8.85
Siwan	Vijaylakshmi Devi	JDU	F	61	4.41
Supaul	Dileshwar Kamait	JDU	M	78	3.62
Ujiarpur	Nityanand Rai	BJP	M	58	17.95
Vaishali	Veena Devi	LJP(RV)	F	53	46.72
Valmiki Nagar	Sunil Kumar	JDU	M	39	1.28

Chhattisgarh — 11

Bastar	Mahesh Kashyap	BJP	M	48	0.40
Bilaspur	Tokhan Sahu	BJP	M	54	1.32
Durg	Vijay Baghel	BJP	M	64	3.72
Janjgir-Champa	Kamlesh Jangde	BJP	F	46	1.55
Kanker	Bhojraj Nag	BJP	M	49	1.24
Korba	Jyotsna Charandas Mahant	Cong	F	70	17.96
Mahasamund	Roop Kumari Choudhary	BJP	F	47	5.39
Raigarh	Radheshyam Rathiya	BJP	M	52	1.07
Raipur	Brijmohan Agrawal	BJP	M	64	18.02
Rajnandgaon	Santosh Pandey	BJP	M	56	4.29
Surguja	Chintamani Maharaj	BJP	M	56	4.13

Goa — 2

North Goa	Shripad Yesso Naik	BJP	M	71	10.87
South Goa	Captain Viriato Fernandes	Cong	M	54	5.27

Gujarat — 26

Ahmedabad East	Hasmukhbhai Patel	BJP	M	63	8.65
Ahmedabad West	Dineshbhai Makwana	BJP	M	54	14.18
Amreli	Bharatbhai Sutariya	BJP	M	54	0.84
Anand	Mitesh Patel (Bakabhai)	BJP	M	59	11.04
Banaskantha	Geniben Nagaji Thakor	Cong	F	48	0.85
Bardoli	Parbhubhai Nagarbhai Vasava	BJP	M	54	4.70
Bharuch	Mansukhbhai Vasava	BJP	M	66	2.55
Bhavnagar	Nimuben Bambhaniya	BJP	F	57	2.61
Chhota Udaipur	Jashubhai Bhilubhai Rathva	BJP	M	54	1.66
Dahod	Jaswantsinh Bhabhor	BJP	M	57	4.84
Gandhinagar	Amit Shah	BJP	M	59	65.67
Jamnagar	Poonamben Hematbhai	BJP	F	49	147.70
Junagadh	Chudasama Naranbhai	BJP	M	42	3.35
Kachchh	Chavda Vinod Lakhamshi	BJP	M	45	7.10
Kheda	Devusinh Chauhan	BJP	M	59	3.50
Mahesana	Haribhai Patel	BJP	M	62	3.99
Navsari	C R Patil	BJP	M	69	39.49
Panchmahal	Rajpalsinh Jadav	BJP	M	43	2.20
Patan	Dabhi Bharatsinhji Shankarji	BJP	M	69	6.84
Porbandar	Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya	BJP	M	51	7.95
Rajkot	Parshottambhai Rupala	BJP	M	69	17.43
Sabarkantha	Shobhanaben Baraiya	BJP	F	50	3.18
Surat	Mukeshkumar Dalal	BJP	M	62	17.80
Surendranagar	Chandubhai Shihora	BJP	M	61	0.58
Vadodara	Dr. Hemang Joshi	BJP	M	33	1.04
Valsad	Dhaval Laxmanbhai Patel	BJP	M	37	6.79

Haryana — 10

Ambala	Varun Chaudhry	Cong	M	44	25.95
Bhiwani-M'garh	Dharambir Singh	BJP	M	69	11.57
Faridabad	Krishan Pal	BJP	M	67	62.58
Gurgaon	Rao Inderjit Singh	BJP	M	74	121.54
Hisar	Jai Parkash	Cong	M	69	6.81
Karnal	Manohar Lal	BJP	M	70	2.54
Kurukshetra	Naveen Jindal	BJP	M	54	1,241.4
Rohtak	Deepender Singh Hooda	Cong	M	46	69.26
Sirsa	Selja	Cong	F	61	42.07
Sonipat	Satpal Brahamchari	Cong	M	60	1.61

Himachal Pradesh — 4

Hamirpur	Anurag Singh Thakur	BJP	M	50	12.27
Kangra	Rajeev	BJP	M	62	5.87
Mandi	Kangna Ranaut	BJP	F	37	91.66
Shimla	Suresh Kumar Kashyap	BJP	M	53	4.44

Jharkhand — 14

CONSTITUENCY	WINNER	PARTY	SEX	AGE	ASSETS (₹ cr)
Chatra	Kali Charan Singh	BJP	M	62	8.62
Dhanbad	Dulu Mahato	BJP	M	49	7.01
Dumka	Nalin Soren	JMM	M	76	3.67
Giridih	Chandra Prakash Choudhary	AJSU	M	55	4.98
Godda	Nishikant Dubey	BJP	M	52	74.70
Hazaribagh	Manish Jaiswal	BJP	M	59	36.30
Jamshedpur	Bidyut Baran Mahato	BJP	M	61	3.83
Khunti	Kali Charan Munda	Cong	M	62	0.54
Kodarma	Annpurna Devi	BJP	F	55	12.83
Lohardaga	Sukhdeo Bhagat	Cong	M	63	0.00
Palamau	Vishnu Dayal Ram	BJP	M	72	0.00
Rajmahal	Vijay Kumar Hansdak	JMM	M	41	6.20
Ranchi	Sanjay Seth	BJP	M	65	2.42
Singhbhum	Joba Majhi	JMM	F	60	0.00

Karnataka — 28

Bagalkot	Gaddigoudar Chandangouda	BJP	M	72	7.59
Bangalore Central	P C Mohan	BJP	M	60	81.31
Bangalore North	Shobha Karandlaje	BJP	F	57	13.89
Bangalore Rural	Dr C N Manjunath	BJP	M	67	98.39
Bangalore South	Tejasvi Surya	BJP	M	33	4.10
Belgaum	Jagadish Shettar	BJP	M	68	13.38
Bellary	E. Tukaram	Cong	M	57	3.53
Bidar	Sagar Eshwar Khandre	Cong	M	26	13.44
Bijapur	Ramesh Jigajinagi	BJP	M	71	51.63
Chamarajanagar	Sunil Bose	Cong	M	42	7.85
Chikkballapur	Dr.K.Sudhakar	BJP	M	50	33.42
Chikkodi	Priyanka Satish Jarkiholi	Cong	F	27	9.12
Chitradurga	Govind Makthappa Karjol	BJP	M	73	4.32
Dakshina Kannada	Captain Brijesh Chowta	BJP	M	42	0.71
Davanagere	Dr. Prabha Mallikarjun	Cong	F	48	241.28
Dharwad	Pralhad Joshi	BJP	M	61	21.10
Gulbarga	Radhakrishna	Cong	M	63	53.39
Hassan	Shreyas. M. Patel	Cong	M	32	42.67
Haveri	Basavaraj Bommai	BJP	M	64	53.95
Kolar	M. Mallesh Babu	JDS	M	49	23.86
Koppal	K. Rajashekar B Hitnal	Cong	M	44	29.04
Mandya	H.D. Kumaraswamy	JDS	M	65	0.00
Mysore	Yaduveer Wadiyar	BJP	M	32	9.47
Raichur	G. Kumar Naik	Cong	M	60	33.41
Shimoga	B.Y.Raghavendra	BJP	M	50	73.71
Tumkur	V. Somanna	BJP	M	72	60.78
Udupi C'magalur	Kota Srinivas Poojary	BJP	M	64	2.95
Uttara Kannada	Hegde Vishweshwar	BJP	M	63	16.74

Kerala — 20

Alappuzha	K. C Venugopal	Cong	M	61	3.63
Alathur	K.Radhakrishnan	CPM	M	60	0.40
Attingal	Advocate Adoor Prakash	Cong	M	68	0.00
Chalakudy	Benny Behanan	Cong	M	71	3.50
Ernakulam	Hibi Eden	Cong	M	40	3.38
Idukki	Adv. Dean Kuriakose	Cong	M	42	2.08
Kannur	K. Sudhakaran	Cong	M	75	6.30
Kasaragod	Rajmohan Unnithan	Cong	M	70	3.24
Kollam	N K Premachandran	RSP	M	63	4.92
Kottayam	Adv K Francis George	KEC	M	68	9.51
Kozhikode	M. K. Raghavan	Cong	M	71	2.49
Malappuram	E.T. Mohammed Basheer	IUML	M	77	2.03
Mavelikkara	Kodikunnil Suresh	Cong	M	60	1.53
Palakkad	V K Sreekandan	Cong	M	54	1.24
Pathanamthitta	Anto Antony	Cong	M	67	1.25
Ponnani	Abdussamad Samadani	IUML	M	65	2.20
Trivandrum	Shashi Tharoor	Cong	M	68	56.07
Thrissur	Suresh Gopi	BJP	M	65	18.58
Vadakara	Shafi Parambil	Cong	M	41	0.99
Wayanad	Rahul Gandhi	Cong	M	53	20.40

Madhya Pradesh — 29

Balaghat	Bharti Pardhi	BJP	F	56	5.90
Betul	Durgadas (D. D.) Uikey	BJP	M	60	1.85
Bhind	Sandhya Ray	BJP	F	50	9.68
Bhopal	Alok Sharma	BJP	M	56	8.86
Chhindwara	Bunty Vivek Sahu	BJP	M	45	36.77
Damoh	Rahul Singh Lodhi	BJP	M	40	1.64
Dewas	Mahendra Singh Solanky	BJP	M	40	0.38
Dhar	Savitri Thakur	BJP	F	45	5.31
Guna	Jyotiraditya M. Scindia	BJP	M	53	424.75
Gwalior	Bharat Singh Kushwah	BJP	M	53	2.88
Hoshangabad	Darshan Singh Choudhary	BJP	M	48	0.93
Indore	Shankar Lalwani	BJP	M	62	1.95
Jabalpur	Ashish Dubey	BJP	M	54	35.19
Khajuraho	Vishnu Datt Sharma	BJP	M	54	4.93
Khandwa	Gyaneshwar Patil	BJP	M	55	7.22
Khargone	Gajendra Singh Patel	BJP	M	49	9.98
Mandla	Faggan Singh Kulaste	BJP	M	64	5.35
Mandsour	Sudheer Gupta	BJP	M	64	19.29
Morena	Shivmangal Singh Tomar	BJP	M	64	2.26
Rajgarh	Rodmal Nagar	BJP	M	63	6.55
Ratlam	Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan	BJP	F	39	5.25
Rewa	Janardan Mishra	BJP	M	67	5.09
Sagar	Dr. Lata Wankhede	BJP	F	54	17.35
Satna	Ganesh Singh	BJP	M	61	9.47
Shahdol	Smt. Himadri Singh	BJP	F	37	5.02
Sidhi	Dr. Rajesh Mishra	BJP	M	66	14.40
Tikamgarh	Dr. Virendra Kumar	BJP	M	70	2.88
Ujjain	Anil Firojiya	BJP	M	52	8.82
Vidisha	Shivraj Singh Chouhan	BJP	M	65	8.99



Mukesh Dalal is the only MP in this election to win unopposed. He won from Surat constituency

Maharashtra — 48

Ahmednagar	Nilesh Dnyandev Lanke	NCP(SP)	M	44	0.46
Akola	Anup Sanjay Dhotre	BJP	M	39	10.93
Amravati	Balwant B Wankhade	Cong	M	56	1.74
Aurangabad	Bhumare S Asaram	SS	M	62	10.31
Baramati	Supriya Sule	NCP(SP)	F	54	166.52
Beed	Bajrang Manohar Sonwane	NCP(SP)	M	53	28.93
Bhandara Gondiya	Prashant Yadaorao Padole	Cong	M	45	14.47
Bhiwandi	Suresh Gopinath Mhatre	NCP(SP)	M	53	107.55
Buldhana	Jadhav Prataprao Ganpatrao	SS	M	63	16.43
Chandrapur	Dhanorkar Pratibha Suresh	Cong	F	38	80.37
Dhule	Bachhav Shobha Dinesh	Cong	F	65	30.50
Dindori	Bhaskar Murlidhar Bhagare	NCP(SP)	M	53	1.75
G'chiroli- Chimur	Dr. Kirsan Namdeo	Cong	M	65	5.95
Hatkanangale	Dhairyasheel S Mane	SS	M	43	4.51
Hingoli	Aashtikar Patil N Bapurao	SS(UBT)	M	52	8.06
Jalgaon	Smita Uday Wagh	BJP	F	56	8.75
Jalna	Kalyan Vaijinathrao Kale	Cong	M	61	132.92
Kalyan	Dr Shrikant Eknath Shinde	SS	M	37	14.92
Kolhapur	Chhatrapati Shahu Shahaji	Cong	M	76	342.87
Latur	Dr. Kalge Shivaji Bandappa	Cong	M	54	32.26
Madha	Mohite-Patil Dhairyasheel Rajsinh	NCP(SP)	M	47	48.94
Maval	Shrirang Appa Chandu Barne	SS	M	60	131.86
Mumbai North	Piyush Goyal	BJP	M	59	110.95
Mumbai N Central	Gaikwad Varsha Eknath	Cong	F	49	7.68
Mumbai N East	Sanjay Dina Patil	SS(UBT)	M	55	3.99
Mumbai N West	Ravindra Dattaram Waikar	SS	M	65	54.50
Mumbai South	Arvind Ganpat Sawant	SS(UBT)	M	72	5.05
Mumbai S Central	Anil Yeshwant Desai	SS(UBT)	M	66	22.94
Nagpur	Nitin Jairam Gadkari	BJP	M	67	28.03
Nanded	Vasantrao B Chavan	Cong	M	69	3.68
Nandurbar	Gowaal Kagada Padavi	Cong	M	31	7.02
Nashik	Rajabhau Prakash Waje	SS(UBT)	M	59	15.86
Osmanabad	Omprakash Bhupalsinh	SS(UBT)	M	40	7.53
Palghar	Dr. Hemant Vishnu Savara	BJP	M	47	8.16
Parbhani	Jadhav Sanjay Haribhau	SS(UBT)	M	57	10.27
Pune	Murlidhar Mohol	BJP	M	49	24.32
Raigad	Tatkare Sunil Dattatrey	NCP	M	69	14.58
Ramtek	Shyamkumar Daulat Barve	Cong	M	46	4.29
Ratnagiri- S'durg	Narayan Tatu Rane	BJP	M	72	108.87
Raver	Khadse Raksha Nikhil	BJP	F	36	18.21
Sangli	Vishal Prakashbapu Patil	IND	M	43	29.91
Satara	Shrimant Chh UP Bhonsle	BJP	M	58	223.12
Shirdi	Bhausaheb R Wakchaure	SS(UBT)	M	74	9.75
Shirur	Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe	NCP(SP)	M	43	8.42
Solapur	Praniti Sushilkumar Shinde	Cong	F	43	6.61
Thane	Naresh Ganpat Mhaske	SS	M	54	26.26
Wardha	Amar Sharadrao Kale	NCP(SP)	M	50	10.62
Yavatmal- Washim	Sanjay U Deshmukh	SS(UBT)	M	55	28.44

Manipur — 2

Inner Manipur	Angomcha Bimol Akoijam	Cong	M	57	0.98
Outer Manipur	Alfred Kanngam S Arthur	Cong	M	50	55.53

Meghalaya — 2

Shillong	Ricky Andrew J. Syngkon	VPP	M	52	1.31
Tura	Saleng A Sangma	Cong	M	45	4.00

Mizoram — 1

Mizoram	Richard Vanlalhmangaiha	ZPM	M	46	1.69

Nagaland — 1

Nagaland	S Supongmeren Jamir	Cong	M	61	0.21

Odisha — 21

Aska	Anita Subhadarshini	BJP	F	52	2.48
Balasore	Pratap Chandra Sarangi	BJP	M	69	0.50
Bargarh	Pradeep Purohit	BJP	M	58	2.26
Berhampur	Dr Pradeep Kumar Panigrahy	BJP	M	60	3.781
Bhadrak	Avimanyu Sethi	BJP	M	53	7.08
Bhubaneswar	Aparajita Sarangi	BJP	F	54	4.63
Bolangir	Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo	BJP	F	62	67.31
Cuttack	Bhartruhari Mahtab	BJP	M	66	19.91
Dhenkanal	Rudra Narayan Pany	BJP	M	65	0.57
Jagatsinghpur	Bibhu Prasad Tarai	BJP	M	59	1.80
Jajpur	Rabindra Narayan Behera	BJP	M	61	4.56
Kalahandi	Malvika Devi	BJP	F	43	41.89
Kandhamal	Sukanta Kumar Panigrahi	BJP	M	57	0.71
Kendrapara	Baijayant Panda	BJP	M	60	148.09
Keonjhar	Ananta Nayak	BJP	M	55	0.85
Koraput	Kaliram Majhi	BJP	M	45	1.50
Mayurbhanj	Naba Charan Majhi	BJP	M	63	0.74
Nabarangpur	Balabhadra Majhi	BJP	M	63	7.89
Puri	Sambit Patra	BJP	M	50	1.98
Sambalpur	Dharmendra Pradhan	BJP	M	54	6.92
Sundargarh	Jual Oram	BJP	M	63	8.63

Punjab — 13

Amritsar	Gurjeet Singh Aujla	Cong	M	51	5.35
Anandpur Sahib	Malvinder Singh Kang	AAP	M	45	4.19
Bathinda	Harsimrat Kaur Badal	SAD	F	57	198.52
Faridkot	Sarabjeet Singh Khalsa	IND	M	45	1.08
Fatehgarh Sahib	Amar Singh	Cong	M	70	5.43
Firozpur	Sher Singh Ghubaya	Cong	M	61	9.12
Gurdaspur	Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa	Cong	M	65	7.13
Hoshiarpur	Dr. Raj Kumar Chabbewal	AAP	M	54	20.77
Jalandhar	Charanjit Singh Channi	Cong	M	61	10.21
Khadoor Sahib	Amritpal Singh	IND	M	31	0.18
Ludhiana	Amrinder Raja Warring	Cong	M	46	17.72
Patiala	Dr Dharamvira Gandhi	Cong	M	73	8.53
Sangrur	Gurmeet Singh Hayer	AAP	M	35	3.74

Rajasthan — 25

Ajmer	Bhagirath Choudhary	BJP	M	69	13.38
Alwar	Bhupender Yadav	BJP	M	55	2.32
Banswara	Raj Kumar Roat	BAP	M	31	1.17
Barmer	Ummeda Ram Beniwal	Cong	M	46	19.28
Bharatpur	Sanjna Jatav	Cong	F	26	0.23
Bhilwara	Damodar Agarwal	BJP	M	68	7.14
Bikaner	Arjun Ram Meghwal	BJP	M	70	3.77
Chittorgarh	Chandra Prakash Joshi	BJP	M	48	4.10
Churu	Rahul Kaswan	Cong	M	47	5.33
Dausa	Murari Lal Meena	Cong	M	65	13.57
Ganganagar	Kuldeep Indora	Cong	M	54	13.72
Jaipur	Manju Sharma	BJP	F	64	2.37
Jaipur Rural	Rao Rajendra Singh	BJP	M	65	29.34
Jalore	Lumbaram	BJP	M	59	1.96
Jhalawar-Baran	Dushyant Singh	BJP	M	53	38.93
Jhunjhunu	Brijendra Singh Ola	Cong	M	72	16.03
Jodhpur	Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	BJP	M	56	19.30
Karauli-Dholpur	Bhajan Lal Jatav	Cong	M	55	3.33
Kota	Om Birla	BJP	M	62	10.62
Nagaur	Hanuman Beniwal	RLP	M	52	0.81
Pali	P. P. Chaudhary	BJP	M	70	40.72
Rajsamand	Mahima Kumari Mewar	BJP	F	52	1.14
Sikar	Amraram	CPM	M	68	0.41
TS Madhopur	Harish Chandra Meena	Cong	M	69	23.08
Udaipur	Manna Lal Rawat	BJP	M	52	2.71

Sikkim — 1

Sikkim	Indra Hang Subba	SKM	M	35	1.48

Tamil Nadu — 39

Arakkonam	S Jagathratchakan	DMK	M	76	53.46
Arani	Tharaniventhan M S	DMK	M	59	1.72
Chennai Central	Dayanidhi Maran	DMK	M	57	17.08
Chennai North	Dr.Kalanidhi Veeraswamy	DMK	M	54	61.06
Chennai South	Sumathy T	DMK	F	61	14.87
Chidambaram	Thirumaavalavan Thol	VCK	M	61	2.45
Coimbatore	Ganapathy Rajkumar P	DMK	M	58	89.04
Cuddalore	M.K. Vishnuprasad	Cong	M	51	25.20
Dharmapuri	Mani. A.	DMK	M	55	8.66
Dindigul	Sachithanantham R	CPM	M	53	0.26
Erode	K E Prakash	DMK	M	47	10.04
Kallakurichi	Malaiyarasan D	DMK	M	48	0.87
Kancheepuram	Selvam. G	DMK	M	49	2.36
Kanniyakumari	Vijayakumar	Cong	M	40	64.27
Karur	Jothimani. S	Cong	F	48	1.54
Krishnagiri	Gopinath K	Cong	M	61	12.34
Madurai	Venkatesan S	CPM	M	54	2.05
Mayiladuthurai	Sudha R	Cong	F	46	0.39
Nagapattinam	Selvaraj V	CPI	M	62	1.11
Namakkal	Matheswaran V S	DMK	M	51	4.73
Nilgiris	Raja A	DMK	M	60	6.94
Perambalur	Arun Nehru	DMK	M	40	81.62
Pollachi	Eswarasamy K	DMK	M	47	34.53
Ramanathapuram	K Navaskani	IUML	M	44	76.14
Salem	Selvaganapathi T M	DMK	M	65	75.40
Sivaganga	Karti P Chidambaram	Cong	M	52	96.27
Sriperumbudur	T R Baalu	DMK	M	82	45.73
Tenkasi	Dr Rani Sri Kumar	DMK	F	40	2.14
Thanjavur	Murasoli S	DMK	M	46	2.07
Theni	Thanga Tamilselvan	DMK	M	63	4.99
Thoothukkudi	Kanimozhi Karunanidhi	DMK	F	56	60.41
Tiruchirappalli	Durai Vaiko	MDMK	M	51	35.91
Tirunelveli	Robert Bruce C	Cong	M	61	9.27
Tiruppur	K Subbarayan	CPI	M	76	1.04
Tiruvallur	Sasikanth Senthil	Cong	M	44	2.21
Tiruvannamalai	C N Annadurai	DMK	M	50	20.37
Vellore	Dm Kathir Anand	DMK	M	48	88.80
Viluppuram	Ravikumar. D	VCK	M	63	0.98
Virudhunagar	Manickam Tagore B	Cong	M	49	6.17

Telangana — 17

Adilabad	Godam Nagesh	BJP	M	59	3.09
Bhongir	Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy	Cong	M	47	28.72
Chevella	Konda Vishweshwar Reddy	BJP	M	64	4568
Hyderabad	Asaduddin Owaisi	AIMIM	M	54	23.88
Karimnagar	Bandi Sanjay Kumar	BJP	M	52	1.1275
Khammam	Ramasahayam R Reddy	Cong	M	63	58.28
Mahabubabad	Balram Naik Porika	Cong	M	60	2.99
Mahbubnagar	Aruna. D. K	BJP	F	64	66.76
Malkajgiri	Eatala Rajender	BJP	M	60	54.02
Medak	Madhavaneni R Rao	BJP	M	58	22.09
Nagarkurnool	Dr.Mallu Ravi	Cong	M	73	52.32
Nalgonda	Kunduru Raghuveer	Cong	M	44	35.57
Nizamabad	Arvind Dharmapuri	BJP	M	47	109.90
Peddapalle	Vamsi Krishna Gaddam	Cong	M	35	24.10
Secunderabad	G. Kishan Reddy	BJP	M	63	19.22
Warangal	Kadiyam Kavya	Cong	F	41	1.55
Zahirabad	Suresh Kumar Shetkar	Cong	M	63	10.77

Tripura — 2

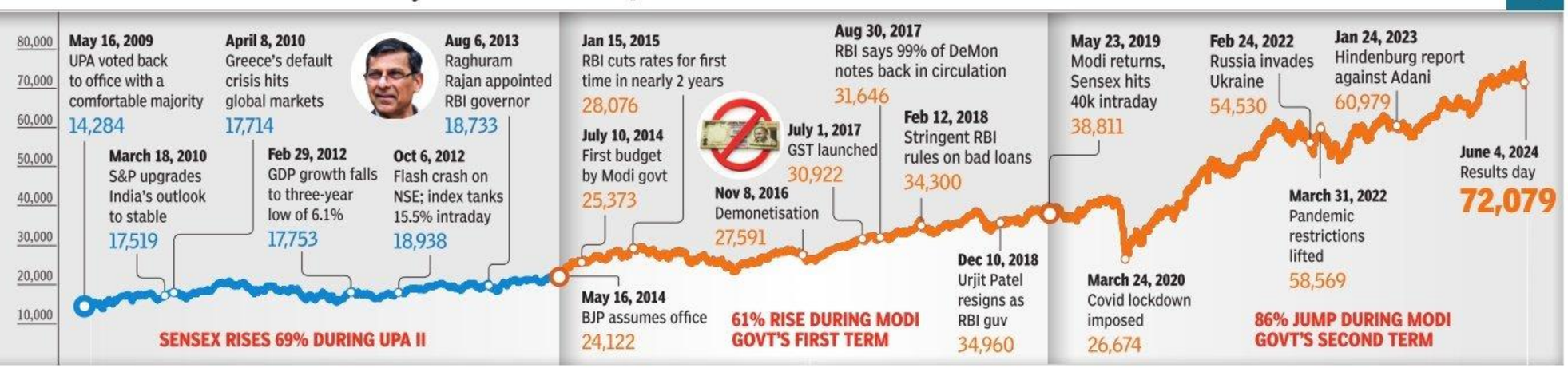
Tripura East	Kriti Devi Debbarman	BJP	F	52	85.92
Tripura West	Biplab Kumar Deb	BJP	M	53	4.99

Uttar Pradesh — 80

CONSTITUENCY	WINNER	PARTY	SEX	AGE	ASSETS (₹ cr)
Agra	Prof S P Singh Baghel	BJP	M	63	10.44
Akbarpur	Devendra Singh	BJP	M	70	4.78
Aligarh	Satish Kumar Gautam	BJP	M	51	16.06
Allahabad	Ujjwal Raman Singh	Cong	M	51	27.83
Ambedkar Nagar	Lalji Verma	SP	M	68	11.03
Amethi	Kishori Lal Sharma	Cong	M	62	17.57
Amroha	Kanwar Singh Tanwar	BJP	M	63	1.24
Aonla	Neeraj Maurya	SP	M	55	3.78
Az

More Wealth For More Indians

Sensex is up more than 5 times since mid-2009 and 3 times since May 2014, indicating that stock markets have created large and sustained wealth in the past decade-and-a-half. Average gains were highest in the last five years, and middle-class participation in the market also increased the most since 2019



Money Managers See Policy Continuity With Economic Reforms, Capex & Infra Spending Despite NDA's Narrow Victory

Shock Exchange: Bulls Have Bears To Cross On D-St

Inflated stock valuations get reality check

TEAM TOI

Mumbai: Indian fund managers want the current pace of economic reforms and pro-industry policies to continue under the incoming govt.

Most believe that even though the BJP-led alliance now has a depleted mandate, it would continue the works and projects launched under the outgoing govt. This is despite the nervousness that gripped investors after the Lok Sabha poll results came out on Tuesday.

Money managers also believe that the poll mandate that is being perceived as disappointing for the ruling alliance but a great morale booster for the opposition could rein in the raging bull market in India and make valuations more rational. "The election result is likely to lead to a more balanced market. Risk-reward in large-caps and underperforming sectors like banking and consumer appear more favourable," Rahul Singh, CIO (equities) at Tata MF, said. "There is likely to be greater scrutiny and valuation discipline in the performing sectors like capital goods, power, defence and manufacturing."

"There is a bit of uncertainty as investors are concerned about the slowdown of reforms that had been initiated under the (outgoing) BJP-led govt," said Vinit Sambre, head (equities), DSP Mutual Fund. "This has triggered a correction in the markets as investors reassess the outlook under the new political landscape. We would like to believe that the development agenda that spurred the performance of equity is likely to persist, irrespective of the party in power."

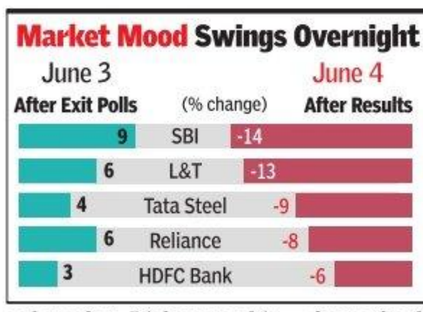
Fund managers believe that capital expenditure, both by govt and the private sector, are integral to the growth of the economy. Moreover, private capex — that has been lagging majorly for the last few years — should start and either supplement or complement the capex by govt.

"We would like to see the incoming govt continue to create a favourable environment for four growth factors: increased foreign direct investments into the country, private capex, continuation of govt capex and better infrastructure, both social and physical," said Anand Shah, CIO for PMS & AIF Investments, ICICI Prudential AMC.

Fund managers believe that with India in a sweet spot in terms of macroeconomic fundamentals, any improvement at the global level — like improving macro fundamentals for the Chinese economy and rate cuts in the US — could act as tailwinds for the domestic economy.

The Budget for FY25 would be one of the deciding factors for the economy and the markets. "Any moderation in the capital spending outlook (in the Budget) in favour of consumption support can further drive sectoral preferences going forward," Singh of Tata MF said.

Market Mood Swings Overnight



...What Should Investors Do

- Avoid taking **impulsive** decisions amid elevated volatility in the market
- There's a high chance govt policies will continue and the **market will stabilise**
- **Don't deviate** or alter your investment plan if you have one that's goal-based
- Review your portfolio and rebalance only if the situation demands it

Adani mcap dives ₹3.6L cr a day after hitting 16-mth high

TEAM TOI

Mumbai: Investors in Adani Group companies were left poorer by Rs 3.6 lakh crore on Tuesday as stock prices of all 11 companies crashed on the back of a depleted mandate for the BJP-led NDA coalition.

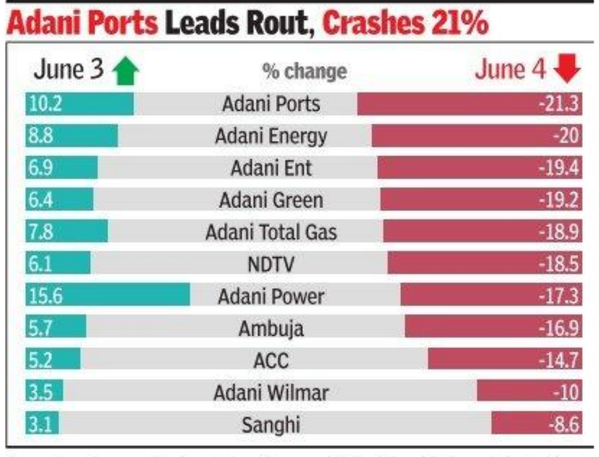
Opposition parties have alleged that Adani Group has benefited the most since PM Modi assumed office in May 2014. Investors believe that a weaker mandate for NDA may lead to the group losing an edge. At the same time, the group would be under stricter scrutiny of a stronger opposition. These factors weighed on Adani Group stocks in Tuesday's crashing market, dealers said.

During the day, as stock prices of Adani Group companies crashed, the group's combined market capitalisation fell from Rs 19.4 lakh crore on Monday to Rs 15.8 lakh crore, BSE data showed.

Group flagship Adani Enterprises led the slump. As the stock crashed 19%, its market cap eroded by Rs 80,416 crore. Adani Ports — the group company that will soon be a part of the sensex — lost a fifth of its market value, or nearly Rs 72,800 crore to its current level of Rs 2.7 lakh crore. Among other group companies, Adani Green Energy lost nearly Rs 62,000 crore worth of market value while Adani Power lost about Rs 58,300 crore.

It was on Monday, boosted by strong exit poll projections for the BJP-led govt, that the group's market cap had breached its pre-Hindenburg report level to hit a 16-month high. Investors are now nervous about the prospects of the group's companies, dealers said.

Adani Ports Leads Rout, Crashes 21%



How New Govt Will Face Key Policy Issues

Geopolitical uncertainties and the global economic situation may require acceleration of reforms. But with a coalition govt at the Centre, it may not be easy as some issues, such as privatisation and a relook at GST, need consensus. **TOI** lists top areas of focus:

GST REVAMP: Five-slab GST rate structure may not be reviewed immediately as it may require merging the 12% and 18% slabs, necessitating an increase in levies on goods and services that move into the higher bracket. That's an issue on which political consensus may not be easy

PUBLIC FINANCES: Privatisation is likely to be put on a backburner for some time. While RBI's mega dividend of Rs 2.1L cr and robust GST revenues will keep Centre's finances in good shape, the Centre may have to go slow on cleaning up the subsidy regime further, although greater use of technology to plug leakages is something that won't change

INVESTMENT PUSH: After hitting a high of $85 billion in 2021-22, the annual inflow of foreign direct investments has fallen for two consecutive years, touching $71 billion in 2023-24. Govt is expected to make the investment regime more attractive in several sectors, including electric vehicles and artificial intelligence

FOOD PRICES: Although overall inflation has moderated (see chart below), food prices remain both volatile and high. Govt may take steps to weatherproof prices and shield it from climate-induced shocks such as heatwaves and floods

AGRICULTURE: The latest GDP data indicates a relative stagnation in the farm sector. Reforms focusing on irrigation and use of AI to raise productivity are expected. Election results point to the challenging but imminent need to raise farmers' income

EXPORTS & PLI: The production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme has helped push exports of smartphones and other products but there have been demands to extend it to more sectors, such as toys and footwear. Expect fine-tuning of PLI to focus more sharply on companies and sectors willing to shift out of China for export production

REGULATORY CLARITY: Before the poll dates were announced, several new economic legislations were in the works. A better regulation of cryptocurrencies, AI, data protection is under consideration

MAINTAINING GROWTH: Most economists do not expect 2024-25 GDP growth to be a repeat of 8.2% growth in 2023-24. But ensuring a growth rate of even 7% in the current global economic environment won't be easy. Among the steps expected are a road map for energy transition and a push for infra investments. Economic ministries have made action plans with specific targets for 2030 and 2047. A ministry-wise action plan could be unveiled, if there is a consensus in the new govt

Fear factor: India VIX jumps 50% to 2-year high

▶ From P 1

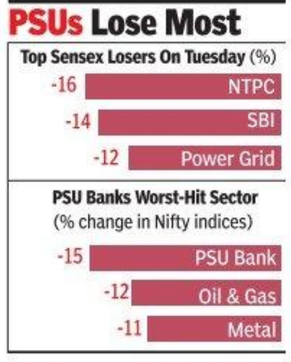
After some late buying, the index closed at 72,079 points, still down 4,390 points or 5.7% — the biggest single-session loss in its history (in points). Nifty lost 1,379 points or 5.9% to close at 21,884 points.

At one point during the day's session, Nifty was just about 150 points off hitting the 10% lower circuit level, which would have stopped trading across all bourses for at least an hour. The day's market crash left investors poorer by Rs 31 lakh crore, with BSE's market capitalisation now at Rs 401.2 lakh crore, translating to $4.8 trillion.

Among the sensex stocks, only three — HUL, Nestle and TCS — closed higher while the other 27 constituents closed in the red. PSU stocks, which have seen a stellar run during the last two years mainly on the back of pro-sector policies of govt, crashed. Among the maharatna companies, NTPC crashed 15.5% and Powergrid Corp lost 12.4%, while SBI fell 14.4% down. As a result, BSE's PSU index closed 15.7% down, BSE data showed.

During Tuesday's session, India VIX, the measure of volatility, spiked nearly 50%, touching an over two-year high at 31.7 points and finally settling at 26.75, NSE data showed.

PSUs Lose Most



Rupee plunges by 42 paise, most in a year, to 83.53 vs $

TEAM TOI

Mumbai: The rupee fell the most in over a year to close at 83.53 against the dollar, down 42 paise over Monday's close. Prices of govt bonds also fell sharply, with the yields on the benchmark 10-year bond rising by over 5 basis points (100bps = 1 percentage point) to cross 7%.

The rupee came under pressure following a nearly 6% drop in equity indices, where foreign investors are believed to have sold their stakes.

"While equity markets had seen a huge run-up amid recent volatility, volatility in the forex market has been extremely low... it may rise in the short term as political clarity emerges. Going forward, it is back to global cues for the forex market... the rupee should trade within a range of 83 to 84 against the dollar," said Ashish Vaidya, head of treasury, DBS Bank. "The India story is still intact. It is not getting derailed and hence, the rupee should remain well-managed and within a range," he added.

Dealers said that the rupee hit an intra-day low of 83.65, but dollar sales by public sector banks — ostensibly at the behest of RBI — led to a marginal recovery in the exchange rate.

70 To 83.5/$ In 5 Yrs



'Govt Should Focus On Mfg & Skilling'



"We have to focus on high-value exports from manufacturing. Make laws more business-friendly... We should also increase supply of skilled workforce. We are way behind other developed economies including China in skill-building. We should bring more reforms to improve ease of doing business

Venu Srinivasan | CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, TVS MOTOR CO

"Govt must accelerate transition to green energy. This will reduce the cost of energy and import burden. India should be the AI & computer hub of the world by leveraging its data, population and talent... Must integrate into future global supply chains

Bhavish Aggarwal | FOUNDER, OLA



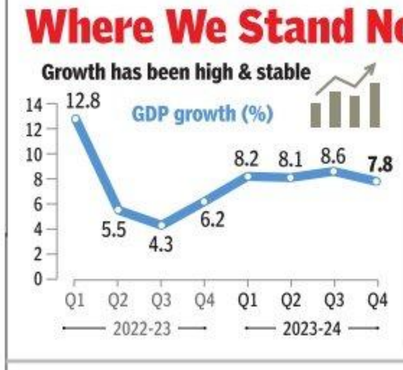
"India is at an accelerated phase of growth driven by entrepreneurship. I am looking forward to govt continuing its efforts in driving investments in tech and infrastructure, propelling R&D efforts to expand innovation and focusing on making India the world's preferred hub for manufacturing

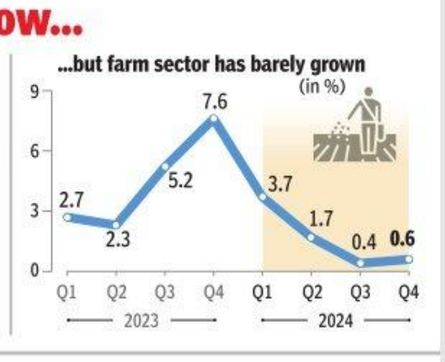
Falguni Nayar | FOUNDER & CEO, NYKAA

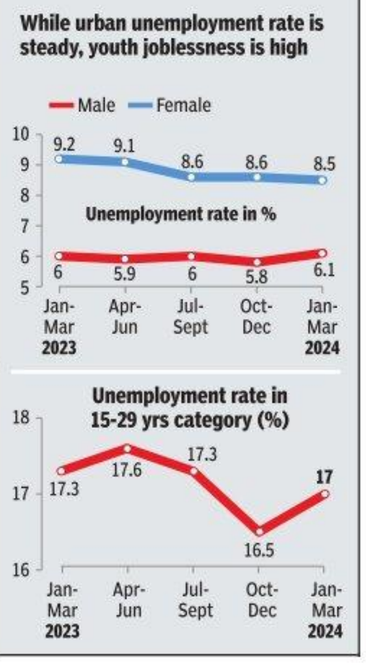
"We must pursue higher growth that is environmentally sustainable, socially equitable & inclusive. Maintaining momentum in digital and physical infra, upgrading social infra (healthcare, education & skill-building) can make India the world's leading 'factory, farm & front-office'

Navneet Munot | MD & CEO, HDFC AMC

Where We Stand Now...







Foreign funds to sit on fence for now

TEAM TOI

Mumbai: Foreign fund managers, who have been cautious on Indian stocks since the Lok Sabha polls started in April, are expected to maintain the status quo: Neither go on investing with fresh zeal nor take money out in droves. Foreign portfolio investors feel that the lower-than-expected Lok Sabha seats for the BJP could limit their decision-making bandwidth in the coming days.

Since April this year, FPIs have been net sellers of stocks in India and have net taken out nearly Rs 37,700 crore, including Tuesday's net selling figure of Rs 12,436 crore, data from the BSE and CDSL showed. Any major change in investment patterns of foreign funds in India could have a strong impact on the stock market, dealers said.

"After a weak political outcome, we believe investors will focus on govt formation and the choice of prime ministerial candidate considering the BJP does not have a simple majority of its own," a report by foreign broking major UBS said. The other focus areas would be "policy choices to support growth vis-a-vis ensuring macro stability, and the reform narrative".

UBS analysts said they would watch out for upcoming union budget announcements, implementation of labour laws and the next set of reforms in land and capital.

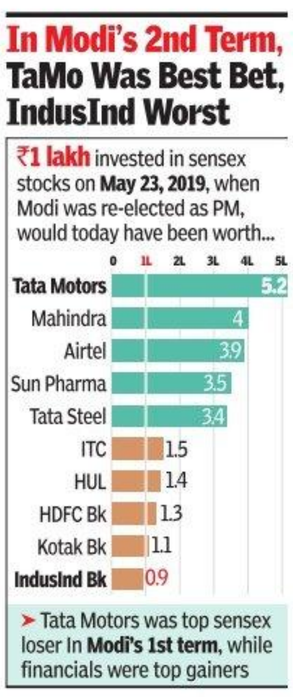
"This was not an election outcome the market valuations were set up for. Indian valuations have been expensive for pretty ordinary corporate earnings growth/outlook. One of the arguments behind India's rich valuations has been the political stability/policy certainty afforded by a strong govt. Some of those assumptions could now come under question," the report by UBS said.

A report by Societe Generale, another foreign broker, noted that the less-than-majority number for BJP on its own, unlike in 2019, could prompt the incoming govt to focus on subsidies at the expense of capex.

FPIs Net Sellers Since Polls Started



In Modi's 2nd Term, TaMo Was Best Bet, IndusInd Worst



IPO wave in India has no reason to stop, say analysts

TEAM TOI

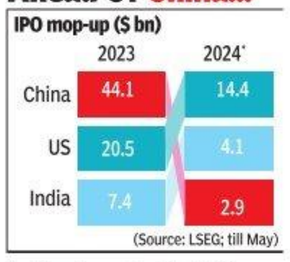
Mumbai: India, which has emerged as the second-largest IPO market on the world league table, has raised $4 billion so far this year. With NDA returning to form the next govt, hopes of policy continuity should extend the IPO boom throughout the rest of 2024.

The $4 billion raised by India is about 45% less than what it collected in all of 2023, LSEG data shows, but outperforms China ($3 billion) and Saudi Arabia ($2.1 billion). The number is also higher than the combined amount raised in Turkey, Hong Kong and South Korea. The US is the largest IPO market, having raised $14 billion so far in 2024, according to LSEG. From number 11 in 2019, India secured the third place globally in terms of IPO proceeds after the US and China in 2023.

India has hosted 113 IPOs between Jan this year and now. "Amidst general elections, the primary market remained vibrant with the solid response to certain IPOs like Awfis Space Solutions. Confidence can be gauged by these offerings that have been launched amidst elections... Looking ahead, the market is set to witness a flurry of IPOs, from new-age business as well as from conventional business segments," said Mahavir Lunawat, MD at investment bank Pantomath Capital Advisors.

Several companies such as Hyundai Motor India, Tata Capital, Ola Electric Mobility, and Swiggy, and NSDLare looking at launching their IPOs.

Ahead Of China...





Modi margin dips from 4.8L to 1.5L, vote share from 63.6% to 54.2%

Closest Fight Since 2014 Win Despite 70K Rise In Total Votes Polled

Rajeev.Dikshit
@timesgroup.com

Varanasi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi won Varanasi Lok Sabha seat by defeating INDIA bloc candidate and Uttar Pradesh Congress chief Ajay Rai, but his 1.5-lakh vote victory margin on Tuesday marked the closest contest the prime minister has faced since his victory in 2014, and a steep fall from 2019 when he had won by 4.8 lakh votes.

Rai, jubilant even in defeat, claimed he had scored a "moral victory". As the sole challenger, he had not only stopped Modi from making a new victory margin record but also set one himself — losing to Modi with the smallest margin.

It is not just Modi's margin that has fallen. He got about 62,000 fewer votes this time (6.1 lakh compared to 6.8 lakh in 2019) despite the total votes in the constituency rising by about 70,000 (from 10.6 lakh to 11.3 lakh). His vote share dropped from 63.6% to 54.2%

ANI



Modi bagged 6,12,970 votes to defeat Rai, who secured 4,60,457. In 2014, Modi's victory margin was 3.7 lakh

Modi bagged 6,12,970 votes to defeat Rai, who secured 4,60,457. In 2014, Modi's victory margin was 3.7 lakh. Earlier in the day, TV news flashes had created a flutter when they showed Rai leading by 6,000 votes after the first three rounds of counting.

Rai's parliamentary constituency poll management team convenor, Surendra Narain Singh Audhe, said, "In 2014, anti-BJP votes were divided among four contenders, while it was divided between two contestants in 2019. Moreover, this time, an entire chunk of non-BJP votes went to the INDIA bloc candidate. This was the reason for the reduced victory margin."

But why did Modi's vote count fall despite the total number of votes polled on June 1 being greater than in 2019? BJP Kashi region unit president Dilip Singh Patel said, "We are scheduling an organisation meeting in which all reasons for the 2024 LS poll performance in Varanasi seat will be reviewed."

Rai was happy. "The people of Varanasi showered their blessings on me to show the mirror to those who in their arrogance of power raised slogans of notching up 10 lakh votes and had engaged money power and their best force in Kashi to achieve the target of winning the election with the biggest margin. INDIA bloc unitedly shattered this dream," said Rai, who had finished third in 2014 and 2019.

Early results during counting of votes at Pahadiya Mandi shocked BJP as in the initial three rounds Rai was leading. But once Modi took the lead, he maintained it till the last round. However, the lead increased slowly, unlike the galloping seen in 2014 and 2019 when Modi was in the lead right from the first round.

At Gulab Bagh, where victory celebrations took place late evening, it was evident that the jubilation lacked the vigour of the past two elections.

INDIA bloc wins 12 of 17 UP seats with higher women turnout



FAIR POLLS

Lucknow: INDIA bloc won 12 of the 17 UP seats — a strike rate of 70% — where women voter turnout was more than men in absolute numbers, reports **Arvind Chauhan**.

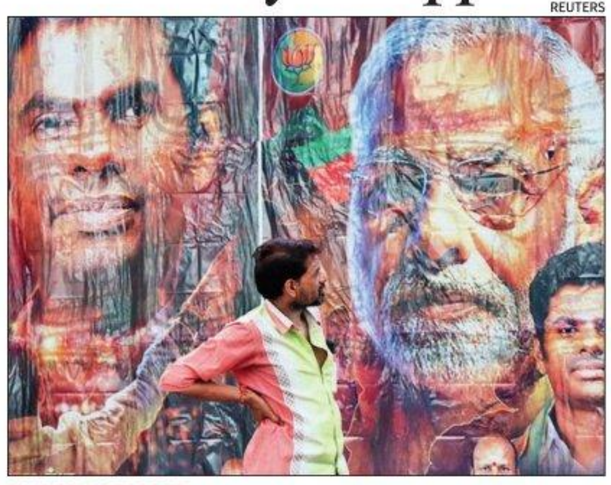
Congress's Rahul Gandhi and Kishori Lal Sharma won with more than 3.9 lakh and 1.6 lakh votes in Rae Bareli and Amethi, where 5,23,822 and 4,92,861 women voted, respectively. The other 10 seats were won by SP in Sultanpur, Pratapgarh, Ambedkar Nagar, Basti, Sant Kabir Nagar, Azamgarh, Jaunpur, Salempur, Lalganj and Machhlishahr.

The remaining five seats where more women voted than men were Domariyaganj, Bansgaon, Maharajganj, Kushinagar and Deoria. BJP was winning or leading in them.

It's not the 1st time exit polls have gone awry. Here's why it happens

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

REUTERS



FLAWED FORECAST

New Delhi: Psephologist Pradeep Gupta wept on live television on Tuesday. The reputed pollster was way off target in his prediction of Lok Sabha 2024 election results. Axis-IndiaToday had given 361-401 seats to NDA.

He wasn't the only one psephologist who got the outcome wrong. Today's Chanakya-News24, ETG-Times Now, Marize-Republic Bharat, ABP-CVoter — all were spectacularly inaccurate. And many were left wondering what could have led to the mismatch between exit polls and actual results.

D Shyam Babu of Centre for Policy Research says that when you have electoral waves, such as the anti-incumbency wave in 2014, prediction gets closer to reality. "Exit polls don't deliver when the contest is close and we need them as in this election," he says.

It is not the first time that exit polls proved to be erroneous. In 2004, exit polls had predicted a majority for the incumbent NDA govt led by PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee. But the coalition ended up getting fewer seats than Congress-led UPA. Such surveys also went haywire in several assembly polls in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and other states.

Shyam Babu speculates that it could be that many who voted for non-BJP parties might have misreported their choice. "This could be partly due to apprehension or a factor of groupthink: not backing an obvious and ascendant BJP might appear silly or bigoted," he says.

Rahul Verma of CPR offered a state-wise break-up of the exit polls. "Kerala, TN, Gujarat, MP, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Jharkhand on expected lines. Karnataka, Bihar, Odisha, AP, Telangana, Delhi in the direction pollsters predicted. UP, Maharashtra, West Bengal — three largest states with 160 seats — horribly wrong," he posted on X.

Social scientist Badri Narayan agrees the exit polls were bang on in several states but also woefully inaccurate in three big states. He attributed this to a possibly flawed methodology. "It seems the pollsters listened to the visible public and did not speak to the quiet voter," he said. In exit polls, voters are asked about their political choice after they have cast their ballot.

Sociologist Dipankar Gupta says that there is no way an enumerator can tick boxes which capture gestures, rolling eyes, shrug and glances. "He or she is biased in favour of perceptions fed by media, which leads this person to consider ambiguous responses as one in line with pre-existing biases. The enumerator is nearly always from a different social and social conic background," he says.

"Also, in an environment which is hierarchical and lacks trust, there is a tendency to conceal one's honest opinion, especially if the respondent perceives that his or her view is out of the ordinary and what is generally acceptable at this point of time," he says.

Political scientist Balveer Arora says the exit polls displayed a herd mentality. "None of them wanted to risk underplaying BJP. They lost credibility in the process," he says.

TIMES impact

DON'T JUST COMPETE.
DOMINATE YOUR MARKET.

Leverage the power of print and digital for your business and watch your company soar to its maximum potential.

Scan to register

Register now for our free seminar.
Call: 1800 3096 208 or visit: toirsvp.com/19

Date: 20th - 22nd June
Venue: The Park Hotel, Delhi

THE TIMES OF INDIA · THE ECONOMIC TIMES · NBT नवभारत टाइम्स · DelhiTimes · GurgaonTimes

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF KERALA)
Head Office : Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram-14,
(Telephone No. 0471-2945600),
E-mail : edrugs.kmscl@kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No.KMSCL/ED/08/2024 Date : 04.06.2024

E- TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers/ loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the Procurement of Drugs for Anemia Mukth Bharath for the year 2023-24.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	No. of items
1.	KMSCL/ED/IFA/RC/2024/009 dtd. 04.06.2024	05

The last date and time of online uploading of tender will be 20.06.2024, 5.00 pm. The date and time of opening of Technical bid will be 24.06.2024 11.00 am. Tender shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**.

(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

Maharaja Agrasen Medical College
Agroha (Hisar)-125047 (Haryana)
(Recognized by NMC/MCI/Govt. Aided)
Website: www.mamc.edu.in **Phone No. 8930200801**
Email:- director@mamc.edu.in

RECRUITMENT

Applications are invited for filling up the posts of Faculty (Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Senior Resident & C.M.O.) in various Departments in MAMC, Agroha. Qualifications as per NMC & **salary as per Haryana Govt. with good perks with NPA, New Pension Scheme. Starting salary: C.M.O.-109980/-, Senior Resident-141860/-, Assistant Professor-145360/-, Associate Professor-245080/-& Professor-248860/- + HRA + CA as per rule**. For more details, the interested candidates may visit at our website: **https://mamc.edu.in/jobs-2/**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
JHARKHAND BHAWAN, GOVT. OF JHARKHAND
NEW DELHI-110057

NOTICE FOR CANCELLATION OF NIT 321526 DATED 06.03.2024 AND INVITATION OF FRESH TENDERS HOUSEKEEPING & CATERING SERVICES IN JHARKHAND BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

The tender invited through PR 321526 dated 06.03.2024, is hereby cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances and fresh tenders are invited for the same.

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed parties having relevant experience for "Round the clock Housekeeping, Cleaning, Catering and maintenance of Reception Desk, General Pest Control & Rodent Control at Jharkhand Bhawan," guesthouse at Kusumpur Pahari, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi – 110057, from the date of agreement for a period of 2 years. The Jharkhand Bhawan includes 20 standard rooms, 2 Executive suites, 2 VIP suites and office of the Resident Commissioner, Jharkhand and office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Jharkhand Bhawan.

Prescribed tender forms along with NIT, terms and conditions, scope of work, qualification criterion, etc can be obtained from the office of the Secretary, Department of Cabinet Secretariat and Vigilance (Co-ordination), Govt. of Jharkhand, Project Building, Jharkhand Sachivalaya, Ranchi, or from the office of the Resident Commissioner, Jharkhand Bhawan, Kusumpur Pahari, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi from 10.06.2024 on all working days during office hours.

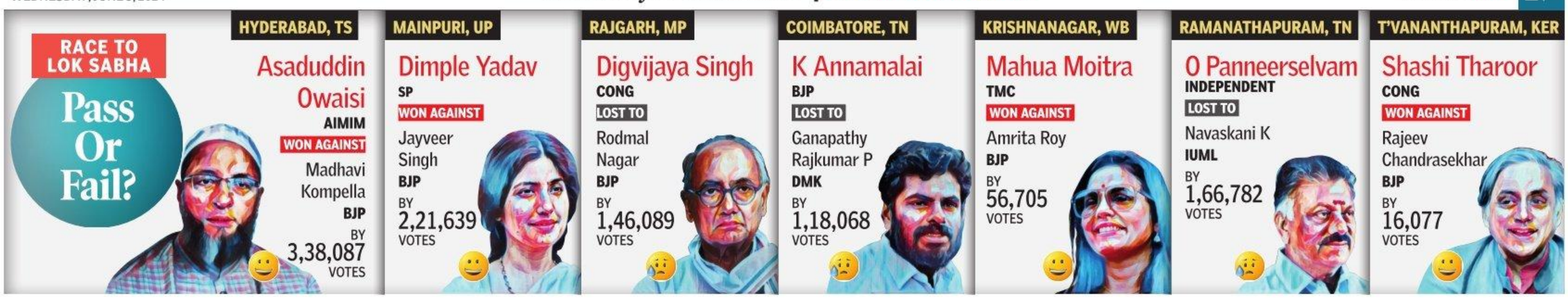
Cost of the form is **Rs. 1000/-** and to be paid in cash. MSMEs are **exempted** from payment of Tender document fee and EMD as per Government policy.

Filled up tender form, along with bank draft of Rs. 50,000/- drawn in favour of Chief Administrative Officer, Jharkhand Bhawan, Govt. of Jharkhand towards refundable Earnest Money should be submitted in two separate sealed covers each containing technical bid and financial bid respectively in the office of Chief Administrative Officer, Jharkhand Bhawan, Kusumpur Pahari, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi – 110057 (Tel. No. 26739000) latest by **5 PM on 25.06.2024** Tender is not transferable.

Each page of the tender form should be signed by the bidder. The technical bids shall be opened at **11 A.M. on 26.06.2024 ,** at Jharkhand Bhawan, New Delhi in presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives with Valid ID Card and authorization letter. Due to unforeseen circumstances, if the tender is not opened on the stipulated date, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time i.e., 11 A.M. The financial bids will be opened after evaluation of technical bids by the tender committee.

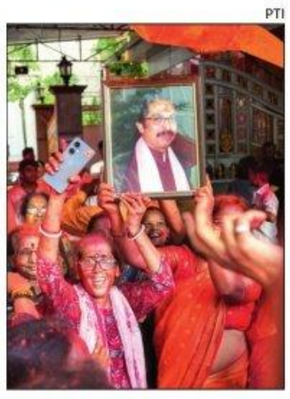
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
JHARKHAND BHAWAN,
NEW DELHI-110057

PR 325279 Cabinet(24-25).D



Shinde's man prevails in Sena vs Sena cliffhanger by meagre 48 votes

PTI



Uddhav Thackeray said his party will challenge the result. UBT's Kirtikar had been leading the EVM count till his lead shrank to one vote. When the postal ballots were added, the lead swung in his rival Waikar's favour

Richa Pinto & Sumitra Deb Roy | TNN

Mumbai: The Mumbai Northwest constituency was expected to be an intense Sena vs Sena battle—and counting day exceeded expectations.

In a nail-biting finish, Ravindra Waikar of the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena narrowly defeated Shiv Sena (Uddhav Thackeray) Amol Kirtikar by just 48 votes, the lowest margin in the state. Incidentally, the constituency also had the highest number of NOTAs in the city, which has six Lok Sabha seats.

Uddhav Thackeray said his party will challenge the result.

Waikar's win was declared around 8pm at the NESCO counting centre in Goregaon, where crowds of supporters of both candidates gathered outside the gates and raised slogans as the vote turned.

UBT's Kirtikar had been leading the EVM count for much of the afternoon, with a margin of 1700-odd votes at around 4pm. Confident of victory, he arrived at the counting centre where he was met by jubilant supporters. But the mood changed soon after as his lead shrank to one vote. And when the postal ballots were added, the lead swung in Waikar's favour.

Both candidates then approached the returning officer for a recount. Following the rules, the election official re-examined 111 invalid or rejected postal ballots. A postal ballot can be invalid if it is improperly marked or torn, and such votes are scrutinised when the margin of victory by EVM is less than the the invalid postal votes. But officials deemed that these votes stood as invalid,

Kirtikar received a total of 4,52,596 votes, while Waikar received 4,526,44 votes.

The atmosphere outside Nesco shifted when Sena UBT supporters, who had brought their dhol tasha and colours, learned about his narrow loss. They began to shout slogans of "cheater" even as Waikar's supporters celebrated. Police presence was strengthened but there was no violence, officials said.

Waikar said, "I am glad to have got an opportunity to serve the nation through this seat. I also feel bad about Amol's loss and apologize to him". Waikar thanked Eknath Shinde, Devendra Fadnavis and Raj Thackeray before leaving the counting venue. Amol Kirtikar didn't comment on the final results.

Congress wrests both Manipur seats, JNU prof among winners

TEAM TOI

Guwahati: Congress wrested Manipur from BJP and its ally, NPF, with both Meitei-dominated valley and tribal-majority hills voting in grand old party after a year of ethnic strife that has cost over 200 lives.

While JNU professor Angomcha Bimol Akoijam defeated state minister and BJP candidate Thounaojam Basantakumar in Inner Manipur, in the hills Alfred Kanngam S Arthur beat NPF's Kachui Timothy Zimik in Outer Manipur seat.

For voters across the valley and the hills, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's visit to the state during the height of the ethnic clashes provided them the attention they had sought from New Delhi. This was something that PM Narendra Modi failed to deliver, and the people reciprocated accordingly.

Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee president Keisham Meghachandra Singh, expressed gratitude to the state's people for electing Congress candidates in both seats and dedicated the electoral success to people who have suffered in the strife and those driven from their homes by violence to relief camps.

AICC member and senior spokesperson for Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee Ningombam Bupenda Meitei wrote on 'X': "Leave 400, the people of Manipur have rejected the outgoing PM Modi by giving a margin of 1.5 lakh votes for INC candidate, Dr. @Bimol_Akoijam and a margin of more than 0.7 lakh votes for another Congress candidate, Alfred Arthur, in 2 seats from Manipur (sic)."

SP scores in all regions, takes pole position

From 5 Seats In '19, Tally Swells To 35 & 2 Leads

Arvind.Chauhan
@timesgroup.com

Lucknow: Samajwadi Party's jump from five Lok Sabha seats in 2019 to pole position five years later marks a stunning comeback against all expectations, with the bonus of an all-round performance spanning all four regions of this vast and diverse state. Late Tuesday, Akhilesh Yadav's party was sitting pretty with 37 seats.

SP's ally Congress won five seats in the central region: Rae Bareli, Amethi, Allahabad, Sitapur and Barabanki

In Rohilkhand, SP and its ally Congress won five seats each, including Kairana by a margin of 69,116 votes, Muzaffarnagar by 24,672 votes and Firozabad by 89,312 votes. The rural seat of Mainpuri also went SP's way. At last count, Etah was almost in the kitty.

In Moradabad, SP's margin of victory was 1.05 lakh votes, while Muslim-dominant Rampur gave the party a winning margin of 87,434 votes. In Sambhal, SP was victorious by 1.3 lakh votes.

Its INDIA bloc partner Congress won the Saharanpur seat by 64,542 votes.

In the central region, SP won 11 seats — Fatehpur, Kaushambi, Faizabad, Ambedkar Nagar, Kheri, Dhaurahra, Mohanlalganj, Sultanpur, Pratapgarh, Etawah and Kannauj.

In Kheri, SP's Utkarsh Verma Madhur defeated Union minister Ajay Kumar Mishra Teni by 34,329 votes.

Sultanpur saw Rambhual Nishad trounce BJP's Maneka Gandhi by 43,174 votes.

Another SP candidate, R K Chaudhary, defeated Union minister Kaushal Kishore in the Mohanlalganj reserved seat.

Congress won five seats in the central region — Rae Bareli, Amethi, Allahabad, Barabanki and Sitapur.

In the south eastern part, SP won 13 seats, including Jaunpur, where BSP turncoat Babu Singh Kushwaha defeated BJP's Kripa Shankar Singh by 94,766 votes. Priya Saroj won the reserved Machhlishahr seat for SP by 34,536 votes.

Afzal Ansari, brother of don Mukhtar Ansari, won Ghazipur by 1.24 lakh votes. In Chandauli, SP's Virendra Singh defeated Union minister Mahendra Nath Pandey by 21,565 votes. Party nominee Chhotelal won the Robertsganj reserved seat by 92,726 votes.

In northeast UP, the party won Shravasti, Basti, Sant Kabir Nagar, Azamgarh, Ghosi, Salempur, Ballia and the reserved Lalganj seat.

Bundelkhand, too, saw an SP surge. Narayan Das Ahirwar won Jalaun by 53,898 votes and Krishna Devi Shivshanker Patel triumphed in Banda by 71,210 votes.

PTI



SP supporters celebrate in Lucknow on Tuesday. The party's stellar show marks a stunning comeback against all expectations



DSEU Crafting Excellence

दिल्ली कौशल एवं उद्यमिता विश्वविद्यालय
DELHI SKILL AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP UNIVERSITY

(A State University Established under Govt. of NCT of Delhi Act 04 of 2020)
HQ - DSEU Dwarka Campus, Sector 9, Dwarka, New Delhi-110077
Website: https://dseu.ac.in

ADMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT (UG PROGRAMS- 2024-25)

Interactive session with the Vice Chancellor, DSEU will be held at 12:00 PM on 06.06.24 (Thursday) at DSEU HQ, Dwarka.

Registration & Counselling Fee (Non-Refundable)- ₹1500/-

PROGRAMS OFFERED

UG-Certificate Programs (Full Time) (Duration-01 Year) NCrF Level-4.5	UG-Diploma Programs (Full Time) (Duration-02 Years) NCrF Level-5	UG-Degree Programs (Full Time) (Four Year UG Degree Programs with exit options) NCrF Level-6 with exit option at NCrF Level 5.5
1. Certificate Course in Food Production	1. UG Diploma in Sports Fitness and Yoga Applications	1. B.S. Automotive Retail Management
2. Certificate Course in Retail Services	2. UG Diploma in Hospitality Operations	2. B.S. Banking, Financial Services and Insurance
3. Certificate Course in Computer System Operator	3. UG Diploma in Beauty and Wellness	3. B.S. E-Commerce Operations and Digital Application
4. Certificate course in Digital Marketing and Web development	4. UG Diploma in Beauty and Wellness	4. B.S. Retail Management
5. Certificate course in Finance Executive	5. UG Diploma in Video Production	5. B.S. Supply Chain Management
6. Certificate course in refrigeration and Air conditioning Skills	6. UG Diploma in Precision Engineering	6. B.S. Hospitality Management
7. Certificate course in Welding Technology	7. UG Diploma in Garment Manufacturing and Quality Assurance	7. B.S. Community Organisation and Development Practice
8. Certificate course in Mechatronics skill	8. UG Diploma in Tool and Die Making	8. B.S. Digital marketing and Data Analytics
	9. UG Diploma in Food Production	9. B.S. Computer Applications
	10. UG Diploma in Light Vehicles	10. B.A. (Hons.) Spanish
	11. UG Diploma in Heavy Vehicles	11. B.S. Beauty Therapy
	12. UG Diploma in German Language	12. B.Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics
	13. UG Diploma in Japanese Language	13. B.S. Office Management
	14. UG Diploma in French Language	14. B.A. (Hons) Fine Arts
	15. UG Diploma in Computer System Operator	15. B.S. Digital Media Design
	16. UG Diploma in Apparel Retail Management and Merchandising	16. B.S. Business Process Management
	17. Diploma in Pharmacy	17. B.S. Fashion Design
		18. B.S. Interior Design
		19. B.S. Hospital Facility Management
		20. B.S. Optometry
		21. B.S. Entrepreneurship
		22. B.S. Dialysis Technology
		23. B.S. Emergency Medical Technology
		24. B.S. Medical Laboratory Sciences
		25. B.S. Facility Management

Eligibility Criteria for Admission to UG Programs 2024-25

S. No	Programs	Minimum Eligibility
1.	UG Certificate	(I) XII (senior secondary) Grade Pass or (ii) 10th+2-Yr NTC/NAC/CITS, (iii) 40 credits of NSQF level 4.0.
2.	UG Diploma	
3.	UG Degree	

Important dates for Online Registration-

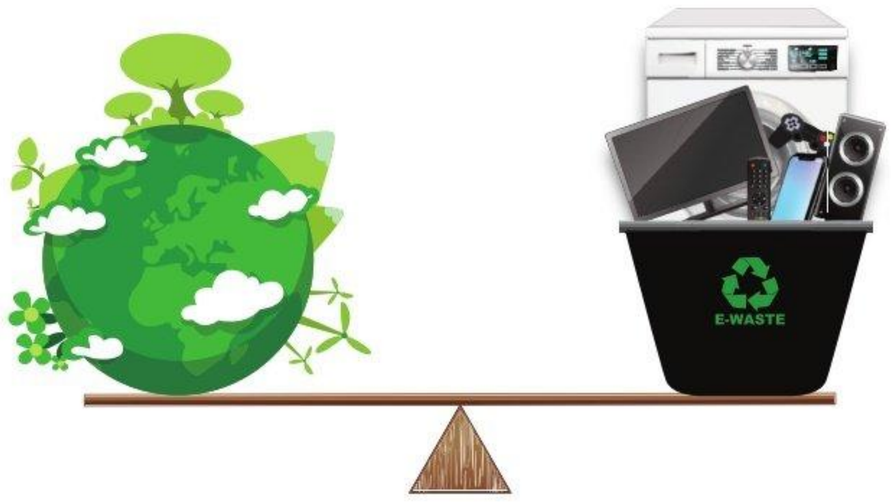
1.	Commencement of Online Registration and Choice Filling. (Along with Application Fee Payment)	May 24, 2024 (Friday) from 11:00 A.M.
2.	Last Date and Time for Online Registration	June 15, 2024 (Saturday) till 05:30 P.M.

How to apply - The candidates are required to fill the online application form available at **https://dseuadm.samarth.edu.in/ug** Keep visiting DSEU website regularly for further updates. You may visit the above mentioned website for further details about the programs, eligibility and relaxation in eligibility to reserve categories, fees and admission process. In case of any difficulty to apply online application, candidate may visit DSEU (HQ) Dwarka.

Registrar, DSEU

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

BE RESPONSIBLE TODAY FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW



TOI: CBRed&Green-2024

This World Environment Day, be a responsible citizen by doing your part in keeping the planet safe. E-waste is a silent threat to the world. Let's break this silence together.

We encourage you to stand together with us in support of collecting, recycling & reusing electronic waste and contributing to a cleaner environment.

To know more about the initiative and be a part of it, reach out to SACH/Teach India E-waste Nation Solutions Centre on **+91-9811992410.**

A CSR initiative by Mercedes-Benz India Private Limited

In association with

SACH Society For Action In Community Health | THE TIMES OF INDIA and TEACH INDIA Knowledge Partner

RACE TO LOK SABHA

Pass Or Fail?

KADAPA, ANDHRA
YS Sharmila
CONG
LOST TO
YS Avinash Reddy
YSRCP
BY 4,64,104 VOTES

ANANTNAG-RAJOURI, J&K
Mehbooba Mufti
PDP
LOST TO
Mian Altaf Ahmad
JKNC
BY 2,81,794 VOTES

HAJIPUR, BIHAR
Chirag Paswan
LJP (RAM VILAS)
WON AGAINST
Shiv Chandra Ram
RJD
BY 1,70,105 VOTES

SARAN, BIHAR
Rohini Acharya
RJD
LOST TO
Rajiv Pratap Rudy
BJP
BY 13,661 VOTES

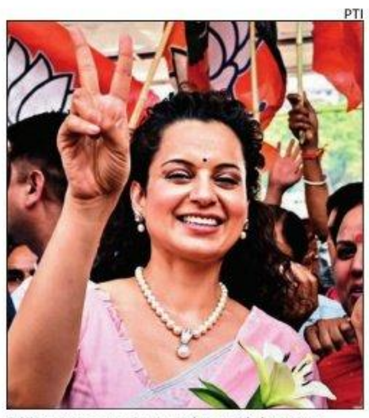
VIDISHA, MP
Shivraj Singh Chouhan
BJP
WON AGAINST
Pratapbhanu Sharma
Cong
BY 8,21,408 VOTES

CHENNAI SOUTH, TN
Tamilisai S
BJP
TRAILING
T Sumathy
DMK
BY 2,26,078 VOTES
Result pending at 12 midnight

BARAMULLA, J&K
Omar Abdullah
JKNC
LOST TO
Abdul Rashid Sheikh
Ind
BY 2,04,142 VOTES

Queen's gambit: Kangana beats royal scion in Mandi

Rohit.Mullick@timesgroup.com


PTI

BJP's Kangana Ranaut in a celebratory mood in Mandi on Tuesday

Kullu: Women voters in Himachal Pradesh's Mandi seem to have played as significant a role in BJP rookie Kangana Ranaut's triumph over Vikramaditya Singh as her movie-star allure and a bit of Modi magic as he publicly rooted for her, saying she reflected "aspirations of our nation's daughters".

In a contest that could have been billed as 'Queen vs Royal Scion', women voters outnumbered men at the booths. EC data shows 5.03 lakh women, or 74% of the 9.9 lakh-strong female electorate, voted in Mandi. In contrast, the male turnout was 72% of the 4.9-lakh registered voters.

Percentage of women who voted was decidedly higher in the assembly segments of Sundernagar, Nachan, Darang, Jogindernagar, Mandi, Balh and Sarkaghat. In Sarkaghat, of which Kangana's native village Bhambla is a part, the percentage of women voters was way higher than men.

Kangana not only led in nine assembly segments of Mandi district, but was also ahead in the assembly segments of other districts, including Kullu, Manali, Banjar and Bharmour.

Kangana portrayed herself as "a daughter of Mandi" and accused Congress of humiliating her.

Crediting PM Modi for her win, Kangana said Congress paid the price of unfairly targeting her. Vikramaditya's defeat is expected to weaken his position within state Congress.

Hema Malini's dream run: A hat-trick in Mathura

Actor-turned-politician Hema Malini (BJP) has proven herself once again as she managed to win Mathura LS seat a third time after defeating Mukesh Dhangar (Congress) by a margin of over 2.5 lakh votes, reports **Mohammad Dilshad**. She won by a margin of 4,30,747 votes in 2014. In 2019, she won by a margin of 2,93,471 votes, defeating RLD's Kunwar Narendra Singh. With hope of a hat-trick, BJP chose Hema as its candidate in 2024, as well. "I thank people of Mathura. My priority is district development. I'll do a lot for residents of Mathura and Brijwasis," she said.

Naidu, Nitish champions of spl tag demand for split states

TEAM TOI

What's common between Chandrababu Naidu and Nitish Kumar apart from being kingmakers once again? For years, both the satraps have sought special category status for their states that saw bifurcation.

In Andhra, Naidu's TDP and Jagan Mohan Reddy's YSRCP have all along made it a big issue, something which Congress too promised in the just-concluded assembly elections. On Tuesday, Congress MP Jairam Ramesh sought to cash in on it amid efforts to woo Telugu Desam into INDIA bloc. Andhra's demand stems from the status being accorded to Telangana.

"INDIA will finish the unfinished business of 2014: On Feb 14, 2014, PM Dr Manmohan Singh pledged special category status to the new state of Andhra Pradesh for five years. BJP's Venkaiah Naidu countered by saying BJP, if elected to power, will extend it for 10 years. Two months later, Narendra Modi, in Tirupati, repeated the promise," he tweeted, while accusing BJP govt at Centre of ignoring it.

Nitish's demand dates back to 2005 when he was first sworn in as Bihar CM and reiterated it last Nov after releasing caste survey in the state. After he switched to supporting UPA ahead of 2014 polls, things had reached a stage where Centre had appointed a panel chaired by Raghuram Rajan. In 2015, PM Narendra Modi had also announced a Rs 1.2 lakh crore package, but the demand came up during polls too given that the state remains among the poorest in country. Special category status opens door for higher central assistance apart from tax benefits. With GST in place, tax sops may not be so easy in today's times.

But special package can be easier to provide especially at a time when 16th Finance Commission has begun work on sharing of resources and providing grants to states, stating April 2026.

INDIA bloc to meet today, decide on approaching TDP, JD(U): Rahul

'Won't Take Call Unilaterally On Govt Formation'

Ambika.Pandit@timesgroup.com


PTI

Sonia Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and Rahul Gandhi celebrate Congress's impressive performance, in New Delhi on Tuesday

New Delhi: INDIA bloc members will meet on Wednesday and decide whether to approach former partners including JD(U) and TDP to attempt govt formation at Centre. Congress' Rahul Gandhi made it clear that there will be no unilateral decision on this. Indicating that "it is a very fine line" Gandhi said "whatever INDIA bloc will decide they will act on it."

"We are part of a coalition. We had told INDIA partners earlier that we will meet on June 5 and discuss this. Honestly, I don't have the answer to this question right now, but tomorrow I will," Rahul said in response to a question that even though NDA has the numbers to form govt, whether there are chances that INDIA alliance will attempt govt formation by reaching out to former allies like JD(U) and TDP.

"We respect our alliance partners and are not going to make statements in the press without asking them their opinion. It is a very fine line... so whatever INDIA bloc will decide we will act on that," Gandhi added.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge reiterated that no decision on the issue can be taken "till we talk to our alliance partners and new partners who will be joining us. We will talk to them and see how we can make a majority." "If I discuss all strategies here only, Modi ji will be alerted," Kharge added.

In what appeared to be an outreach to TDP from Congress, party's general secretary Jairam Ramesh in a tweet shared that Congress' "Nyay Patra" (manifesto) once again reiterates the promise of special category status for Andhra Pradesh. "This was a promise made during the passage of AP Reorganisation Act, 2014, by Dr Manmohan Singh, who committed to it on the floor of Rajya Sabha in Feb 2014."

Ramesh also highlighted that he had raised the issue of special category status for Andhra Pradesh in 2017 in Pasrliament. Highlighting the benefits of special status, Ramesh added "after loss of Hyderabad, these provisions could have helped lay the foundations for the state's continued prosperity, but 'Modi Sarkar' betrayed people of the state for ten years. Congress is determined to right this wrong, and help secure AP's economic future."

Ramesh demanded that PM Modi should take moral responsibility for the performance in these polls and resign. "He used to pretend that he could not be a former prime minister. Now it has been proven that the outgoing PM is going to be a former PM. He should take moral responsibility and resign. This is the message of this election," Ramesh said in a post on X.

BJP's face of Sandeshkhali fight loses poll battle by 3.3L votes

Sumati Yengkhom & Sanjib Chakraborty | TNN

Kolkata: Basirhat Lok Sabha constituency, which includes Sandeshkhali, handed over a decisive mandate to TMC with its candidate Haji Nurul Islam trouncing BJP's Rekha Patra by a margin of over 3.3 lakh votes. Trinamool not only retained Basirhat but maintained its lead in Sandeshkhali assembly segment, which is a part of the Lok Sabha constituency. All trouble spots in Sandeshkhali also voted in Trinamool's favour.

The restive belt has been on the boil since Jan 5 when an ED team came under mob attack near the premises of suspended TMC strongman Sheikh Shahjahan. ED officials had gone to Sarberia in Sandeshkhali to raid premises of Shahjahan, an accused in the ration scam.

BJP had whipped up a political storm over the alleged atrocities on women and land grabbing by local Trinamool functionaties. The party fielded greenhorn Patra, an alleged victim of atrocities, against Islam, an MLA and former MP. Even PM Narendra Modi promoted Patra as "shakti swaroopa" (embodiment of Shakti).

A series of accusation followed with a section of women alleging sexual abuse and land grabbing by Shahjahan and his men. While their agitation led to arrest of Shahjahan, Uttam Sardar and Shibu Hazra, it took a political turn with TMC accusing BJP of engineering the agitation. They countered the claim with sting videos which claimed that it was a 'false' campaign prompted by BJP.

Reacting to TMC win, Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee said: "People of Sandeshkhali have responded to this vicious campaign by voting for us where we led not only in the Sandeshkhali assembly segment but in the booths in localities where people protested. I salute people of Sandeshkhali."

"This is a victory for the people who have been with us all along. People in their verdict have shown that the Sandeshkhali campaign was baseless," said Haji Nurul Islam.

Patra, on the other hand, claimed: "Voting was rigged in at least 500 booths by TMC."

With 7.1L victory margin, Abhishek sets new record in West Bengal

Kolkata: Trinamool general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Tuesday won Diamond Harbour seat by 7.1 lakh votes — the highest ever margin in Bengal. Banerjee polled 10,48,230 lakh votes, smashing the victory margin record held so far by CPM's late Anil Basu, who had won by a margin of 5,92,502 from Arambagh in 2004. Banerjee's closest rival, BJP candidate Abhijit Das Bobby, got 3.3 lakh votes while CPM's Pratik Ur Rahaman came third with 86,953 votes.

Banerjee did not speak to the media but flashed a victory sign as he went from his Harish Chatterjee Road home to Kalighat to meet CM Mamata Banerjee. The CM said: "I congratulate Abhishek for his record victory." A beaming CM also held Abhishek closer when both flashed the victory sign for the shutterbugs.

In 2019, Banerjee had won by a margin of over 3 lakh votes, defeating BJP candidate Nilanjan Roy. In 2014, his margin was a modest 71,298 over CPM candidate Abul Hasnat. Banerjee had sounded confident of a comfortable victory for his party after he cast his vote last Saturday, claiming that they will perform much better than 2019 LS polls. The trend was clear after three rounds of counting when Banerjee took a lead of 1 lakh. Trinamool went into a celebratory mood once the margin crossed 3 lakh. TEAM TOI

In one-man Indore fight, NOTA polls 2.2L votes

Sagar Choukse & Amarjeet Singh | TNN

Indore/Bhopal: No-choice turned out to be Indore's second choice in a one-sided fight. NOTA polled a record 2.18 lakh votes in MP's commercial capital in an election where a last-minute switch to BJP by Congress candidate left the saffron camp without a challenger.

Prior to this, the highest NOTA count in country was 51,660 votes in Bihar's Gopalganj in 2019, followed by Bihar's West Champaran (45,699) and Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu (46,559) in 2014. In Indore, NOTA accounted for 14% of all votes cast, turning out to be a bigger talking point than sitting MP Shankar Lalwani's victory by 11.7 lakh votes.

After the 'betrayal' by its candidate left Congress unrepresented in Indore for the first time ever, opposition canvassed for NOTA as an alternative to BJP. NOTA became the talk of the town, and senior BJP functionaries started slamming Congress for promoting it. BJP even ran a counter-campaign, urging Indore voters not to "waste their vote".

KL Sharma's win in Amethi sparks celebrations in his Ludhiana home

Ludhiana: Kishori Lal Sharma's household in Ludhiana erupted in celebrations as the trusted lieutenant of the Gandhi family defeated BJP's Smriti Irani by over 1.67 lakh votes in Amethi, reports **Harmandeep Singh**.

As Congress's Sharma took a lead in early counting rounds, relatives and friends gathered at his home in Shivaji Nagar area of the Punjab city, filling the air with cheers. Neighbours, supporters and well-wishers joined in, bringing flowers and congratulatory messages. Sharma is the first non-Gandhi Congress MP of Amethi in 25 years.

The Gandhis have been contesting Amethi since 1999. Rahul won it thrice in a row (2004, 2009, and 2014) but lost to Smriti by 55,000 votes in 2019.

Punjab Congress working president Bharat Bhushan Ashu, who considers Sharma his political mentor, and other state party functionaries had gone to Amethi to campaign for him.

Sharma's wife Kiren is still in Amethi. "This is a monumental achievement. People of Amethi have blessed us with this victory and we are grateful," Kiren said.

TIMES TRIBUTE
PAYING HOMAGE TO THE DEPARTED SOUL
To book your ad logon to: ads.timesgroup.com or Call: 18001205474 (Toll Free)

It is with profound sadness that we share the news of the passing of our dearest

VANDANA SAIGAL



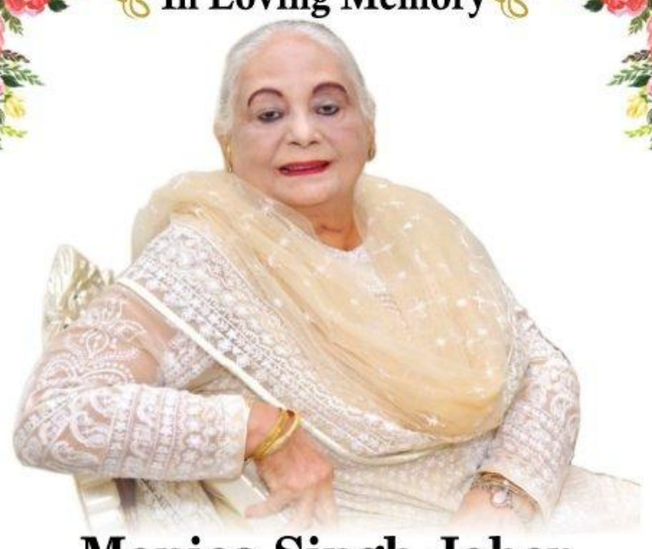
(17/1/1970 – 03/06/2024)

During this difficult time, we find solace in the memories we shared and the positive impact Vandana had on all of us.

In honor of her life, we will be holding a prayer meeting on 6th June from 4pm - 5 pm at Chinmaya Mission, Lodhi Road. New Delhi.

In Grief
Saigal's, Chhabra's & Anand's

In Loving Memory



Monica Singh Joher
15th December, 1937 - 05th June, 2022
(W/o Late Sardar Paramjit Singh Joher)

Our beloved mother left for her heavenly abode 2 years ago after a joyful life. A loving, humble St. Columbus High School teacher, who imparted true values and love to all students & family. We miss you.

Deeply Mourned by :
Meghna & Sanjeet Joher
(Daughter in law & Son)
Manjyot & Bikram Joher
(Grand Sons)
Johers, Chawlas, Sabharwals & Chhabras

In The Loving Memory Of
beautiful, joyful and radiant love you shared with us, ever so briefly.



SHEENA / MADHURI
(05-06-1984 to 03-02-2015)
You are always so close to us; yet so far,
A gap that can never be filled.
You will always remain an intrinsic part of us
With deepest sorrow and fondest memories
* Rawat Family & Friends * Prasad Family
* Supreme Advt. Family

OBITUARY
REMEMBRANCES

With us forever



KAILASH CHANDRA CHAUDHURY
05 Jun 2001
LAKSHMI CHAUDHURY
30 May 2012
Wg Cdr Anup Kumar Chaudhury (Retd), Dr Devnanda Chaudhury

"HONOUR. COURAGE. BRAVERY. Three words that you taught us. Three words that help us cope with your loss".

The silent joy of remembering a loved one.
The moments you shared together.
Little moments that make life beautiful.
Share them. With Friends. Relatives. Neighbours. Colleagues. With all those whose lives the departed Soul has touched. Because while life goes on, when you share memories, they stay on forever.

Publications	Total Outlay
The Times of India Delhi/NCR	5,600
TOI+NBT (Delhi/NCR)	8,800
TOI+ET (Delhi/NCR)	6,600

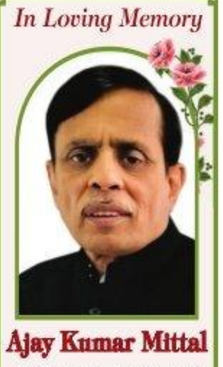
Maximum 10 lines

SPACE FOR PHOTO 2x3 cms

REMEMBRANCE
SHARING MEMORIES

For any information call
Vinod : 9958992088
Pankaj : 8130604727

In Loving Memory



Ajay Kumar Mittal
(28.07.1957 - 05.06.2023)

One year has gone by without you but your presence is deeply rooted in our minds & hearts. The legacy of your love and values guide us every moment and inspire us to continue our work for humanity.

Missed by: **Nidhi Mittal** (Wife)
Akanksha & Saurabh Gupta
Charu & Kshitij Mittal (Adv.)
Amay, Samarth and Mira
Mittal and Gupta family

TIMES TRIBUTES
RATE CARD

Publications	Rates per sq. cms
TOID Capital + NBT (Delhi+NCR)	1295
TOID Full Run ## + NBT (Delhi+NCR)	1360
THE TIMES OF INDIA (Delhi+NCR)	780
THE TIMES OF INDIA (Delhi) Full Run##	900
NAVBHARAT TIMES (Delhi+NCR)	595
THE ECONOMIC TIMES (Delhi+NCR)	715
SANDHYA TIMES (Delhi)	100

Rates effective 5th June 2019

► *Placement on specified obit pages only. ► This rate benefit is extended up till the size of 320 sq. cm only. ► ## Full run includes Delhi City + NCR (Including Gurgaon + Noida) + Chandigarh + Western U.P. + Uttarakhand ► TOI Capital (Delhi & NCR) Includes TOI Gurgaon & TOI Noida.

To place an Obituary announcement or Remembrance message please call
Vinod: 9958992088
Pankaj : 8130604727

Published for the Proprietors, Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd., by Rajeev Yadav at Times House, 7, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi -110002 and printed by him at **Times Of India Press, 13, Site IV, Industrial Area, Sahibabad (UP)**, Dainik Jagran Press, Plot NO. C2/2-1, Selaqui Industrial Area, Dehradun (UTTARAKHAND) and Dainik Jagran Press , Biharman Nagla, Pilibhit Bypass Road, Bareilly (UP) and Bennett Coleman & Co. Ltd. Plot No. 7-8, Sector M-11, Transport Hub, Industrial Model Township, Manesar, Haryana-122051. Regd . Office,: Dr. Dadabhai Naoroji Road, Mumbai-400001. Editor (Delhi Market) : Diwakar Asthana – *responsible for selection of news under PRB Act.* ® All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission of Publisher is prohibited
RNI NO : 508/57
Air Charge : Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Chennai, Nagpur & via Rs.5.00, Leh, Srinagar and via Rs.2.00, Price in Nepal: NEP Rs.15.00
Made in New Delhi

Shah stamps his supremacy in Gandhinagar with 7.4L win

Betters His 5.6L Victory Margin Of '19

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

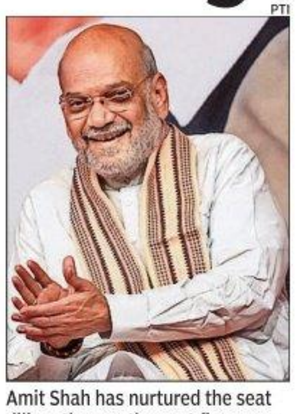
Gandhinagar: Having begun his journey in public life more than 30 years ago as a booth-level BJP worker in Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency, Amit Shah stamped his supremacy on the prestigious constituency on Saturday, pulling off a spectacular win with a 7.4-lakh vote margin.

Shah defeated his Congress rival Sonal Patel, by 7,44,716 votes, the second-highest victory margin in Gujarat and likely among the top five in country, in 2024 general elections. Shah polled 10,10,972 votes against 2,66,256 votes polled by Patel. Shah contested a LS election for the first time in 2019 and won Gandhinagar by 5.6 lakh votes.

While the state BJP did play its part in scripting the record win by galvanising the cadre, Shah nurtured his home constituency diligently over the past five years. Almost all infrastructure being planned for Ahmedabad's bid to host the 2036 Olympics is going to come up within Gandhinagar LS constituency limits. These include Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Sports Enclave, Naranpura Sports Complex and Olympic village at Manipur-Godhavi.

Gandhinagar ranks among the most significant seats in country. Apart from being the seat of state govt, stalwarts like former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee and BJP patriarch LK Advani have represented it in the past, and PM Modi is also a registered voter in Gandhinagar LS constituency. Before becoming an MP by winning Gandhinagar seat for the first time in 2019, Shah represented Naranpura assembly constituency, one of the assembly segments under Gandhinagar.

Capping three back-to-back roadshows covering all areas of his constituency a day before filing his nomination papers, Shah told a crowd in Vejalpur area on April 18, "People of Ahmedabad, PM Modi has given a prominent guarantee that the 2036 Olympic Games will be held in India. Tell me, where will it be held?" When the people answered 'Ahmedabad', Shah asserted, "It will be held in Gandhinagar constituency."



PTI

Amit Shah has nurtured the seat diligently over the past five years

In potato bowl, Cong reaps solitary success

In Gujarat's potato bowl, a plucky Congress legislator has denied BJP a hat-trick of clean sweep. Geniben Thakore gifted her party a consolation win in PM Narendra Modi's home state by trouncing rookie Rekhaben Chaudhary by 31,000 votes in Banaskantha Lok Sabha seat.

The feisty Thakore community leader, who hit the campaign trail pitching herself as "Banas ni Ben (sister of Banas)", sent Rekhaben packing in a finish that went down to the wire. This is the first time in 62 years that a woman candidate has romped home in Banaskantha, after Congress' Zohraben Chavda won the seat in 1962. The victory margin may look small, but it was a tall order for the 47-year-old Geniben to sway the fortunes in Congress' favour, considering BJP won this seat by 3.69 lakh votes in 2019.

"It was a contest between Geniben and Shankar Chaudhary, and not Rekha Chaudhary," Gujarat Congress spokesperson Parthivraj Kathwadia said. "This is defeat of 'sarkar' (govt) and 'sahkar' (cooperatives), as Shankarbhai used his clout, but in vain." TEAM TOI

5 women from MP in LS: MP elected 5 women to Lok Sabha, highest ever. Anita Nagar Singh Chauhan, Himadri Singh, Sandhya Rai, Lata Vankhede & Bharti Pardiare, are of BJP.

Government of India
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Invites applications for the post of
Chairman
Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
Last date of receipt of applications in MoP&NG is by 15:00 hours on 03.07.2024
For details login to website https://mopng.gov.in

Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
An Autonomous body under Ministry of MSME, Govt of India
Foundry Nagar, Agra - 282006 (U.P.)
Extension Centre - Coimbatore Organizes
Online Training
Full Stack Python with
Data Science
To leverage your Python skills to derive meaningful insights from data.
COURSE CONTENT: 1) Python Basics, a)Data Structures, b) Modules and Packages, 2) Web Development with Django/Fast-API, a) ORM (Object-Relational Mapping), b) URL Routing, 3) Frontend Basics, a)HTML Fundamentals, b) CSS Basics & JavaScript Basics, c) Basic Frontend Frameworks 4) Data Science with Python, a) Data Visualization with Matplotlib and Seaborn, b) Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA), 5) Tools and its Best Practices
For Registration
Date: 11th - 29th June 2024
Time: 6.00 P.M - 09.00 P.M (15 Days Course)
Fees: 7500/- (Inclusive of GST)
For more Details: 8667359360, 7358887633, 0422-2993949
Visit us at:www.ppdcagra.dcmsme.gov.in
E-Certificate will be Awarded
Disclaimer: Be aware of fraudulent activities. We never ask to make payment on any personal account.

Aeronautical Development Agency
(Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India)
PB No. 1718, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore-560017

Advt Reference No. : ADA:ADV-125:2024 31-05-2024

RECRUITMENT : PROGRAMME BASED MANPOWER ON CONTRACT BASIS

Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) is an Autonomous Body and a Society entrusted with the task of Design and Development of LCA (Tejas) and AMCA. ADA invites applications from Indian Citizens for Programme based fixed tenure appointment for a period of **FIVE** years and extendable based on performance and requirement of the programme. The details of the requirement is mentioned below:

Post Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Reservation/ Total Vacancy		Basic Fixed Element (BFE) (Rs.)	HRA (Rs.)	Transport Allowance (Fixed) (Rs.)	Gross Salary per month (Rs.)	Upper Age Limit
		Category	Vacancy					
1.	Project Admin Assistant (PAA)	SC	01	25,500/-	6,120/-	3,600/-	**35,220/-**	35 years
		ST	01					
		OBC	03					
		EWS	01					
		UR	08					
		Total	**14**					
		One vacancy each reserved for Ex-Serviceman and PwBD (Visually Handicapped) category out of the total 14 vacancies (for PAA) as mentioned above						
2.	Project Senior Admin Assistant (PSAA)	OBC	01	35,400/-	8,466/-	3,600/-	**47,496/-**	45 years
		UR	05					
		Total	**06**					
		One vacancy reserved for PwBD (Visually Handicapped) category out of the total 06 vacancies (for PSAA) as mentioned above						

Qualification(for both the posts): Candidates should have atleast a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce/ Science/ Arts/ Business Administration/Business Management from a recognised university

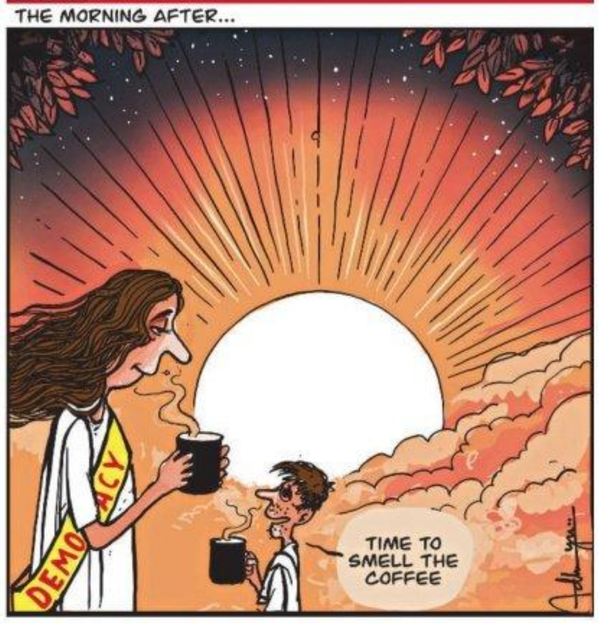
Experience for Post of 'Project Admin Assistant': Minimum 3 years experience in any one or more of the areas related to Admin/HR/Material Management/Purchase & Stores/ Finance/Accounts.

Experience for Post of 'Project Senior Admin Assistant': Minimum 6 years experience in any one or more of the areas related to Admin/HR/Material Management/Purchase & Stores/Finance/ Accounts.

For full details of the advertisement, General conditions and registration of application online, please log on to **https://www.ada.gov.in**. Registration of applications on ADA web site will be accepted from **10 am onwards from 05th June 2024 till 1700 hrs on 25th June 2024.**

Director (Admin & HR)
ADA

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL — SANDEEP ADHWARYU



Prajwal fails, but Gowdas retain their Vokkaliga base

TEAM TOI

Bengaluru: In what can be considered retention of Vokkaliga support despite all odds, ex-PM HD Deve Gowda-led Janata Dal(S) won two of three Lok Sabha seats it contested in alliance with BJP.

JD(S) state chief HD Kumaraswamy defeated Congress' Venkataramange Gowda from Mandya by 2.8 lakh votes, avenging his son's defeat in 2019. Party candidate from Kolar reserved seat, Mallesh Babu, won with a margin of 1.27 lakh votes. Gowda's son-in-law and noted cardiologist CN Manjunath, fighting on a BJP ticket, defeated DK Suresh, brother of deputy CM DK Shivakumar in his stronghold of Bengaluru Rural, by a massive 2.7 lakh votes.

"When Gowdas, especially Deve Gowda, are cornered politically, the Vokkaliga community supported them. This time also, they did the same," said a JD(S) functionary. The victories are likely to boost morale of the party hit by its drubbing in last year's assembly elections, Prajwal Revanna's alleged sex scandal, and efforts by Congress to split the party, a source said.

Meanwhile, Prajwal, jailed in sex scandal case, failed to retain the family's bastion of Hassan after three decades.

FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY EXPO
CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

Indian food processing industry: A power booster for employment

India's food processing sector is one of the largest in the world and its output is expected to reach USD 535 bn by 2025-26. The food processing sector in India has a quintessential role in linking Indian farmers to consumers in the domestic and international markets. The food processing industry has a share of 12.22 per cent in the employment generated in the registered factory sector, engaging approximately 2.03 million people. The unregistered food processing sector supports employment to 5.1 million workers and constitutes 14.18 per cent of employment in the unregistered manufacturing sector. Major sectors constituting the food processing industry in India are processed fruits and vegetables, RTE/RTC, mozzarella cheese, processed marine products, edible oils, beverages, and dairy products.

To address the manufacturing needs of the fast-growing Indian food processing industry, with a focus on the latest technological trends in food processing and packaging as well as machinery and innovations, the 3rd edition of Inter FoodTech—a premier technology supplier fair for food and beverage industry—shall be held from 5th to 7th June, 2024 at Yashobhoomi (IICC), Dwarka, New Delhi. Inter FoodTech is co-located with related trade shows, Snack & BakeTec—international trade fair on snacks, bakery and confectionery processing and packaging technology and services; and Annapoorna Inter Food—international food and beverage trade expo jointly presented by Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), VA Exhibitions, and Forum of India Food Importers (FIFI), making this the most comprehensive food business platform in the country.

Inter FoodTech and Snack & BakeTec exhibitions bring together the best processing and packaging machinery suppliers, solutions, and service providers required for the manufacturing of all kinds of processed food and beverage products. More than 400 companies from around 20 countries will showcase their solutions to the food processing industry spread across an exhibition area of 20,000 sq mt.



Ashwani Pande, CEO, VA Exhibitions Pvt. Ltd., the organiser of these trade fairs says, "Just in their 3rd edition, Inter FoodTech and Snack & BakeTec together have become the most important trade fairs for the food processing sector bringing together the best minds and best processing and packaging solutions from across the globe to set the roadmap for future trends, and influence policy-making through representations, open up newer markets, enable joint ventures, as well as act as the best knowledge sharing platform."

Dr Alberto Commetti, CEO and managing director, POLIN Group, Italy—one of the exhibiting companies, says, "We have a good knowledge of the Indian market since we have been working for a long time with important companies in the confectionery industry of this great country, which is constantly growing and evolving. It is a market in which channels such as supermarkets and hypermarkets are gaining importance. As a result of this retail development, traditional products that continue to be very popular, such as typical Indian bread, are being joined by more western bakery products such as croissants, muffins and artisanal biscuits, of which there is an ever-increasing demand."

Annapoorna Inter Food, an international food beverage trade expo, will forge concurrent trade and industry connections; it will propel food and beverage brands to new heights. It is the ultimate destination for anyone serious about making waves in the Indian food & beverage (F&B) industry as it provides unparalleled networking opportunities as well as opportunities to showcase F&B products to the power players of the industry and elevate food and beverage brands among the industry circles.

The exhibition is expected to attract over 15,000 business visitors from India and neighbouring countries representing small, medium, and large-scale food and beverage manufacturers to Inter FoodTech, and Snack & BakeTec. Visitors would represent distributors and traders, retailers and wholesalers, modern trade and institutional buyers, hotels, resorts and restaurants, catering services, QSRs, bakeries, airlines, etc.

Balvinder S Sawhney, assistant secretary general, FICCI, the co-organiser of Annapoorna Inter Food says, "We are extremely happy to re-launch Annapoorna brand as Annapoorna Inter Food with our new partners, VA Exhibitions and FIFI and are determined to shape it as the most important trade fair for food and beverage in the region."

Concurrent activities planned with the exhibition to create a complete business platform and enhance business for all stakeholders of the food and beverage industry: FICCI's Food World India 2024—a global convention for food and beverage industry; seminar on 'Technological interventions in Indian Dairy' by Indian Dairy Association (IDA); panel discussion on 'Improving efficiency and quality with automation in food processing', and 'Food Processing Technology – Trends and Challenges' by Agro & Food Processing Equipment & Technology Providers Association (AFTPAI), and panel discussion on 'From Farm to Table: Ensuring Authentication and Traceability in Food and Beverage Products' by Authentication Solution Providers' Association (ASPA); Annapoorna Inter Food, Food Retail Awards; Incredible Chef Challenge; and Chef Master Classes in the culinary arena.

FICCI · MOFPI · Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India · VA Exhibitions

Annapoorna Inter Food

16th International food & beverage trade expo

JUNE 05-07, 2024
Yashobhoomi (IICC), Dwarka, New Delhi

Visitor Pre-Registration

Concurrent Events
Catch Annapoorna Inter Food FOOD RETAIL Awards 2024
Incredible Chef Challenge 2024
FICCI Food World India
DAAWAT The FINEST CULINARY ARENA

gurmeet.chawla@ficci.com
gv@vaexhibitions.com; +91 9848450521
www.annapoornainterfood.com

VISIT
INTER FOOD TECH · Snack & Bake Tec · Pac Mech Ex

Exhibition on food & beverage, snacks, bakery & confectionery processing and packaging technology

JUNE 05-07, 2024
Yashobhoomi (IICC), Dwarka, New Delhi

Visitor Pre-Registration

Witness exhibits of over 300 companies from 20 countries

Concurrent Seminars
IDA — Seminar on "Technological Interventions in Indian Dairy"
AFTPAI — Panel discussions on "Improving Efficiency & Quality with Automation and Hygiene in Food Processing" and "Food Processing Technology - Trends & Challenges"
ASPA — Panel discussion on "From Farm to Table: Ensuring Authentication and Traceability in Food & Beverage Products"

gv@vaexhibitions.com; +91 9848450521
www.interfoodtech.com
VA | Exhibitions

India's poorest and backward stood up to save Constitution, says Rahul

Ambika.Pandit@timesgroup.com

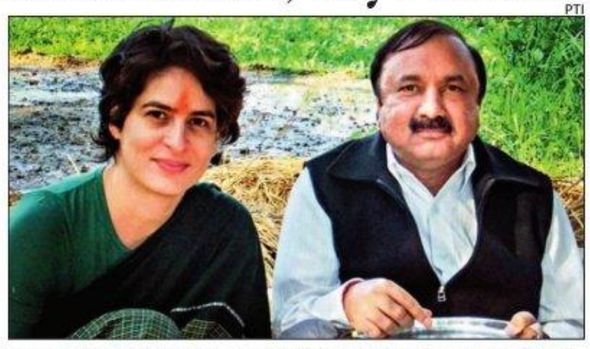
New Delhi: Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi addressed a press conference here on Tuesday evening in the presence of Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi. "We have always said that this election was a fight between Modi versus the people. We humbly accept the people's mandate," Kharge said. He described the gains made by INDIA bloc as a mandate of the public and a "victory of people and democracy".

"This time the people did not give any party a complete majority, particularly BJP, which sought a vote in the name of one person and one face," Kharge said.

He claimed INDIA alliance fought despite tough circumstances with govt machinery "creating obstacles" every step of the way like seizing its bank accounts. "However, our campaign was positive and focused on issues ranging from inflation, joblessness, state of farmers and misuse of Constitutional institutions," Kharge said.

Rahul said that for Congress and INDIA bloc, this general election was a fight to save the Constitution, and their campaign's focus on reservations and poverty resonated with voters, adding "India's poorest and backward stood up to save the Constitution." Rahul said opposition fought this election as one and with clarity, giving India "a new vision: a pro-poor vision".

When asked whether he would keep Wayanad or Rae Bareli constituencies, Rahul said was yet to decide.



PTI

Congress functionary Priyanka Gandhi with Kishori Lal Sharma in this file photo. Sharma wrested Amethi from BJP's Smriti Irani

Cong secures 4 of 6 HP seats in bypolls, BJP bags all 5 in Guj

TEAM TOI

Bylections to 25 assembly seats in 12 states delivered a set of results Tuesday that didn't hold too many surprises, unlike the Lok Sabha verdict. Congress won four of six in Himachal Pradesh to strengthen CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's hand after a period of uncertainty sparked by a revolt in his ranks, while BJP swept all five seats at stake in Gujarat with a motley crew of four Congress turncoats and a former Independent MLA.

Congress's expelled Himachal MLAs Rajinder Singh Rana, Chaitanya Sharma, Devender Kumar Bhutoo and Ravi Thakur — all of whom were fielded by BJP — lost in Sujanpur, Gagret, Kutlehar and Lahaul-Spiti, respectively. Two other Congress rebels, Inder Dutt Lakhanpal in Barsar and Sudhir Sharma in Dharamshala, won as BJP nominees.

The winning Congress candidates that took the party's strength to 38 in the 68-member assembly are Anuradha Rana in Lahaul-Spiti, Ranjit Singh in Sujanpur, Rakesh Kalia in Gagret and Vivek Sharma in Kutlehar.

In Jharkhand's Gandey, jailed ex-CM Hemant Soren's wife Kalpana Murmu Soren made a winning debut, coinciding with her sister-in-law and BJP candidate Sita Soren trailing in the race for the Dumka (ST) LS seat.

Uttar Pradesh, where by-elections were held in four constituencies, saw BJP and SP share the spoils. BJP's Arvind Kumar Singh and OP Srivastava won Dadraul and Lucknow East, respectively, while Rakesh Kumar Yadav of SP triumphed in Gainsari and his party colleague Vijay Singh in Duddhi. In Gujarat, BJP replicated its LS poll sweep in the five-seat bypoll battle to raise its numbers in the 182-strong assembly to 161.

Ex-state Congress prez Arjun Modhwadia led the winners' list, trouncing Raju Odedara of his former party by 1.16 lakh votes in Porbandar. C J Chavda, another of those who quit Congress and joined BJP earlier this year, retained the Vijapur seat.

Arvind Ladani in Manavadar, Chirag Patel in Khambhat and Dharmendrasinh Vaghela in Vaghodia completed the victory parade, all at the expense of Congress rivals. The Visavadar assembly seat in Saurashtra remains vacant because of a legal dispute.

TMC's day of gains continued as Reyat Hossain Sarkar won the Bhagabangola seat and actor-politician Sayantika Banerjee was on course to defeat BJP's Sajal Ghosh in north Kolkata's Baranagar.

Haryana saw BJP's Nayab Singh win the Karnal seat. BJP also won the by-election to Ramnagar in Tripura, with BJP candidate and Agartala Municipal Corporation mayor Dipak Majumder defeating CPM's Ratan Das to maintain his party's strength in the assembly.

Bihar's Agiaon seat went to CPI (M-L) Liberation's Shiv Prakash Ranjan, who defeated Prabhunath Prasad of JD (U). In Karnataka's lone assembly bypoll, Congress's Raja Venugopal Naik won the Shorapur seat in a close contest against BJP's Narasimha Nayak. Bharat Adivasi Party gained a seat in Rajasthan, with Jaikrishn Patel defeating Subhash Tamboliya of BJP in Bagidora.

Tharahai Cuthbert of Congress won Vilavancode in Tamil Nadu.



ANI

In Jharkhand's Gandey, jailed ex-CM Hemant Soren's wife Kalpana made a winning debut

---

Uttarakhand State Co-operative Federation Limited
"UCF Sadan" Vishnu Vihar, Deep Nagar Road, Dehradun-248001
Phone: 0135-2665020 Fax No.: 0135-2665294 E-mail: ucfdehradun@gmail.com

पत्रांक : यूएमपीएल / स्था10 / 2024–25 / 84 दिनांक : 03.06.2024

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Uttarakhand State Cooperative Federation Ltd. invites expression of Interest for running its Ayurvedic unit (UMPL) situated at, Halduchaur near Haldwani District Nainital for appointment as Bussiness Provider and all Plant Operations from the reputed and experienced firms who are involved in the business of manufacturing and marketing of AYUSH medicines. All the terms and conditions are in the prescribed format which can be downloaded from our website **www.ucf.org.in**.

Managing director has the right to reject any or all the EOIs without assigning any reason thereof.

Managing Director

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Age :** About 45 years, **Height :** 5'4", **Face:** Long, **Built:** Medium, **Complexion:** Wheatish wearing T-shirt and pant was found in the jurisdiction of P. S. Dabri, New Delhi. In this regard D.D. No. 26A dated 26.05.2024 has been lodged at P.S. Dabri, New Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone numbers.

SHO - P.S. Dabri, New Delhi
Tel. No. 011-25635178,
8750871024, 9013017726

DP/6383/DW/2024

ICAR-INDIAN GRASSLAND AND FODDER RESEARCH INSTITUTE
GWALIOR ROAD, NEAR PAHUJ DAM, JHANSI-284 003

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW for **three temporary post,** each for **Senior Research Fellow** (Rs. 31,000/- per month during 1st and 2nd year and Rs. 35000/- per month during 3rd year + HRA admissible, HRA will be given only if accommodation is not provided in the Institute campus) **Young Professional-II** in same project (Fixed Rs. 35,000/- consolidated) and **Young Professional-I** (Rs. 30000/- consolidated) under **ICAR Project** "Enhancing climate resilience and ensuring food security with genome editing tools" will be held on dated **18.06.2024 at 10.30 AM onwards at IGFRI, Jhansi**. For more details i.e. Qualification, Emoluments & other condition please see the full advertisement at Institute's website **www.igfri.icar.gov.in**.

I/c Head of Office

हरियाणा रेल अवसंरचना विकास निगम लिमिटेड
(हरियाणा सरकार और रेल मंत्रालय का संयुक्त उपक्रम)
HARYANA RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Ltd.
(A joint venture of Government of Haryana and Ministry of Railways)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The bids are invited from eligible bidders through online bids (Single Packet system) for the work detailed below:-

E-Tender No.: HRIDC/HORC/GGN/Kharkhoda/2024/01R dated 04.06.2024
Name of the work: Construction and Erection of Site office at proposed Kharkhoda station yard in connection with Palwal - Sonipat BG double Rail line electrified (HORC) project.
Approx. cost of work (In INR): 1.05 Cr.
Tender Security (In INR): 2,02,280/-
Cost of Tender Document (In INR): 15,000/- (Including GST @ 18%)
E-services Fees (In INR): 1,000/- Plus GST @ 18% Extra
Date and Time of availability of NIT/tender document: 06.06.2024 at 05:00 PM to 02.07.2024 up to 03:00 PM.
Date and Time of Bid submission: 11.06.2024 at 05:00 PM to 02.07.2024 up to 03.00 PM
Bid open date: 02.07.2024 at 03:30 PM.
Period of completion: 06 (Six) Months
For further details and e-tendering schedule visit website:
http://etenders.hry.nic.in and http://hridc.co.in

Chief Project Manager (North), HRIDC/Gurugram

Government of Karnataka
Forest Department
Karnataka Eco Restoration Society (KERS)
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Development), Bangalore 560003
Phone No: 080-23342827 e-Mail Id: kshore2024@outlook.com
Tender No.: KERS/2024-25/SE0002 dated: 31-05-2024

File No: KFD/DEV/B1AB/1/2023 **Dated: 31-05-2024**

Tender Notification

In FY 2024-25, the KERS is inviting an RFP for selection of consultancy firm to procure consulting services for DPR preparation and bid process support for the project K-SHORE (Karnataka – Strengthening the Coastal Resilience and the Economy). Last date for the submission of proposals on the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal is on 01.07.2024. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/** . For more information, this office can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/-
Deputy Project Director (K-SHORE)
&
Deputy Conservator of Forests (Development)

DIPR/CP/177/AKAR/2024-25

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

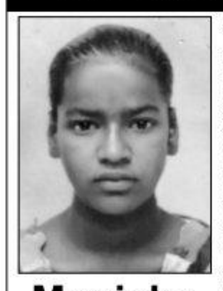
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Shan Azad@Maddy S/o** Jagdish chand Azad R/o H. No. 2340, Basti Pipal Wali Gali Sadar Bazar, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 212/21, U/s 393/34 IPC P.S.: Karol Bagh, Delhi,** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Shan Azad@Maddy,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Shan Azad@Maddy,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Shan Azad@Maddy,** accused of **FIR No. 212/21, U/s 393/34 IPC P.S.: Karol Bagh, Delhi,** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **06.07.2024**.

By Order
Ms. Shipra Dhankar
Ld. MM 01 Room No. 180
Tis Hazari Court Delhi

DP/6732/CD/2024-(Court Matter)

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Manisha

General Public is hereby informed that one female **Namely:** Manisha **D/o:** Devendra Chaudhary, **R/o:** JJ 23, Mulchand Basti, Vijay Ghat, Darya ganj. **Sex:** Female, **Age:** 19 Year, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** shallow, **Built:** Normal, **Face:** Long, Old Scar Mark over Righ Eyebrow, **Wearing:** Badami color suit and salwar and chappal has been missing since 06.05.2024 from JJ 23, Mulchand Basti, Vijay Ghat, Darya ganj from the Jurisdiction of Police Station Darya Ganj, Delhi. In this regard **GD No. 0094A Date: 09.05.2024** has been registered at **P.S.: Darya Ganj, Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the Missing female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this Missing female. Please inform to the following.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/6641/CD/2024

SHO
P.S.: Daryaganj
Central, Delhi
Phone: 011-23274683, 8750370421

TIMES interact

Connecting People, Connecting Needs.

To book your ad | Logon to: ads.timesgroup.com or Call: 18001205474 (Toll Free) | Scan QR Code

tender & notices

COURT NOTICE

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI
Notice Under Order V Rule 20 Code of Civil Procedure
Case No. MACA No. 1024/2018
Appeal Against order dated 10-07-2015
Passed by Ms. Kiran Bansal, PO, MACT, North-East. KKD Courts, Delhi.
In DAR No. 320/2010
M/S Surjeet Autombiles **Petitioner/Appellant(s)**
VS
Umesh and Ors. Respondent(s)
Notice to: **Respondent No. 1.,**
Mr. Umesh
S/o. Sh. Ramchander
R/o House No. 9/9, Kailash Nagar, Main Road, Gandhi Nagar Delhi-110031.

Whereas the above noted appellant has presented an appeal Under Section 173 of MV Act which were listed before Court on 20-11-2018 and the Court ordered issuance of notice to you. And whereas it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that you cannot be served in the ordinary manner. Notice by way of publication to you is hereby issued that if you wish to defend the above mentioned appeal you may cause an appearance to be entered on your behalf either in person or through an advocate duly appointed by you for the purpose before the Court of Joint Registrar (Judicial) on 05-08-2024 at 11:00 AM.

If no appearance is made on your behalf, by yourself, your pleader or someone by law authorised to act for you in the said appeal on the aforementioned date, no further notice of the subsequent date of hearing of the said appeal will be given and the same will be heard and determined exparte in your absence.

Given under my hand an he seal of this Court, this the 30th day of May. 2024.

Assistant Registrar
For Registrar General

TIMES interact
To advertise in Classifieds, please Call
Aman: 93126 33518 for Tender & Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

We would like to inform all concerned that we are going to destroy all medical records for duration of Jan-2018 to Dec -2018 as per Government's medical records retention policy. In case any person there of wants to see the treatment records or require a copy of the same, may please contact medical records department within one months to publishing this notice.

Dr Pawan Gandhi (Medical Director)
GANDHI HOSPITAL, (A Unit of Pawan Gandhi Health Care Pvt. Ltd.) C-50 & 51, Om Vihar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059
Phone : 011-40254700 / 800

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that Mrs. Veena Kohli, wife of Late Mr. Ramesh Raj Kohli, resident of D-21-A, South Extension Part – II, New Delhi is the owner of property bearing no. D-21-A, Situated at Block D, South Extension Part – II, Village Mubarkpur, Kotla, New Delhi i.e. Right Hand Side Portion of the building while facing the Front of the building, being part of 'the entire Property' bearing No. D-21, situated at New Delhi, South Extension Part-II, New Delhi, comprising of a Basement, Ground Floor, First Floor, Second Floor and Third Floor with Terrace there above and thereupon, in the freehold plot of land measuring 440.5 square yards hereinafter referred to as 'THE SUBJECT PROPERTY'.

The above-mentioned owner has entered into an agreement to sell and transfer the 10% proportionate ownership rights in the above mentioned subject property to BB VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED (hereinafter referred to as 'PURCHASER') free from all kinds of encumbrances for a some consideration. That the earnest money/advance payment/part payment under the said agreement has been paid by the Purchaser to the owner of the subject property. The said agreement is valid, subsisting and binding between the Owner and Purchaser.

Therefore any person(s) having any claim in respect of the above mentioned subject property or part thereof by way of Sale, Gift, Mortgage, Will, Trust, Exchange, Lease, legal flaw, claims, prior Agreement to Sell, Loan, Surety, Security, lien, court injunction, litigation, stay order, notices, charges, family or religious dispute, acquisition, attachment in the decree of any court, hypothecation, Income Tax or Wealth Tax attachment or any other registered or unregistered encumbrances, agreement whatsoever, are hereby requested to make the same known in writing together with supporting documents to the undersigned at their office at D-24, second Floor, South Extension Part-2, New Delhi-110949 within a period of 10 days (both days inclusive) of the publication hereof failing which the claim, if any, of such person(s) will be deemed to have been waived and/ or abandoned.

BB VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
ANIL GUPTA
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY

TENDERS

STANDING CONFERENCE OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
(An Apex Body of Public Enterprises)
SCOPE Complex, 7, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Ph. 24368208

"E-TENDER NOTICE"

On behalf of Constituents of SCOPE Complex/SCOPE Minar, online e-tenders are invited from reputed, specialized agencies eligible as per NIT criteria working with CPWD / PWD / MES / Railways/PSUs/Autonomous Bodies/SCOPE for the following works at SCOPE Complex/SCOPE Minar.

1. Providing & Fixing of GI Duct with Al. Faced Nitril Rubber Insulation over the existing AC duct connected with AHUs at SCOPE Complex.
2. S.I.T.C of IP based CCTV Surveillance System for staircase at SCOPE Minar.

For details please visit SCOPE's website **www.scopeonline.in & https://scope.ewizard.in** or contact at above mentioned address. For e-tendering support:- 9355030630 & 9355030607

All interested bidders are advised to keep visiting the above website on regular basis for any further updates like extension of dates (if any) etc.

General Manager (Tech. & HR)

To place an ad in TIMES interact
For Personal ads Call - Pankaj : 8130604727

E AUCTION NOTICE FOR SALVAGE SALES

Offers are invited for Flood Damaged Salvage of Solar Modules belonging to **M/s K.P. Energy Limited, Simdhara Village 01, 5 MW + 5 MW (Plant 1 & 2), Solar Plant, Jaghadia, Bharuch, Gujarat** on 'As is where is basis with all its defects". E Auction for the same will be held on **14/06/2024** by E-Auctioneer SP Auctions on their website **www.spauctions.in.** For further details and participating in E Auction, Please log on to website or call **Mr. Sandeep Mob. 9326763328 of S P Auctions LLP. or Mr. Harilal Jaat.- 8118839450 of K.P. Energy Limited.**

shopping

CLOCKS AND WATCHES



WE BUY Used Watches Rolex, Omega, Tudor, AP, Cartier, Patek Philippe, Chopard, Breguet etc. Call : Satyam : 8851722339.

business

BUSINESS OFFERS

RUNNING profitable MSME Corrugated Boxes Unit, Loc. in W.Delhi prime industrial area 33yrs with orders & machinery ajenderpal_singh@yahoo.co.in

CONSULTANTS

CONSULTANCY for Cyber Security and ISO 27001:2022. Please connect : AAA Trainers 9811283339

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Harpreet Singh Sabharwal R/O CB 3 Hari nagar clock tower New Delhi 110064 have changed my minor daughter's name Prizlleen Kaur to PRABNIDH KAUR for all future purposes.

I, Nigar Zehra D/o Mohammad Kausar R/o J-78, Flat No.1, UGF, IGNOU Road, J- Block, Paryavaran Complex, Neb Sarai, New Delhi - 110068 have changed my name from Nigar Zehra to Nigar Zehra Naqvi for all future purposes.

I Rohit S/o Shri Vinod Kumar R/o 127, Block G-II, Madangir Ph-II, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, Delhi-110062, have changed my name to Rohit Bamola for all purposes.

LOST & FOUND

IT is notified for information for public at large that my original LIC Policy Bond bearing No.331219832 has been lost or misplaced. FIR/-LR No.1775891/2024 has been registered online. Finder please contact Mr. Sanjay Kumar (9968262441), H.No. 34/1130, DDA Flats, Madan Gir, Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, New Delhi-110062.

IMPORTANT AND URGENT COMMUNICATION:

Dear Readers,
Due to Election Special Issue,

Recruitment – Classified Ads

in The Times of India- Delhi NCR has been shifted to the next Day, i.e. Thursday 6th June, 2024.

TIMES interact
Connecting People, Connecting Needs.

BUSINESS CONNECT

TIMES interact

Business Loans from 3% Per Annum
Business Loans (ecb) from 3% P.A. as per RBI rules
Startup / Growth Funding, Debt / Equity (All Rounds)
Finance for Stressed / NPA Accounts
Min. 10 Cr
9205720774
fin@noblecapitalandfinance.com
Reqd: DSAs Min Invst 1 Lakh

TIMES interact
To advertise in Classifieds, please Call
Sunil : 9999499496 for Property ads

MISSION / ADMISSION

MODERN COLLEGE
CCSU AFF., NAAC Accredited & BCI approved institution
Estd. 2003
ADMISSION OPEN FOR SESSION 2024-25
LL.B. (3 Years)
BCA/BBA (3 Years)
B.COM/B.A.(3 Years)
Ph: 0120-4900197, 9711149573
9711149736 (LL.B)
Admission Helpline: 7303415740
www.moderncollege.org
www.moderncollegeoflaw.com
431, Anand Industrial Estate Mohan Nagar, Ghaziabad

To place an ad in TIMES interact
For Personal ads Call Pankaj : 8130604727
Scan QR Code

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times Of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

TIMES interact SPECIAL
Connecting People, Connecting Needs.



Jailed Amritpal, Indira killer's son score as Independents

Their Wins Mark Return Of Panthic Politics In Punjab

IP.Singh@timesgroup.com

Jalandhar: The results from Khadoor Sahib and Faridkot Lok Sabha seats in Punjab indicate a big churn inside the Sikh political space along with the re-emergence of Panthic politics. Radical preacher Amritpal Singh has won from Khadoor Sahib and Sarabjit Singh — the son of Indira Gandhi's assassin Beant Singh — from Faridkot, both as Independents.

Amritpal was arrested last year, charged under the National Security Act and kept in jail in Assam's Dibrugarh.

ANI



Congress candidate Charanjit Singh Channi with his wife Kamaljit Kaur after his victory from Punjab's Jalandhar seat in LS elections

Coming in the 40th anniversary week of 1984's Operation Bluestar at the Golden Temple that had led to Indira's assassination that Oct and a Sikh massacre in Delhi in Nov, Sarabjit's victory has proved that the Sikhs have found no closure.

Simranjit Singh Mann lost from Sangrur, a seat that he had won in a 2022 byelection just three months after AAP's landslide in the state. Yet he has passed his baton of radical politics to a younger lot. Sangrur, vacated earlier by CM Bhagwant Mann, was the most prestigious seat for AAP.

Faridkot threw up a bigger surprise when Sarabjit defeated comic actor Karamjit Anmol despite having little network. His campaign picked up just a few days before the polls, while Anmol had CM Bhagwant and major entertainers canvassing for him for weeks.

Like the turmoil of the 1980s and 1990s had worked for the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), Sikh issues of justice worked for AAP. There were also some issues of governance.

'I know my height': Stalin on INDIA bloc projecting him as PM pick

Chennai: "I know my height." Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin repeated this famous statement of his father M Karunanidhi, when asked if INDIA bloc would project him as its PM candidate. "I have said this several times," he told reporters on Tuesday.

Stalin said he would leave for New Delhi on Wednesday to take part in INDIA alliance meeting, and thanked the efforts made by INDIA bloc leaders and cadres to defeat fascism and to safeguard democracy and the Constitution.

"In the last elections our alliance won 39 seats out of 40 in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Now people have rewarded us with 40 out of 40," said Stalin, dedicating the victory to his father Karunanidhi. "There has been an anti-Modi wave in many states. This result is evidence that the wave is more pronounced in Tamil Nadu," he said. TNN

Kamal's son bites dust at Chhindwara bastion

Bhopal: Brick by brick, BJP chipped away at Kamal Nath's fortress of 45 years in Chhindwara till Congress' last citadel in Madhya Pradesh fell on Tuesday, and Nakul Nath, the son of the former chief minister, lost by over 1.13 lakh votes to BJP's Vivek Bunty Sahu, reports **Suchandana Gupta**. Just days before polling, BJP national prez JP Nadda had told a huge rally: "Badal gaya zamana, ab badal dalo Chhindwara (Times have changed, now change Chhindwara)."

Chhindwara finally changed on Tuesday, defeating the legacy of Kamal Nath, who had campaigned extensively, telling people, "I have dedicated my youth and life to Chhindwara, I will serve Chhindwara till my last breath." Nath repeated the same promise after Nakul's defeat. "The decision of Chhindwara voters is a matter of great respect. Chhindwara is my family. I spent my entire life serving Chhindwara and will continue to do so till my last breath."

After shock loss, Cong's Muraleedharan says will stay away from public life: Shocked by his "unexpected" drubbing in Kerala's Thrissur Lok Sabha constituency, senior Congress functionary K Muraleedharan Tuesday announced that he won't contest elections anymore and would stay away from public life for some time. PTI

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Savitri W/o Mahesh R/o 1604, Arya Samaj Diwan Hall, Chandni Chowk, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 1153/2021 U/S 323 IPC Act at P.S. Kotwali, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrants of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Savitri** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Savitri** have absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Savitri, FIR No. 1153/2021 U/S 323 IPC Act of P.S. Kotwali, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 06.07.2024.**

By order
Muneesh Garg,
Additional Sessions Judge-01,
(POCSO) Central, Room No. 116,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/6824/N/2024

आईआरईएल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड **IREL (India) Limited**
Formerly Indian Rare Earths Limited.
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)
(A Government of India Undertaking)
CIN : U15100MH1950GOI008187 Website : www.irel.co.in
ISO 9001: 2015, ISO 14001: 2015 & ISO 45001 : 2018 Company

संदर्भ – विज्ञा 24-25/3 निविदा नोटिस दि. 24.05.2024 /**Ref: ADVT.NO.24-25/3 TENDER NOTICE Date: 24.05.2024**
IREL(India)Limited, Chavara invites Bid for the following items / job descriptions.

कार्य नं / Event No.	काम/मद विवरण / Job / Item Description
GEM/2024/B/4963026	Supply of 200 tph skid mounted double deck Wet Vibrating screen

बिडूर निविदा फार्म http://irel.co.in , http://gem.gov.in वेबसाइट से डाउनलोड कर सकते है। निविदा में कोई शुद्धिपत्र /विस्तार वेबसाइट मे ही डाल सकते है।

Bidder may download tender document from http://irel.co.in, http://gem.gov.in website. Any corrigendum / extension to above tenders shall be hosted in above websites only.

CBC 48139/12/0003/2425

ह. प्रधान, चवरा / **-Sd/- Head,Chavara**

Government of Punjab
(Department of Health & Family Welfare, Punjab)

Tender Notice Bid Ref. No.:-
e-tender/PHSC/Proc./RC/Medicines-EDL & JSSK/2024/141

The Punjab Health Systems Corporation, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) invites online bids for Medicines under EDL list is enumerated in the tender document available on the website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in :-

Date, time and place of Pre-bid conference	:	12.06.2024 at 11.30 a.m. in the Committee Room of Punjab Health Systems Corporation, Punjab School Education Building, 2nd Floor, Block-E S.A.S. Nagar-Mohali-160062. Phone no. 0172-2232245, 2232247.
Closing date & time	:	01.07.2024 till 4.30 p.m.

For details log onto :- https://eproc.punjab.gov.in.

Note :- Any Corrigendum(s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only.

DPR/Pb.:phsc/12/367/2023/34175

Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL PRINTING

An Organization conducting Examinations invites offers in a two bid system (i.e) (a) Technical (b) Commercial, from printers of repute and capable of executing examination related confidential/security printing works with latest equipment facilities and security measures,
Interested agencies should send the offers in two separate sealed envelopes, along with relevant supporting documents in two copies (office/work site/contact details not to be mentioned in one copy) to Post Box No. 2014 Fatehgunj P.O. Vadodara 390002 latest by 25th June 2024.

National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), Delhi Centre
(An autonomous Scientific Society of Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), Govt. of India)
Institutional Area, 16/1-2, Pankha Road, Near Sagarpur Police Station, D Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi 110058
Phone: 011-49878223, Email: swdelhi-trg@nielit.gov.in, Website: https://nielit.gov.in/delhi/index.php

Extension Centre

NIELIT Delhi Centre, Inderlok	NIELIT Delhi Centre, Karkardooma
Ph: 8447795337, 011-23644149, 23644849	Ph: 011-20824241, 8317093877

ADMISSION NOTICE (May-July 2024)

Registration open for the admission to Summer/Industrial training Courses (40 to 80 Hrs), Long Term & Short term NSQF training courses in the area of IT/Electronics/Multimedia etc. at three locations of NIELIT Delhi: Janakpuri, Karkardooma and Inderlok. Summer Training batches shall start from June 2024. Candidates can apply online on **https://onlineapply.nielit.in/**.
For online registration & other details such as courses, duration, eligibility criteria,locations etc., kindly visit our website: **https://nielit.gov.in/delhi/content/admission-activities**

Advt.No:NIELIT/NDL/TRG/01/2024 CBC 06102/12/0001/2425 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gwalior Mansik Arogashala, Gwalior (M.P.)
(An autonomous Institute under the Department of Medical Education, Govt. of M.P.)
Jail Road, Gwalior- 474012, Ph. No.- 0751-2481841
Website- WWW.gwaliormentalhospital.org

Admission for M. Phil course session- 2024-26
(Afilliated to Jiwaji University, Gwalior)

- The Director Gwalior Mansik Arogyashala invites application for the M.Phil Course.
- **Course Name :- M. Phil in Psychiatric Social Work : 15 Seats. (Duration :- 2 Years)**
- **Essential Qualification:-** Master degree in Social Work/MSW of a recognizes university/Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) with minimum 55% marks for UR/ OBC candidates and 50% marks for ST/SC Candidates.
- **Examination Fee:** Rs 1000/- for UR and OBC, Rs 500/- for ST/SC Candidates of Madhya Pradesh. Fee should be submitted as non-refundable demand draft of drawn in favour of the "**Director, Gwalior Mansik Arogyashala**" payable at **Gwalior.**
- Candidates must enclose photocopies of educational qualifications with the application form otherwise they will not consider for entrance examination. Attach checklist for the enclosures.
- The candidates must produces the original the original certificates, mark sheets, testimonials, caste certificates/residential/disability certificates if applicable etc. and other relevant document at the time of written entrance examination.
- **Note:** Candidate appearing in their final year/semester PG examination can apply but they must submit the proof of having passes the final year PG examination at the time of Counselling / Interview. Otherwise they will not be allowed to appear in counseling/interview and their candidates will be cancelled.
- **Important Dates:**
  - ➢ Submission the application form till 05/07/2024, 5 pm to **The Director, Gwalior Mansik Arogyashala, Jail Road, Gwalior, M.P. Pin: 474012**
  - ➢ Written examination (100 MCQ in 90 min) will be held on 21/07/2024 from 9 a.m.
  - ➢ Interview/Counselling on 22/07/2024: 9 am (Only those candidates who qualify the written examination)
  - ➢ Date of Joining: 05/08/2024
  - ➢ Download the application form from Institute website.
- For M. Phil course seat reservation will be as per M.P. Govt. rules.

Note: Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification, Numbers of seat of the subject are liable to change without any assigning reason before admission.

- For any Clarification / inquiry kindly contact on: **08299522430.Dr.Abhijeet Shrivastava**

Sd/-
Director
Gwalior Mansik Arogyashala, Gwalior

Gwalior Mansik Arogyashala, Gwalior (M.P.)
(An autonomous Institute under the Department of Medical Education, Govt. of M.P.)
Jail Road, Gwalior - 474012, Ph. No.- 0751-2481841
ENTRANCE EXAMINATION 2024-26

Form Abstract:-
Form No.
(For office use only)
1. Course Name.
2. Examination Date.
3. Reservation Category-

GEN	OBC	ST	SC	PH

(As per M.P. Govt. reservation rules)

5. Domicile state:

Applicant Details

6. Name.
7. Date of Birth:
8. Gender- 1. Male 2. Female
9. Father/ Husband Name.
10. Mother's Name.
11. Marital status: 1. Married 2. Single
12. Email address:
13. Mobile No:
14. Correspondence address:
15. Permanent address:
16. Educational qualifications

Examination	Board/University	Subject	Year of passing	%
10th				
Intermediate/12th				
Graduation				
Master degree				
Any others				

17. Present occupation:-
18. Work experience if any (use separate sheet if required)

S.No.	Name of Organization/Institute	Post Held	Duration/Experience

19. Details of paper publication/paper presented (use separate sheet if required)

S.No.	Title	Journal	National/International	Index/Non index

20. Bank Details:-

Issue Bank name	Issuing Branch	Amount	Draft No.	Date of issue

Declaration

I ..... S/O D/O W/O ..... do here by declare that all the details furnished by ne in the application form are true. If any false information is found either before or after examination/joining my candidates will be cancelled.

Date **Place** **Signature of the candidate**

G-11209/24

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र उदयपुर
दूरभाष 0294-2481538 ई-मेल ace.uda.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
क्रमांक-अ.मु.अ. / उदय/ अंके. /2024-25 / 2176 - 2185 दिनांक :- 30/05/2024
अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 01 / 2024-25
जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र उदयपुर के अधीन विभिन्न ग्रामों में "सोलर पनगट" के कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन बिडस् के इच्छुक पात्र हेतु अल्पाकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या 01 / 2024-25 दिनांक 31.05.2024 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 10.06.2024 सांय 6.00 बजे तक आंमत्रित की जाती है। बिड से संबंधित समस्त जानकारी प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.raj.nic.in पर देखी जा सकती है।
यू.बी.एन. नम्बर:-
NIT No. 01/24-25 UBN No PHE2425WSRC00984
Sd/-
(मोहन लाल सैनी)
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग क्षेत्र उदयपुर
DIPR/C/3856/2024

Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission
6th Floor, GIFT ONE, Road 5C, Zone 5, GIFT City,
Gandhinagar, Guj. - 382355.
(O) 079 23602000, (F) 079 23602054/55
e-mail- gerc@gercin.org Website: www.gercin.org

Public Notice

Show-Cause Notice to Global Energy Pvt. Ltd.

It is to bring to notice of Global Energy Pvt. Ltd. that the Commission has informed several times and also issued several Show-Cause Notices to it for Non-Payment of Annual Trading License Fees from FY 2019-20 till FY 2023-24 under Section 19(3) of the Electricity Act, 2003.
The said Show-Cause Notices were not delivered / accepted at the New Delhi, Goa and Mumbai Offices of the Global Energy Pvt. Ltd. and were returned.
Global Energy Pvt. Ltd. is hereby informed that the Commission has initiated the process of revocation / cancellation of the Trading License issued it. The Show-Cause Notice is hereby given under Section 19(1)(c)(ii) and 19(3) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and under Regulation 15(c)(iii) of the GERC (Licensing of Electricity Trading) Regulations, 2005, to submit the explanation that why actions should not be initiated against it for non-payment of license fees for FY 2019-20 to FY 2024-25.
It is to bring to notice of Global Energy Pvt. Ltd. that if license fees for the period as mentioned above is not paid by Global Energy Pvt. Ltd. within 3 months of the date of issuance of this Show-Cause Notice, the Trading License issued to Global Energy Pvt. Ltd. on 09.09.2010 shall be revoked by the Commission.

Sd/-
Ranjeeth Kumar J., IAS
Secretary, GERC

Gandhinagar
04/06/2024

उत्तराखण्ड पॉवर कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड
(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम) कारपोरेट आईडेन्टीटी संख्या : U40109UR2001SGC025867
विक्टोरिया क्रॉस विजेता गबर सिंह ऊर्जा भवन, कांवली रोड, देहरादून-248001
ईमेल आई0डी0:- cgmreports@gmail.com, वेबसाईट:- www.upcl.org,
दूरभाष: 0135-2762444, फैक्स: 0135-2763839

प्रीपेड मीटरों द्वारा विद्युत आपूर्ति के सम्बन्ध में सूचना

माननीय उत्तराखण्ड विद्युत नियामक आयोग के टैरिफ आदेश दिनांक 28–03–2024 द्वारा वर्ष 2024–25 में 25 कि०वा० भार तक के एल.टी. उपभोक्ताओं पर लागू होने वाली प्रीपेड मीटर स्कीम की सूचना विभिन्न समाचार पत्रों के माध्यम से प्रकाशित करते हुये 25 कि०वा भार तक के एल. टी. उपभोक्ताओं को वर्णित प्रीपेड मीटर स्कीम चुनने का विकल्प प्रदान किया गया था। माननीय उत्तराखण्ड विद्युत नियामक आयोग से दिनांक 27–05–2024 को मिले अनुमोदन के क्रम में यह भी सूचित किया जाता है कि यूपीसीएल द्वारा राज्य में भारत सरकार की Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं के परिसर पर प्रीपेड मीटर लगाने की अनिवार्यता है। अतः राज्य के जिन क्षेत्रों में आर.डी.एस.एस. योजना लागू की जा रही है, वहां उपभोक्ता परिसर पर अनिवार्य रुप से प्रीपेड मीटर लगाये जायेंगें तथा अन्य क्षेत्रों में उपभोक्ता को प्रीपेड मीटरिंग चुनने का विकल्प होगा।

मुख्य अभियन्ता (वाणिज्य)
No.:- 270/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Date:- 04.06.2024

राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें, बिजली बचाने हेतु एल0ई0डी0 बल्ब का प्रयोग करें।
(टोल फ्री नं0 1912) विद्युत बिलों के 24x7 ऑनलाइन भुगतान हेतु www.upcl.org पर जाए।
(विद्युत चोरी की सूचना टोल फ्री नं0 18001804185 / फैक्स संख्या– 0135–2760911 पर दें।)

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No.	06 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L)/24-25/WE		
Name of work with its location	(A) Annual Zone Work of staff Quarters and service building for period year 30.06.2025 in the S/O SSE/W/E/SSB under ADEN/E-IV/DLI.		
	(B) Annual Zone Work of staff qtrs and service building at S. P. Marg, Barar Square and other offices and colonies for period ending on 30.06.2025 in the S/O SSEW/S. P. Marg under ADEN/E-II.		
	(C) Annual Zone Work of staff qtrs and service building at S. M. Marg, Moti Bagh, NRM, Eco Park, and other offices and colonies for the period ending on 30.06.2025 in the S/O SSE/S. M. Marg under ADEN/E-II.		
	(D) Annual Zone work of staff Qtrs and service buildings at MNTB, Thomsan 'Road, M.S. Place, Central Place. Babar Road and other colonies for the period ending on 30.06.2025 in the section of SSE/W/MNTB under ADEN/E- II		
	(E) Annual zone for white wash, painting and general repair of Collage lane, Tilak Bridge, Anand Vihar Railway Colony in the section. of SSE/W/BH under ADEN/E-III.		
	(F) Annual zone for white wash, painting and general repair of Northern railway Head Quarter Baroda House in the S/o SSE/W/BH under ADEN/E-III.		
	(G) Annual zone work of staff Qtrs. And Service building of Sarojini Nagar, Sewa Nagar, Lajpat Nagar, Gulabi, Bagh, HNZM, Jangpura, Okhla and Lodhi colony for P.E for 30.06.2025 in the section of SSE/W/HNZM under ADEN/E¬III.		
	(H) Annual zone work of staff quarters and service buildings at PK road and other offices and colonies for period ending 30.06.25 in the section of SSE/W/PG under ADEN/E-I.		
	(I) Annual zone work of staff quarters and service buildings at Basant Lane, Nurses hostel and Ajmeri Gate side railway colony and other offices for period ending.30.06 2025 in the section of SSE/W/PG under ADEN/E-I.		
	(J) Annual general repair and white washing painting of staff qtrs. Bungalow and service building for year ending 30.06.2025 in the Section SSE/W/Tis Hazari under ADEN/E- I/DLI.		
	(K) AMC of commercial RO at Annex-I and II at Baroda house (For two Year) In the S/o SSE/W/BH under ADEN/E-III.		
	(L) Provision of Type-II quarters in lieu of 10 nos Type-I quarters with other allied work in the S/o SSE/W/SPM under ADEN/E-II.		
Approx Cost of work	(A) 10999988.1	(B) 9999992.77	(C) 9999975.82
	(D) 8999964.65	(E) 10449990.77	(F) 6499999.78
	(G) 10449997.95	(H) 9999984.54	(I) 9999957.62
	(J) 9999978.57	(K) 2499937.59	(L) 21986620.54
EMD amount	(A) 205000.00	(B) 200000.00	(C) 200000.00
	(D) 180000.00	(E) 202300.00	(F) 130000.00
	(G) 202300.00	(H) 200000.00	(I) 200000.00
	(J) 200000.00	(K) 50000.00	(L) 259900.00
Completion period of Work	(A) 12 Months	(B) 12 Months	(C) 12 Months
	(D) 12 Months	(E) 12 Months	(F) 12 Months
	(G) 12 Months	(H) 12 Months	(I) 12 Months
	(J) 12 Months	(K) 24 Months	(L) 08 Months
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender		Closing date of tender on 25.06.2024 at 15.00 hrs	
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be puchased etc		Above tender available on website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in	

No: 128-W/269/OET/24-25/WE/NIT/06 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L) Dated : 03.06.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1650/24

SEARCH FOR MISSING



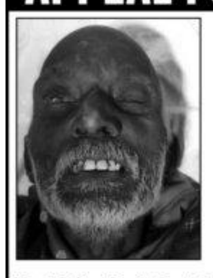
Manoj

General Public is hereby informed that one boy person **Namely:** Manoj @Deepu, **S/o:** Rohtash, **R/o:** Kh. No. 21, Gali No. 1, Janta Vihar, Mukandpur, Delhi, **Sex:** Male, **Age:** 20 Years, **Height:** 5'4", **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Black Jeans Green Shirt and Chappal has been missing since 25.05.2024 from Kh. No. 21, Gali No. 1, Janta Vihar, Mukandpur, Delhi, from the Jurisdiction of Police Station Bhalswa Dairy, Outer North Delhi. In this regard **GD No. 0014A Date: 26.05.2024** has been registered at **P.S.: Bhalswa Dairy, Outer North Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing boy but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing boy. Please inform to the following.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in **SHO**
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in **P.S.: Bhalswa Dairy**
Fax: 011-24368639 **Outer North, Delhi**
DP/6663/ON/2024 **Phone: 011-27811932, 7065036328**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Age:** Approx 70 years, **Height:** 5'7, **Complexion:** Shallow, was wearing Mehendi colour Checkdar Shirt and Blue colour Pajama, was found near Babosa Chowk, Pocket-13, Sector-24, Rohini, Delhi at 16:51 Hrs. In this regard a **DD No. 107A, dated 06.05.2024 has been lodged at P.S. Begumpur, Delhi.**

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. Begumpur, Delhi
DP/6815/RD/2024 **Ph.: 8882844808, 9311439793**

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY



General Public is hereby informed that one male person namely Unknown S/o Unknown R/o Unknown was found in the area under the Palam flyover near **Bhagat Chandra Hospital.** In this regard an information vide e **DD No: 114A Dated: 28.05.2024** has been lodged at **P.S Palam Village, Delhi.**

The description of the dead body is given as below:

Name: Unknown, **Sex:** Male, **Age:** 55 years, **Height:** 5' 6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round with white hair, **Wearing:** Green Kurta & Blue Lower

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about the dead person please inform the undersigned.

CBI-http/cbi.nic.in
E-mail: ciccbi@cbi.nic.in
Fax No.:011-23011334
Ph No: 011-23014046(Direct), 3015229, 23015218 extn. 210
DP/6454/SW/2024

SHO
P.S Palam Village, Delhi
Ph No: 011-25365979

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Shahid Hussain S/o** Mohammad Shaheed R/o 261, Master Mohalla, Tuglakabad Village, New Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **CC No. 527792/16 & Case FIR No. 45/10, U/s 419/420/467/468/471/120B IPC P.S.: Shalimar Bagh, Delhi,** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Shahid Hussain,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Shahid Hussain,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Shahid Hussain,** accused of **CC No. 527792/16 & Case FIR No. 45/10, U/s 419/420/467/468/471/120B IPC P.S.: Shalimar Bagh, Delhi,** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **04.07.2024.**

By Order
Ms. Divya Arora,
DP/6649/NW/2024- (Court Matter) **MM, Room No. 112, 1st Floor, North-West District, Rohini Court, Delhi**

सार्वजनिक सूचना



सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि एक लड़की नाम व पता नामालूम उम्र 6–7 महीने, माता–पिता: नामालूम है। जोकि बच्ची दिनांक: 8.05.2024 को राधा कृष्णा मंदिर (कासन मंदिर), आई.एम.टी. मानेसर के नजदीक नवजात बच्ची पाई गई है। इस बच्ची के संदर्भ में एफ.आई.आर.न. 169 दिनांक:–18.05.2024 थाना सेक्टर–7, आई.एम.टी. मानेसर, गुरूग्राम में दर्ज है।

यदि उपरोक्त बच्चों के माता–पिता/अभिभावक या रिश्तेदार यह सूचना पढ़े तो जिला बाल संरक्षण कार्यालय, समीप लघु सचिवालय, विकास सदन, प्रथम तल कमरा न. 107, प्रदूषण विभाग गली, गुरुग्राम में विज्ञापन प्रकाशन की तिथि से आगामी 60 दिनों के अंदर क्लेम करे। अन्यथा बच्चों को गोद देने की कार्यवाही कर दी जाएगी।

जिला बाल संरक्षण अधिकारी,
कमरा न. 107, प्रथम तल,
विकास सदन, समीप लघु
सचिवालय, गुरुग्राम।
दूरभाष 0124–2300098,
0124–2331148

Bihar Legislative Assembly, Patna-800015
Tender No.- NIT-01/2024

TENDER NOTICE FOR PROVIDING HOUSE KEEPING AND FACILITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Sealed quotations are invited from ISO Certified Companies/Proprietary Firms / Partnership Firms having minimum three years of experience of providing housekeeping and facility management services in Govt. Organisation or Reputed Private Sector Companies / Organisation/ Autonomous Bodies, for providing housekeeping and Facility Management Services in the Bihar Legislative Assembly (BLA) Premises on contractual basis for a period of Two Years which may be extended further period on satisfactory performance. The Tender document i.e; terms and conditions of the tender along with the prescribed forms can be downloaded from BLA website **www.vidhansabha.bih.nic.in**. Complete tender documents with all enclosures and earnest money of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One lakh only) in the form of A/c payee Demand Draft/FDR / Bankers Cheque of any nationalised bank drawn in favour of "**D D O Bihar Vidhan Sabha Patna.**" Payable at Patna (Refundable till the finalization and award of tender to one of the tenderer) pledged in the name of **Secretary Bihar Legislative Assembly, Patna**. One envelope containing technical bid and EMD & the other for financial bid & both the envelope should be sealed in third envelope marked as tender for House Keeping Services can be submitted on or before **01 July 2024 upto 03:00 P.M.** Tenders received after the date given above will not be considered. Tenders will be opened on the same day i.e **01 July 2024 at 03:30 P.M.** in the presence of tenderers, who wish to be present in that. If the date of opening of tender is declared a Gazetted Holiday, the same will be accepted and opened on the next working day at the same time.

The Bihar Legislative Assembly reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason.

Raj Kumar
Secretary
Bihar Legislative Assembly
Patna-800015
Tel. No. 0612-2217840
www.vidhansabha.bih.nic.in

Bihar Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Patna-15

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)

NIT No.-2/2024

"Request for Proposal for Selection of Service Provider for conduct of examination process and related activities for Different posts in Bihar Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Patna"

1. Bihar Legislative Assembly Secretariat invites Request for Proposals (RFP) from qualified, experienced, reputed, competent and professional firms/agencies for **"Design, Development, Customization, Implementation and Conduct of Computer Based Test or Offline Examination and related activities for Direct Recruitment of Different posts in Bihar Legislative Assembly Secretariat"** as detailed in the **"Scope of Work"** section of this RFP document.
2. The detailed RFP document (along with the formats and templates) can be downloaded from **http://www.vidhansabha.bih.nic.in** from **05/06/2024**. The downloaded RFP document shall be considered valid for participation in the bidding process subject to the submission of required EMD through Demand Draft in favour of **"D D O Bihar Vidhan Sabha Patna"** payable at Patna and must be submitted physically in the office of **Secretary, Bihar Legislative Assembly, Patna-15** latest by **03/07/2024 till 15:00 Hrs**. failing which the bid will be summarily rejected.
3. Bidder/Agencies are advised to study this RFP document carefully before submitting their proposals in response to the RFP Notice. Submission of a proposal in response to this notice shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of this document with full understanding of its terms, conditions and implications.

Raj Kumar
Secretary,
Bihar Legislative Assembly Secretariat,
Patna, Bihar-800015

67 emerge joint toppers in NEET-UG

13.2L Candidates Qualified This Year, Compared To 11.4L In 2023

Manash.Gohain@timesgroup.com

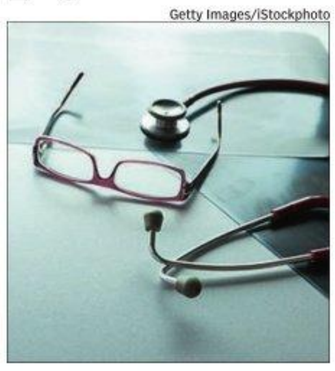
New Delhi: A record 67 candidates were joint toppers with a perfect score of 720 in this year's NEET-UG exams to get admitted to undergraduate medical courses. The toppers include 53 male candidates, of which 16 are from OBC (non-creamy layer) category, five from economically weaker general section, and two from SC category. The number of female toppers stood at 14.

The competition got tougher this year with higher cut-offs across categories — 13.2 lakh candidates qualified this year, compared to 11.4 lakh in 2023. The number of candidates who appeared for the test also increased significantly from 20.4 lakh in 2023 to 23.3 lakh this year. The National Testing Agency (NTA) announced the results on Tuesday.

Rajasthan churned out 11 toppers, followed Tamil Nadu (8) and Maharashtra (7). Statewise, once again Uttar Pradesh (1.6 lakh) has the highest number of qualifiers, followed by Maharashtra (1.4 lakh) and Rajasthan (1.2 lakh). Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are the two other states in top five with over 89,000 candidates each qualifying the exam, while from Kerala over 86,000 qualified.

Of the 13.2 lakh qualifiers, 58.4% are females. In continuation of the trend in the past, over 2.2 lakh more female candidates than males qualified this year. Last year, the difference in favour of female candidates was 1.6 lakh.

Getty Images/iStockphoto



The number of candidates who appeared for NEET-UG exam also increased significantly from 20.4 lakh in 2023 to 23.3 lakh this year

With the aspirants scoring high, the range of qualifying marks this year increased significantly as compared to 2023. While the range of qualifying marks for general and EWS category had been set at 137-164 as against 120-137 in 2023, the cut-off for OBC, SC and ST increased to 163-129 from 136-107 last year. Similarly, the qualifying marks range for general/EWS PwD candidates is 163-146, up from 136-121 in 2023. This year's qualifying marks range for disabled among OBC and SC candidates is 145-129, up from 120-108.

NEET-UG 2021 was conducted on May 5 with an attendance of 97%. The results were announced in less than a month, compared to 37 days in 2023.

For the 15% all-India quota seats, NTA in a statement said, "DGHS will conduct counselling for 15% all-India quota seats, deemed universities, central universities, seats of ESIC and AFMC, BHU and AMU. Candidates may visit the website www.mcc.nic.in for further information."

Duo who handed over ₹3L from Porsche kid's dad to docs arrested

Pune: The crime branch on Tuesday arrested two men who allegedly facilitated contact between the father of the underage driver in the Porsche Taycan crash and the two arrested doctors of Sassoon General Hospital in Pune. Police said the duo handed over Rs 3 lakh cash for swapping the teen's blood sample to manipulate the test result, reports **Gitesh Shelke**.

Police identified the two men as Ashfaque Basha Makandar, 36, and Amar Santosh Gaikwad, 27, both of whom, they said, undertake liasioning work with govt and local self-govt officials on behalf of builders and a politician. A crime branch team on Tuesday produced them before a city court, which ordered their remand in police custody till June 10.

Two techies were killed on May 19 after the Porsche Taycan driven by the 17-year-old son of a builder crashed into their two-wheeler around 2.30am. Police have already invoked charges of drunk driving along with forgery and destruction of evidence. "We arrested Makandar and Gaikwad in Mumbai's Lalbaug late Monday night after receiving a tip-off," said additional commissioner of police (crime) Shailesh Balkawade.

A senior police officer told **TOI**, "Makandar and Gaikwad knew people in govt offices, civic bodies and other establishments as part of their liasioning job. Makandar is close to the teenager's father. After the accident, he called the father offering help to manage things. Makandar then contacted Atul Ghatkamble, a class IV employee at Sassoon hospital's mortuary, and sought help to get in touch with a senior doctor or any officer who could help manage things for them. Ghatkamble then gave him the contact of Dr Ajay Taware, head of the hospital's forensic sciences department."

The officer added, "Makandar and Gaikwad collected Rs 3 lakh cash from the builder and handed it over to Ghatkamble, who kept Rs 50,000 and gave the rest to casualty medical officer Dr Shrihari Halnor. The latter executed the blood sample swap. We are ascertaining the spot where the handover of cash was done."

ANI



Two techies were killed on May 19 after a Porsche Taycan driven by the 17-yr-old son of a builder crashed into their two-wheeler

Sukhoi fighter crashes in Nashik, pilots eject safely

New Delhi: A frontline Sukhoi-30MKI fighter crashed on Tuesday in Maharashtra's Nashik after developing a technical snag. The two pilots from Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL), who were flight-testing the jet, managed to eject safely.

The twin-engine fighter, which had taken off from the HAL facility in Nashik after an overhaul, crashed in a field near Shirasgaon. The pilots, Wing Commanders Shirish Bokil and Laganjeet Biswal, who reported the technical snag before ejecting, suffered minor injuries and are being treated at the HAL hospital. "The exact reason for the crash will only be known after detailed investigation," an official said.

Sukhois are the mainstay of the IAF's combat fleet, having inducted 272 of them from Russia for over $12 billion, with the bulk of them being "licenced produced" by HAL over the years. Over a dozen Sukhois have been lost in crashes till now, while the fleet has also faced engine problems as well as poor availability and management of spares. The IAF has now ordered 12 new Sukhois, which will be built by HAL to replace the ones that have crashed, and associated equipment for around Rs 11,500 crore. TNN

N-11

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - 2024 (OJEE - 2024)

No: 227/OJEE DATE: 04.06.2024

NOTICE FOR ONLINE APPLICATION FOR 2nd/ SPECIAL OJEE, 2024

The 2nd / Special OJEE for B.Tech., LE-Tech (Diploma), LE-Tech (B.Sc.), MBA, MCA and B. Pharm will be held in the last week of June, 2024 (24th June, 2024 to 26th June, 2024).

The Entrance Examination will be conducted in Computer Based Test (CBT) mode for all the courses as mentioned above.

Interested candidates are advised to fill up the respective Application Forms online through OJEE website **(www.ojee.nic.in)** only.

Filling-up of Online Application through OJEE website has been started on 04th June, 2024 and will end on 11th June, 2024 (11.00 PM).

Please read, carefully, the 'Information Brochure' and the 'Instructions to fill Online Application Form' for OJEE - 2024, which are available in the OJEE websites to get detailed information regarding eligibility criteria, examination pattern, syllabus etc.

Syllabus for B.Tech. course is same as that for JEE MAIN 2024, while syllabus for other courses are same as for OJEE 2024.

Candidates, who have appeared and have rank in JEE MAIN 2024 (for B.TECH) or OJEE - 2024 (for other courses), are not required to appear the 2nd / Special OJEE.

The results (ranks) of 2nd/ Special OJEE shall be used for admission to the vacant seats left over after 1st phase counselling.

Please note that Outside State candidates are not eligible for admission in Government Colleges, but they are eligible for admission in Private Colleges.

For other details, please visit our website: www.ojee.nic.in / www.odishajee.com.

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN, OJEE
OIPR-44026/11/0001/24-25

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of India
Anusandhan Bhawan, C-56/1, Sector - 62, Noida - 201309

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), a premier research organization of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Govt. of India, carrying out R&D across a wide spectrum of ICT thematic areas, looking for the following IT/Computer professional, for project based positions for appointment on purely contract basis, for its Noida Centre in different areas like Project Management & Implementation of Design Linked Incentive Scheme/ Electronics/VLSI/Chip design/Software Application Development/DevOps Engineer/UI/UX Designer/Microservices Architecture:-

Name of the Post	Domain	No. of Positions
Program Manager (9-15 years experience)	Project Management & Implementation of DLI Scheme/ Electronics/ VLSI/ Microelectronics	2
Project Manager (9-15 years experience)	Software Design & Development/ JAVA, J2EE/ Project Management and Implementation	2
Senior Project Engineer (3-7 years experience)	Electronics/VLSI/ Microelectronics	2
Senior Project Engineer (3-7 years experience)	JAVA, J2EE Software/ Web Application Development, DevOps, Microservices Architecture	17
Project Engineer (1-4 years experience)	JAVA,J2EE Software/ Web Application Development, UI/UX Design	36

Interested and eligible candidates may visit **www.cdac.in** for detailed notification of different domains and divisions, eligibility, remuneration and other terms and conditions and applying online from 05-06-2024 onwards.

Commencement of on-line Registration of application by candidates	05-06-2024 (Wednesday)
Last date for on-line registration of application by candidates	19-06-2024 (Wednesday)

CBC 06130/12/0002/2425

INDIAN RAILWAYS
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
भारत सरकार/GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
रेल मंत्रालय /MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(रेलवे बोर्ड)/RAILWAY BOARD

No. 2018/Track-I(P)/RSP-EUR/Vol. I Date: 04.06.2024

Corrigendum No. 2

Publication of Corrigendum No. 2 issued against E-Tender No. TKP-1-2024 for Supply of Long rail exchange (unloading and loading) System and its Annual Maintenance Contract for 05 (Five) years (Existing EURs to be provided by Indian Railways) has been uploaded on IREPS. The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website **http://ireps.gov.in** for Corrigendum details

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1665/24

MP pilgrim dies as boulder falls from hill & hits vehicle on Gangotri highway

A 30-year-old pilgrim from Madhya Pradesh was killed after a pickup vehicle he was travelling in, along with seven others, was hit by a boulder that had fallen from a hilltop at Sunagar area of Gangotri highway on Monday, reports **Abhyudaya Kotnala**.

The impact of the collision was such that the door of the vehicle got deeply bent inward, resulting in immediate death of one of the passengers Umaed Raikvar, a resident of MP's Damoh area.



The Future is Green

World Environment Day Special

TIMES interact Connecting People, Connecting Needs.

CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

Eco-cation: Your guide to green getaways

With more people becoming conscious of their environmental impact, the demand for greener vacation options is on the rise

Aanchal.Mathur@timesgroup.com

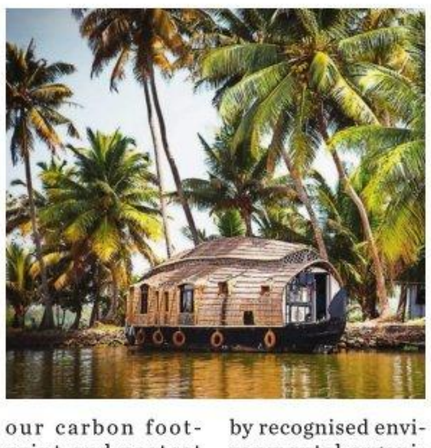
World Environment Day, celebrated annually on June 5th, is a global initiative led by the United Nations to raise awareness and encourage action for the protection of our environment, to thrive in future. One big part of protecting the environment is all about how we travel. Sustainable travel means making smart choices to keep our trips eco-friendly. This could be anything from picking green transportation and places to stay, to helping local communities and taking care of nature spots. By going the sustainable route, we're not just enjoying our vacations—we're also making sure the planet stays beautiful and healthy for everyone, now and in the future. Rajat Gera, commercial director – Six Senses Fort Barwara said, "Minimising energy consumption, opting for eco-friendly accommodations, and promoting slow travel by staying longer in one destination are crucial steps. By avoiding frequent travel between locations, we can substantially lower our carbon footprint. We encourage our guests to immerse themselves in nature-inspired experiences and embrace the authentic beauty of our destination. Through these efforts, we can collectively contribute to a more sustainable future." Pradeep Shetty, president, FHRAI, adds "Sustainability is now a core aspect of modern travel. Environmentally conscious travellers are favouring destinations and accommodations that promote eco-friendly practices, such as waste minimisation, energy conservation, and responsible sourcing. This trend is prompting the growth of green hotels and sustainable tourism initiatives in India."

PICS: ISTOCK



THIS YEAR, THE THEME IS ABOUT LAND RESTORATION, DESERTIFICATION, AND DROUGHT RESILIENCE. IT ADVOCATES BRINGING BACK HEALTHY LAND

As climate change continues to reshape our world, the way we travel is evolving too. Eco-tourism, once a niche segment, is now a thriving movement that aligns wanderlust with environmental stewardship. By choosing sustainable travel and stays, we can minimise our carbon footprint and protect the natural beauty we seek to explore. "Vacationing responsibly is no longer a choice but a necessity. By integrating renewable energy sources, reducing waste, and preserving natural habitats on each of our resorts we ensure that our destinations remain pristine for future generations. This is the essence of responsible luxury—offering indulgence without compromising our planet's well-being," says Vishal Vincent Tony, managing director, Ayatana Hospitalities.



TRAVELING RESPONSIBLY

Traveling responsibly in the era of climate change means being conscious of how your actions impact the environment and local communities. "Adopting sustainable practices, such as recycling plastics, using reusable and biodegradable products, is essential. By prioritising these efforts, industries can significantly contribute to a healthier planet and more efficient resource usage," echoes Virender Razdan, GM, The Leela Bhartiya City

Choose Eco-Friendly Accommodations: Opt for hotels, lodges, and hostels that have been certified by recognised environmental organisations. These establishments often implement energy-saving measures, waste reduction practices, and conservation programs.

Pack Light and Smart: Travel light to reduce fuel consumption on your journey. Bring reusable items like water bottles, shopping bags, and utensils to minimise waste.

Use Public Transport: Whenever possible, use buses, trains, and bikes instead of renting cars or taking taxis. Not only does this reduce your carbon footprint, but it also offers a more authentic way to experience a destination.

Eat Local: Support local farmers and reduce food miles by eating at locally owned restaurants and buying produce from farmers' markets.

Offset Your Carbon Footprint: Calculate your travel emissions and invest in carbon offset projects such as reforestation or renewable energy initiatives.

Support Local Economies: Buy from local artisans, stay in locally owned accommodations, and hire local guides to ensure your money benefits the community.

Be an Advocate: Share your eco-friendly travel experiences and encourage others to follow suit. Advocacy can amplify the impact of sustainable travel practices.

"On this day, we are reminded of the crucial role eco-tourism and regenerative tourism play in preserving the natural beauty and biodiversity of our planet. Regenerative tourism actively restores and revitalise ecosystems," concludes Suneel Anchipaka, IAS, director, Tourism, Government of Goa & managing director, GTDC.







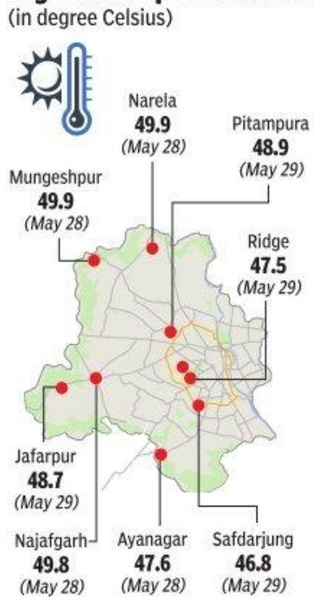
A FEW TIPS TO BEAT NEARLY 50-DEGREE TORTURE

Photo: Jatin Kumar



- Delhi has recorded heatwave conditions for 10 consecutive days
- Safdarjung, the city's base station, recorded seven heatwave days this season
- Some stations in Delhi are under the grip of heatwave for 14 days so far

Highest temp this season
(in degree Celsius)



MITIGATION MEASURES SUGGESTED BY EXPERTS

- Set up cool shelter homes for poor with supply of water
- Create waterbodies and urban forests, especially in heavily concretised areas
- Provide water and ORS to poor and homeless
- Ensure that less heat-trapping informal settlements have access to electricity and water
- Implement centralised district cooling
- Construct green buildings
- Introduce cool-roof programme
- Implement heat action plan
- Prepare cooling action plan
- Incentivise better adaptive measures

According to experts, Delhi's lengthy roasting this summer not only draws attention to global warming, but also to the effects of the city's changed landscape with decreased greenery, vanishing waterbodies and increased concretisation. They recommend actions like the implementation of heat action plans and cool-roof programmes, centralised district cooling, creation of urban forests and waterbodies, and construction of cool shelters for the poor and homeless



This intense heatwave is a result of two key phenomena — global warming and the urban heat island (UHI) effect caused by unplanned urbanisation. Not only are green spaces scarce and waterbodies disappearing, but we are constructing 'hot houses' with steel, glass and concrete that lack ventilation and shade. The result is the extensive use of airconditioners, which cool the interior but warm the exterior, exacerbating UHI effect.

Delhi govt must adopt a five-pronged agenda. First, formulate an integrated heat action plan to save lives and a cooling action plan to provide sustainable cooling solutions. Second, mandate building bylaws for construction of green buildings that require less airconditioning and implement a cool-roof programme to moderate temperature in buildings and the city. Third, introduce centralised district cooling. Fourth, establish cool shelters for the poor and migrant labourers. Lastly, build the capacity of all govt bodies to handle heatwaves.

Chandra Bhushan, CEO, International Forum for Environment, Sustainability and Technology (iForest)



The growing urban heat stress is a result of the expansion of heat-trapping concretised surfaces, disappearing green areas and waterbodies, inappropriate layout and orientation of buildings, poorly ventilated spaces, and waste heat generators like vehicles, industrial processes and air conditioners. These require city-wide heat management, including expanding green and blue areas, use of reflective surfaces through appropriate selection of materials and cool roofs, improved thermal comfort in buildings to reduce AC hours, vehicle restraint measures and waste heat recovery in industries. There already are regulatory instruments in place for land-use planning, urban resource management, environment impact assessment of buildings and townships, thermal comfort and energy efficiency in buildings, and transit-oriented development. But these are not leveraged adequately to mandate change at scale with right design, strategies and compliance framework.

Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director, research and advocacy, Centre for Science and Environment



The blistering heat over the past week is yet another reminder that climate change is going to make things hotter and more dangerous. As global temperatures increase over the coming years — as it definitely will — the heat is going to threaten the lives and livelihoods of India's poor and vulnerable. This threat is made more severe by the design of our cities. Densely packed concrete structures amplify local heat. We need to re-envision the Indian city and make it more compassionate to its poorest. This includes informal settlements with electricity, water and lower heat-trapping, and more trees for shade. We need to plan for the long term; today's emergency response measures will be overwhelmed by future heat. We have a small window in which to act, to build cities for a climate-threatened future.

Aditya Valiathan Pillai, fellow, Sustainable Futures Collaborative



Transforming the city landscape from green areas to concrete zones has led to higher temperatures while local and global issues are also contributing to climate change. A study we conducted in 2014 based on satellite-derived data on annually averaged diurnal temperature range — the difference between maximum and minimum temperatures — across Delhi showed a significant trend of increasing UHI effect. Continuing the study for a decade established the trend persisting for the decade.

Increase in population is causing a rise in anthropogenic emissions with the use of gadgets. Green forests should be created in heavily concretised areas. People should be incentivised to adopt better adaptive measures. It's good that labourers don't have to work from noon to 3pm, but more needs to be done about adequate facilities at worksites. Cool shelters should be made for the poor and homeless.

Manju Mohan, professor, Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, IIT-Delhi

Rain Respite After A Hot & Humid Day

Mercury Dips Slightly, Heatwave To Continue

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Rajesh Mehta



India Meteorological Department also expects very light rain and a thunderstorm towards evening in Delhi on Wednesday and Thursday

New Delhi: The city saw a hot and humid day with a scorching heatwave in certain parts of the city, and then a spell of rain in early Tuesday evening.

For the past 11 days, the city has been grappling with scorching heat and heatwaves.

The city's base station, Safdarjung, recorded a maximum of 43.8 degrees Celsius, four notches below normal. On Monday, the maximum was 44.6.

The minimum temperature was 30.4 degrees Celsius, three notches below normal and against 30.2 a day earlier.

Despite the slight drop in the maximum temperature, the feel-like temperature was 48.6 degrees Celsius, against 46 a day earlier. The humidity oscillated between 26% and 64%, respectively.

According to India Meteorological Department (IMD), the maximum and minimum temperatures on Wednesday are likely to hover around 43 and 31 degrees Celsius, respectively.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD), however, expects heatwave conditions in many places on Wednesday as well, despite an active western disturbance which led to rain on Tuesday evening and a drizzle in some areas on Monday night.

IMD also expects very light rain and a thunderstorm towards evening on Wednesday and Thursday.

"Due to an active western disturbance, there are chances of light to very light rain in some areas as well. A yellow alert had been issued for heatwaves in some isolated areas of the city," an IMD official said.

At 46.4 degrees Celsius, Narela in north Delhi was the hottest area in the city, followed by west Delhi's Pusa that recorded 45.9 and Najafgarh at 45.and south-west Delhi's Jafarpur at 45.4 — all heatwave zones.

Other areas, though these did not recorded heatwaves, were still hot. Palam recorded 43.9 degrees Celsius, Lodhi Road 44.2, Ridge 44.2, Pitampura 44.9, Mayur Vihar and Rajghat 42.5 degrees Celsius.

A heatwave is announced when the maximum temperature is above 40 degrees Celsius and at least 4.5 notches above normal, or if the maximum temperature is above 45 degrees Celsius. A severe heatwave is declared when the maximum temperature is above 6.5 degrees or more above normal.

Some parts of the city also saw trace-level rain while others saw a short-duration high-intensity rainfall, which cooled the evening air.

The city has so far not recorded rainfall apart from trace in many places. The normal rainfall however for the month of June is 74.1mm.

Air India ties up with Delhi Metro to facilitate check-in for international flyers at metro stns

Mumbai: Air India on Tuesday said it had partnered with Delhi Metro and Delhi airport to facilitate check-in for international air passengers at two metro stations in Delhi.

The check-in and baggage drop facility at IGI airport allows passengers to check in their baggage at the metro station, giving the outstation travellers the option to explore the city baggage-free.

During this period, their baggage gets securely loaded onto the aircraft through an advanced automated infrastructure created by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL).

Currently available for domestic air travel, this service will now be extended to international flyers and will remain operational at two Delhi metro stations — New Delhi and Shivaji Stadium — from 7am to 9pm, Air India said in a statement. It also added that the check-in can be done 12 hours to two hours prior to flight departure for domestic itineraries and four to two hours prior to departure for international schedules.

The metro train has a frequency of 10 minutes and it takes 19 minutes to reach the departure level at Delhi airport's Terminal 3, making the travel faster and hassle-free, the airline said.

"This initiative not only provides a cost-effective option for travellers coming from distant locations but also helps control congestion at the airport, leading to a better experience for all our customers. It will significantly enhance the convenience of our customers," said Rajesh Dogra, Chief Customer Experience Officer at Air India. PTI

Court seeks MCD's reply over plying of horse-drawn carts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court has sought the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's stand on a plea seeking seizure of horse-drawn carts or 'tongas' which are banned from plying in the national capital. The court acted on a plea by People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) claiming that the civic body has failed to implement its resolution on phasing out the tongas and rehabilitating their owners.

A bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Manmeet PS Arora issued notice to MCD on the application and listed the main matter for hearing for Aug 7. The application was filed in a pending petition in which animal rights activists have sought enforcement of a 2010 resolution by which the standing committee of the civic body had resolved to phase out the tongas and rehabilitate their owners while recognising the plight of equine animals driving the overloaded carts.

In its application, PETA's counsel has submitted that the tongas are being allowed to ply freely in crowded public spaces such as Azadpur Mandi and Narela Old Anaj Mandi. The counsel highlighted that on March 5, Indian Council for Agricultural Research-National Research Centre on Equines issued a letter, noting that three horses used for illegally plying tongas in Azadpur Mandi were found positive for glanders, which is a highly contagious zoonotic disease potentially fatal to humans.

The plea said PETA also issued a letter to the MCD commissioner on May 26 and highlighted the urgency in the matter and sought seizure of horse-drawn carts in accordance with the MCD's resolution by which the tongas were banned in Delhi. The organisation also urged the court to issue a direction to the civic body to file an action taken report indicating the number of seizures made.

Earlier in Aug 2023, the court had noted that as per an MCD status report, the civic body had seized only 58 animals and 13 carriages since Feb 2021. The court was informed that there were over 170 tonga licence holders in Delhi and MCD was regularly issuing fresh licenses at an enhanced fee. The court had directed MCD not to issue any fresh licences for the time being.

19-year-old suspect in murder case shot at during encounter

New Delhi: A 19-year-old alleged criminal was shot at in his knees during an encounter with the Special Cell of Delhi Police in the wee hours of the morning in east Delhi.

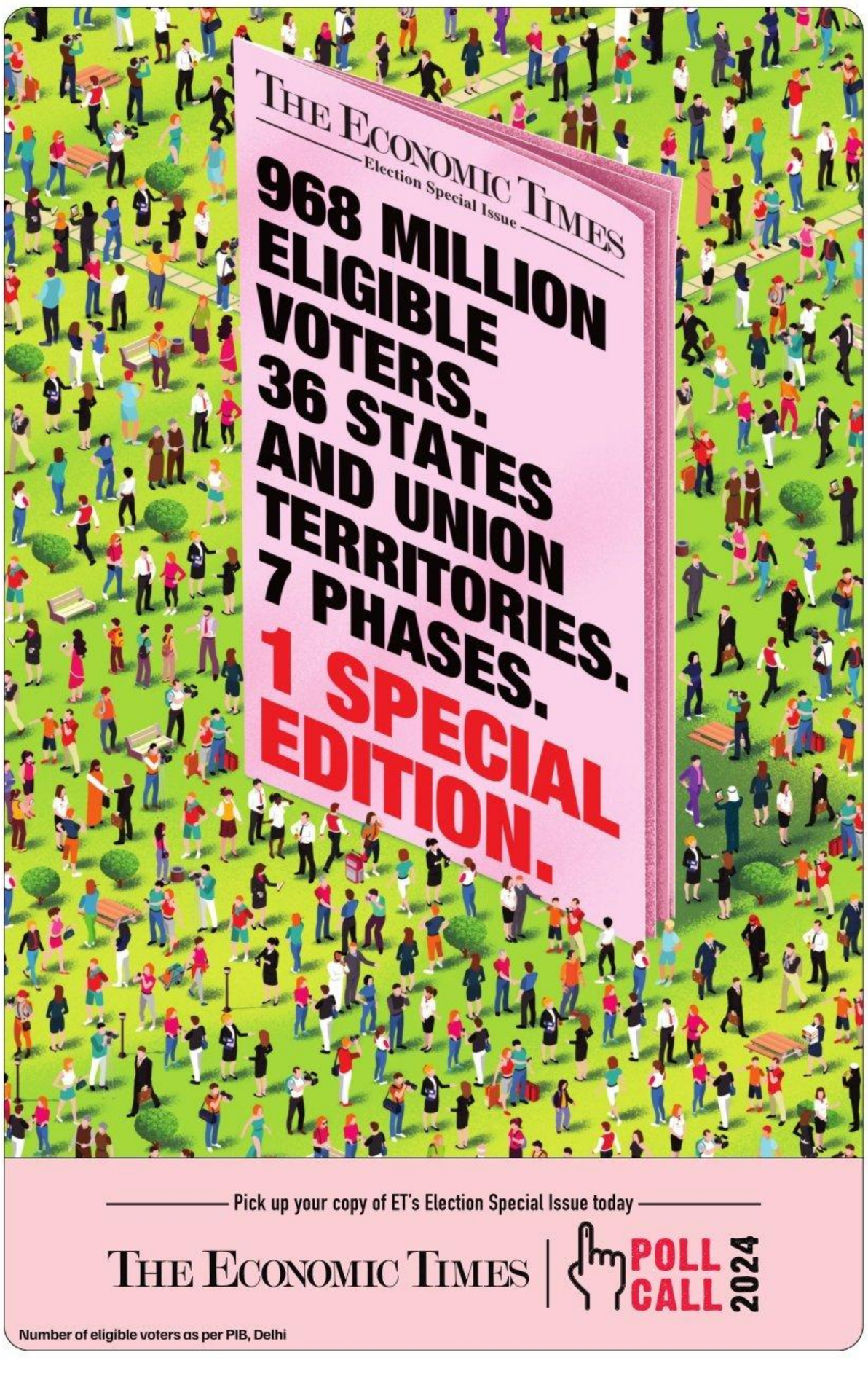
Police said Mohammed Ayaan was a prime suspect in a gruesome murder case that happened northeast Delhi, adding that they had to resort to firing in self-defence, and one of the cops had to take a shot on his bulletproof vest during the encounter.

Ayaan and his associate had shot at a factory owner in Harsh Vihar in April and later he allegedly shot dead the factory owner's associate at his shop in Welcome area in May, a senior police officer said.

After receiving information that Ayaan would be coming near Ghazipur Mandi, a trap was laid, and he was asked to surrender, but he brazenly fired at cops, the officer said, adding that a total of seven rounds were fired in the intense exchange of fire, and the suspect sustained injuries in his legs. He was rushed to the hospital for treatment.

Ayaan had also been apprehended in 2023 following a encounter and one of his associates had received injury in his leg during gunfight, police said.

Inquiry revealed that Ayaan wanted to make his name in the crime world. "In past also he had fired several rounds outside house of a businessman," the officer added. TNN



UJVN LIMITED
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No.U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website:www.ujvnl.com

Letter No:464 — **e-Tender Notice** — Date: 04/06/2024

Office of the Executive Engineer (Generation) Chibro Power House, Chibro, invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No. 02e/EE(G)/CPH/2024-25 "Annual Contract for miscellaneous work of lighting system, operation and maintenance at Chibro Power House".
Estimated cost : 43,77,592/- GST Extra.
Date of availability of bid document on website: 05-06-2024 from 11:00 Hrs.
Last date for submission of bids on website: 27-06-2024 up to 16:00 Hrs.
For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in"

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY" — E.E (Gen), CPH,Chibro

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE, HARIDWAR
Haridwar 249408E, Uttarakhand
Mail ID: gmcharidwar@gmail.com, Website: www.gmcharidwar.com

Letter No.: GMC/Advt./Recruitment/2024-25/150 — Dated: 04/06/2024

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

A **walk-in-interview** for various faculty positions of **Government Medical College, Haridwar** will be held on **19-06-2024 at 10:00 am onwards in Govt. Doon Medical College Campus, Patel Nagar, Dehradun.** The appointments will be made on contractual basis for three years (extendable on yearly basis) or till recruitment of faculty in the college would be operational through PPP mode or till regular appointments are made, whichever is earlier. The details of vacancies in various departments are uploaded in the website of Govt Medical College Haridwar, **www.gmcharidwar.com** and **www.medicaleducation.uk.gov.in**

Principal
Govt. Medical College, Haridwar

NOTIFICATION PUBLISHED IN COMPLIANCE WITH DIRECTIVES OF THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT, CALCUTTA

In compliance with the orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta, this is to inform all concerned that in celebration of 'ID-UZ-ZOHA' on 17.06.2024, the following provisions are to be followed strictly.

a) No person shall slaughter any animal (animal here means bulls, bullocks, cows, calves, male and female buffalos, buffalo calves and castrated buffalos) unless he has obtained in respect thereof a certificate that the animal is fit for slaughter.

b) The Chairman of a Municipality or the *Sabhapati of a Panchayat Samity* and a Veterinary Surgeon may issue a certificate under their joint signatures regarding fitness of an animal for slaughter, if they are both of the opinion to be recorded in writing that the animal is over 14 (fourteen) years of age and unfit for work or breeding or the animal has become permanently incapacitated from work or breeding due to age, injury, deformity or any incurable disease.

c) In case of refusal to issue such certificate, the aggrieved person may prefer an appeal to the State Government within 15 (fifteen) days of communication of such refusal .

d) An animal, in respect of which such certificate has been issued, shall be slaughtered only in a Municipal Slaughter House or any other Slaughter House identified by the local administration.

e) Slaughter of animals, for which a certificate has been issued, shall be strictly prohibited in any open public place.

f) Nobody shall resist inspection of any premises by a person authorized, in writing, by the Chairman of a Municipality or the *Sabhapati of a Panchayat Samity* as the case may be or the Veterinary Surgeon for implementing the provisions of the West Bengal Animal Slaughter Control Act, 1950.

g) Whoever contravenes any of the provisions contained in the West Bengal Animal Slaughter Control Act, 1950, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to Rs.1,000/- or with both. All offences under the 1950 Act shall be cognizable.

h) Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the case of Md. Hanif Quareshi and others-Vs-The State of Bihar held that sacrifice of a cow is no part of the festival of Id-Uz-Zoha and is not a religious requirement under Islam.

i) The relevant decisions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the Calcutta High Court are available in the official website of the Department being http://wbard.gov.in

ICA-N231(5)/2024

Probe 'shoddy', court asks home ministry to act against officer

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Expressing displeasure over the investigation in a six-year-old robbery case, a Delhi court has asked the ministry of home affairs (MHA) to take action against the investigation officer (IO).

Stating that the probe was not conducted properly and fairly, the court of special judge Ekta Gauba Mann criticised the lack of effort to trace three out of four accused despite the victims of the robbery and one public witness stating that the offence was committed by four accused. The court also convicted one of the accused, Shadab, for the offence of robbery.

"Investigating Officer SI Ashok Kumar has not conducted investigation in a proper and fair manner and not tried to trace out the other three co-accused persons despite the fact that the present case pertains to the year 2018. Hence, a copy of this judgment be sent to the ministry of home affairs, govt of India, Delhi for information and necessary action that the IO has not properly investigated the present matter as per law qua other accused persons for reason best known to the IO," stated the court.

This case pertains to an FIR of robbery lodged at Kashmere Gate Police Station. After the investigation was carried out, the accused was arrested and a chargesheet was filed for the offences of robbery, dacoity and common intention.

On Sept 23, 2018, one Ankur Goel was travelling with his cousin brother, Achint Goel, in an autorickshaw. As they reached the traffic signal near Mori Gate Gol Chakkar, two men came on a bike and intercepted the autorickshaw. One of them was carrying a pistol. Two more motorbike-borne men joined them later. The accused threatened them to give everything they had. They robbed the duo of their gold bangle, gold chain and gold ring before escaping the spot on their bikes.

DDA's New Desilting Deadline: June-End

Took EC Nod To Avoid Delay In Monsoon Preparedness; MCD Says 80% Of Ph I Work Done

Vibha.Sharma
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has extended the deadline for desilting drains within its jurisdiction by a month, setting the new completion date as June 30.

As part of its monsoon preparedness measures, the authority will set up central and zonal flood control rooms that will function continuously throughout the rainy season. "Sufficient fixed pumps at vulnerable locations and truck-mounted pumps with operators will be available at flood control rooms to take care of any situation," said an official.

DDA is tasked with maintaining about 300km of roadside drains. To ensure desilting is completed on time, it had obtained permission from EC to avoid delays and issued short-term notices inviting agencies to carry out the work. "We invited bids last month for cleaning drains in Sarita Vihar, including along the metro line, pockets 9B and 9A, sports complex and Jasola district centre," said the official.

Meanwhile, MCD has successfully finished 80% of the desilting work targeted in phase I and is on track to meet its June 15 deadline.

For FY 2024-25, the civic body aims to remove 1,27,736 metric tonnes of waste from 713 large drains covering an area of 466km. While 76 drains have already been desilted, work is in progress on another 602. "It was proposed to remove 78,179.8 metric tonnes of waste by mid-June in phase I, and 49,556 metric tonnes by March-end in phase II. Till June 3, we have removed 62,999 metric tonnes," said an MCD official.

CLEANING THE DRAINS

Photo for representation

- DDA has extended deadline for cleaning of 300km drains till June 30
- The authority will set up central and zonal flood control rooms to function 24*7 during the rainy season
- Fixed pumps at vulnerable locations and truck-mounted pumps with operators will be made available at DDA's flood control rooms
- MCD has set a goal to remove 1,27,736 metric tonnes of waste from 713 large drains, deeper than 4ft, covering an area of 466 km
- Work in progress at 672 drains; at 76 drains, 100% work completed



The civic body also aims to remove 82,642 metric tonnes of silt from 20,884 small drains spanning an area of 6,657km. In a departure from previous years, this year's plan covers unauthorised colonies for the first time.

According to officials, most of the desilting work for large drains is being outsourced. MCD's engineering department is closely monitoring the progress to ensure it is completed before the monsoon season begins.

"Agencies are using excavators and machines for taking out silt, which is then dumped at sanitary landfills as soon as it is dried. For smaller drains, instructions have been issued to clear the material daily," said the official. A nodal officer has also been assigned to each drain to promptly address any waterlogging issues during the monsoon.

The civic body has, however, flagged concerns with DJB and other departments about disposal of sewer connections into drains at some locations. "There have been instances where, immediately after the removal of silt, drains are clogged again due to the continuous flow of untapped sewer connections into them. In those circumstances, establishing centralised sewer treatment plants will not serve the purpose. Disposal of sewage into drains leads to a foul smell too," said the official.

The official also listed other monsoon measures, such as temporary pumps. "At all 72 permanent pumping stations, staff will be engaged 24/7 during the rainy season. Teams are being formed and will be equipped with a sufficient number of pumps to attend to waterlogging issues in their respective areas," he added.

Control rooms will be established in all 12 zones and at the headquarters, and operate round-the-clock to ensure prompt response to complaints and their timely resolution.

Meanwhile, leader of opposition and BJP councillor Raja Iqbal Singh said the first phase of desilting work should have been completed by May 31, but only 76 drains had been desilted "due to the dilly-dallying attitude of AAP in MCD".

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)
E – TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, Principal Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer invites E-Tender bids (Single Tender) from Eligible Contractors for the Work of : "Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Indoor work for Alteration in existing Electronic Interlocking (EI) at Patli station in Delhi Division of Northern Railway in connection with commissioning of New single line between Patli and Manesar (Phase IA) and between Patli and New Patli (Phase I B) towards Delhi end" **E-Tender Notice No: KR-CO-PDMC-SG-ET-2024-25-01 dated: 04.06.2024; Last date & time for submission of bids: 18/06/2024 up to 16:00 hrs. Estimated Cost of work: ₹ 1.74 Crores (Including GST) For further details please visit: www.ireps.gov.in**

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Satish S/o Ompal** R/o Village Bangawa, Post-Punaya, P.S. Panda, Distt. Shahjahanpur, UP, also at vegabond Kashmiri Gate, Bus adda footpath, delhi, have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **DD No. 38A dt. 22.05.2021 U/s 103 DP Act.**, has been registered at **P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Satish** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the **Satish** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused of **DD No. 38A dt. 22.05.2021 U/s 103 DP Act., registered at P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **26.07.2024.**

By Order

DP/6489/N/2024

Sh Gaurav Goyal, MM, Central Distt, Room No. 247, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE



Uma Devi Vaishno Sima

General Public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) namely Uma Devi along with her two Children Sima Rani (**Aged:**4 yrs.) and Vaishno Rani (**Aged:** 2 yrs.) **W/o** Gautam Kumar **R/o** Lal Flats No. 392, Gate No.3, Block No.4, Sec-3, Bawana, Delhi **Aged**-20 Years has been reported missing since 23.05.2024 at about 10 AM from her residence vide **GD No.0074A Dated 24.05.2024** registered at Police Station Bawana, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Shallow, **Height:** 4'3", **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Clothing:** Unknown coloured suit-salwar and Hawai Slipper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing female with her children, may inform SHO, Bawana, Delhi at E-mail : **cic@cbi.gov.in** or website : **http://cbi.nic.in**

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641
FAX No. : 011-24368639

Sd/-
SHO, Bawana, New Delhi
Tel.: 011-27751949
Mob. 7065036321

DP/6519/ON/2024

Real estate bizman asked to pay ₹2 crore

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A real estate businessman in Paschim Vihar has allegedly been asked to pay Rs 2 crore as protection money by a person claiming to be from the Nandu gang.

The victim, who has offices in Najafgarh and Bahadurgarh, received the call on his personal phone between 5pm and 6pm on Monday. The caller, who used an international number to conceal his identity, told the businessman to either pay Rs 2 crore or be ready to be brutally killed. A case has been filed.

According to police sources, the caller even boasted about the gang's alleged involvement in the murder of Haryana INLD chief Nafe Singh Rathee, which had sent shockwaves through the community in Feb.

The latest threat comes days after a real estate businessman from north Delhi's Civil Lines was threatened with an extortion demand of Rs 5 crore in the name of gangster Goldy Brar.

Delhi magistrate courts accord little time to hear accused on first production: Study

Vineet.Upadhyay
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Most magistrates in Delhi's magisterial courts did not accord proper time to the first production of an accused or the remand proceedings, said a report titled "Magistrates & Constitutional Protections: An Ethnographic Study of First Production and Remand in Delhi courts" by Project 39A.

The study by eight researchers was a record of observations during remand proceedings before the city's magistrate courts from Nov 2022 to Feb 2023. The team visited courts in Karkardooma, Tis Hazari, Saket, Dwarka, Patiala House and Rohini.

The study was designed in two phases. In the first month and a half, the researchers covered the magistrate courts in Karkardooma, Tis Hazari and Saket, and in the latter month and a half, they studied courts in Dwarka, Patiala House and Rohini.

The emphasis was on observing proceedings in different magistrate courts — at least two magistrate courts per court complex.

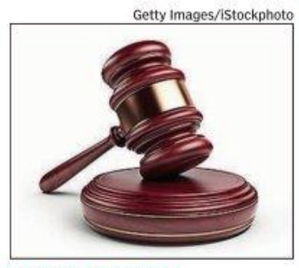
The report highlighted problems with these courts which are often the first layer of the justice system for citizens.

It found that, given the heavy case load before magistrates, the first production and remand proceedings of the accused were not accorded proper time.

"The heavy workload of magistrates and the perception of these pre-trial proceedings as unimportant, might result in magistrates not treating each production matter before them as unique and warranting a careful inquiry into the detention and well-being," the report said.

The report said that first production and remand matters were heard at random, in parallel to or between other proceedings. It said that many times, this contributed to the absence of remand lawyers and legal representation. "Despite remand lawyers (a special category of legal aid lawyers) being especially appointed to ensure legal representation at the pretrial stage, they were noticed to be usually absent in court. First productions and remands were usually carried out in the absence of legal representation, often in magistrates' chambers without any public gaze," the study said.

Getty Images/iStockphoto



WAIT FOR JUSTICE

The study, carried out from Nov 2022 to Feb 2023, found that first production and remand matters were heard at random, in parallel to or between other proceedings

The study mentioned that the production matters were not mentioned on the cause list, the most publicly visible document of the schedule of a magistrate court.

Stating that magistrate courts were primarily focused on the first-level analysis — ensuring presence of artefacts in the case files — the study added that there was not enough effort to verify the contents of the paperwork or enquire with the accused present in court or with the family of the accused. "Very rarely did magistrates treat these artefacts as a starting point of their inquiry, to ascertain the reality of the experience in custody, and to ensure that the constitutional purpose behind the safeguards had been substantially felt by the accused. The public performance of ensuring compliance with statutory safeguards and ensuring realisation of constitutional rights is not given its due importance," the study said.

It pointed out that magistrates rarely interact with the accused to ascertain their well-being beyond a brief query. It added that unless the magistrate embarked on a meaningful interaction with the accused, their family, and the remand lawyers, they were unable to ensure the actual protection of the accused's rights.

The entire system was organised such that the onus was on the accused to draw the magistrate's attention to violations experienced in custody, the study said. The examination of the MLC (medico-legal case) was not taken as an opportunity to probe the origin of injuries — by police or public — and ensure the well-being of the accused.

Pointing out an absence of an inspection memo or record of injuries/condition of the accused on arrest, the study said that the accused were produced from police custody by officers of the same police station investigating the case.

"There is no separation between the police and the accused at this stage to create an environment conducive to the accused to raise their concerns," the study said.

No bail to businessman, HC terms accusations serious

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Tuesday refused to grant bail to businessman Amandeep Singh Dhall, arrested by the CBI in a corruption case linked to the alleged excise policy scam, saying the accusations against him are serious in nature.

Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma said since many witnesses in this case are known to Dhall and he was also in contact with "influential" functionaries of the Aam Aadmi Party in Delhi govt, he does not satisfy the triple test for grant of bail.

"The allegations against the applicant are also serious in nature and their impact on the society and common man at large has to be considered as a factor while adjudicating an application seeking grant of regular bail," said the court in its 34-page order.

Taking strong note of Dhall's argument about undue delay in deciding his bail application filed in July 2023, Justice Sharma pointed out that he had submitted before the Supreme Court that his bail application was listed and heard on 40 occasions by the high court but was thereafter adjourned till July 8, 2024 for arguments.

The court, giving a list of dates on which Dhall's bail plea was listed and the orders passed, noted that his claim of incarceration being prolonged is contrary to the record. "The regular bail application had been listed on 17 occasions. However, out of the 17 occasions when the regular bail application had got listed for hearing, on about 9 occasions, applications seeking interim bail on medical grounds," it added.

Of the remaining 8 occasions, either the notice had been issued or arguments addressed on behalf of the applicant.

Chargesheet against CM in court on July 9

New Delhi: A Delhi court is likely to pass on July 9 its order on whether to take cognisance of a supplementary chargesheet filed by Enforcement Directorate against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in the excise policy-linked money laundering case.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja, who was scheduled to pass the order on Tuesday, deferred it for July 9, saying the documents were comprehensive and the court needed time to make a decision. The judge had reserved the order after hearing arguments, including those by the ED, which said it has sufficient evidence against the accused to prosecute him. The ED has also named AAP as an accused in the charge sheet.

The court, meanwhile, is likely to pronounce its order on Kejriwal's application seeking bail on medical grounds on Wednesday. PTI

Work on to link subway to Gole Market museum

File Photo



The foundation of the heritage building is being strengthened now

Vibha.Sharma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: As part of the Gole Market Museum redevelopment project, New Delhi Municipal Council's architect department has begun drafting plans for construction of a subway, designed to enhance the museum's accessibility and connectivity while preserving its historical significance.

"As per initial plan, provision for a subway from the RK Ashram Marg was supposed to be made so that the people can reach the museum (situated in the centre of a busy traffic roundabout) easily. A consultant has been engaged to conduct surveys and explore options for developing the facility," said Satish Upadhyay, vice chairman of NDMC.

Currently, foundation of the century-old heritage building is being strengthened and the debris collected after removing the damaged plaster has been cleared. "The next steps involve strengthening the parapet on the first-floor structure wall and creating ventilation ducts at the ground level for the dome-shaped structure. Following this, excavation will be carried out up to a depth of 15 feet to construct a subway connecting to RK Ashram Marg," said Upadhyay.

The project, which includes conservation and restoration of the entire complex, began in Oct 2023, with a targeted completion by Oct 2025.

The conservation process will maintain original shape of the structure, including the arch structures within the premises. "Considering it is a heritage building, all works are done after nod and as per specification of the Heritage Conservation Committee," Upadhyay said. The restoration will utilise materials such as sukhi mortar.

The project's scope encompassed retrofitting, rehabilitation, and conservation of the heritage structure, along with the construction of a service block and a subway. Key features of the project included a glass dome roof of structure, central air conditioning, ornamental fittings, and a service block equipped with lifts.

An official previously mentioned, "It will be the first museum in the country dedicated to women achievers of the country and showcase the contributions made by women of India in art, literature, culture, social sector, as well as the struggle for independence."

To address visitors' parking needs, NDMC identified a plot of land near Gole Market, which belongs to the Land and Development Office and is actively pursuing the matter with the relevant authority.

The historic and iconic Gole Market, designed by Edward Lutyens in 1921, has been awaiting restoration and renovation since 2006. On June 16, 2022, lieutenant governor VK Saxena visited the site and instructed officials to expedite the work. Subsequently, an updated proposal was presented in the council meeting in Aug 2022. On Oct 21, Saxena laid foundation for the project.

ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

A TIMES INTERNET INITIATIVE

ET Retail SHOPFWD 2024 SUMMIT & AWARDS
A Confluence of Fashion Retail and Malls
26th - 27th June 2024 | JW Marriott Mumbai Sahar

ARE YOU JOINING
THE LARGEST CONFERENCE OF FASHION RETAIL & MALLS?

The ETRetail Shopfwd Summit 2024 promises to be one of the largest gatherings of fashion and lifestyle retailers alongside shopping centre developers. This summit will highlight key industry trends, including the seamless integration of digital and physical retail, the rise of experiential shopping, and the growing emphasis on sustainable practices.

100+ SPEAKERS | **500+** ATTENDEES | **40+** EXHIBITORS | **250+** BRANDS

SPEAKERS



Manushi Chhillar
Miss World, Actor, and Founder, Dweep



Dr. Sanjay Mukherjee
Metropolitan Commissioner, Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) Government of Maharashtra



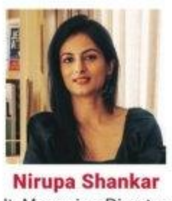
Venkatesalu P
CEO & Executive Director, Trent Ltd



Kavindra Mishra
MD & CEO, Shoppers Stop



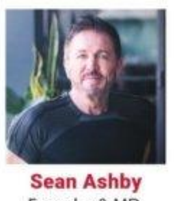
Arjun Gehlot
Director, Ambience Group



Nirupa Shankar
Jt. Managing Director, Brigade Group



Sangeeta Pendurkar
Chief Executive Officer - Pantaloons, Aditya Birla Fashion Retail Limited



Sean Ashby
Founder & MD, aussieBum



Sagarika Ghatge
Actress & Founder, Akutee



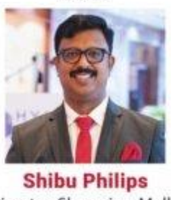
Vineet Gautam
CEO and Country Head, Bestseller India



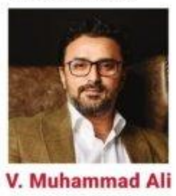
Lavanya Nalli
Chairperson, Nalli Silks



Harshvardhan Bansal
Co-Founder, Unity Group



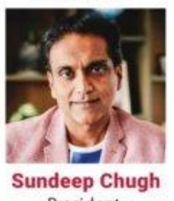
Shibu Philips
Director-Shopping Malls, Lulu Group India



V. Muhammad Ali
CEO-Retail, Forum Malls



Niladri Mazumder
President & COO, Seiko India



Sundeep Chugh
President, BIBA Fasion Ltd.

#ETRetailShopfwd

Scan the QR Code to register for the event or log on to: www.etretail.com/shop-fwd-summit

For more information, contact
Email: himanshu.arya@timesinternet.in | Call: +91 9999864758

SC Refuses Relief To Sisodia In Excise Case

Allows Him Fresh Plea After ED's Final Complaint

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Solicitor general Tushar Mehta told the apex court that ED would file its final complaint in the case related to the alleged excise policy scam by July 3

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to grant bail to former AAP minister Manish Sisodia in CBI and ED cases related to the alleged Delhi liquor policy scam despite him being behind bars for the last 15 months but said he could renew his bail plea once Enforcement Directorate files its final complaint by July 3.

Senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, placing Sisodia's case before a vacation bench of Justices Arvind Kumar and Sandeep Mehta, said the trial in the case is yet to commence as the ED and CBI are filing numerous supplementary chargesheets against the accused, whose tally has gone up to 47 by now, and presented documents running to over 56,000 pages, together making it impossible for expeditious completion of trial.

"The accused has a statutory and constitutional right to be enlarged on bail, especially when he is already in jail for 15 months and had no role in delay in commencement of the trial," Singhvi said.

Opposing Sisodia's bail plea, solicitor general Tushar Mehta said the delay in filing final complaint by ED was mainly attributable to AAP convener and Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal refusing to respond to nine summonses for questioning. "This has become a trend now-a-days. The accused or his associates delay the process for completion of investigations and take the very ground to seek bail," he said.

The bench then asked Mehta when will the ED file its final complaint, to which he replied that it would be done latest by July 3. The bench disposed of Sisodia's bail plea with liberty to the AAP functionary to seek the same relief once the final complaint is filed.

The SC had rejected earlier bail plea of Sisodia saying, "In view of the assurance given by the prosecution that they shall conclude the trial by taking appropriate steps within next six to eight months, we give liberty to the appellant — Manish Sisodia — to move a fresh application for bail in case of change in circumstances, or in case the trial is protracted and proceeds at a snail's pace in next three months." Singhvi had argued that the trial is yet to commence.

But the SG, with advocate Zoheb Hussain, said Delhi HC on May 21 had examined Sisodia's bail plea and rejected it, saying the delay is neither attributable to the trial court nor the probe agency but to the AAP convener. There is no change in circumstance since SC had rejected Sisodia's bail plea, Mehta said.

Man arrested for murder

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A man has been arrested for allegedly murdering a woman in outer north Delhi's Samaypur Badli.

The incident happened on Jan 21, when suspect Pramod alias Podi was beating one Akshay along with his associates, the woman identified as Meenu tried to save him but the suspects allegedly assaulted her, police said on Tuesday.

Later, she taken to hospital where she was declared brought dead, said Satish Kumar DCP (crime).

Podi fled from the spot and started living in Panipat, the DCP said, adding that police received information that the accused will come to meet his wife in Narela, a trap was laid and he was arrested.

Podi, a Samaypur Badli resident, is a class 12th dropout and was working as a guard in Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar.

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
CORRIGENDUM
No. 75/Paper Publication/ Fab Dated : 03/06/2024. The following corrigendum has been carried out in respect of the **Tender No 75/24/5036** schedule to be opened on **03/06/2024. SL NO:**[01]. **Particulars:** TOD. **Tender No: 75/24/5036, Opening Date: From:** 03/06/2024, **To: 07/06/2024**. **Qty.:** 100 Nos.
PR2-450 SMM/M/CLW/Chittaranjan
"Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways"

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CASH & ACCOUNTS-II

NOTICE to nationalized banks for investment of an amount of **Rs. 5,63,19,754/- (Rs. Five Crore Sixty Three Lakh Nineteen Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Four only plus** interest accrued thereon) IN FIXED DEPOSIT.

All the Nationalized Banks are informed that the above mentioned amount is to be invested in Fixed Deposit for a period of **SIX MONTHS**. Interested Nationalized Banks are requested to quote in sealed cover, the highest CALLABLE rate of interest valid till **11.06.2024**, for this deposit in accordance with the prescribed format and hand over personally to the undersigned upto **5.00 p.m.** on **10.06.2024**. No offer will be accepted after **5.00 p.m.**

For more details, prescribed format and instructions, log on to **www.supremecourtofindia.nic.in**

Place : New Delhi
Date : 31.05.2024

(TAPAN KISHORE SHARMA)
Drawing & Disbursing Officer,
Supreme Court of India

TATA
TATA MOTORS LIMITED
CIN - L28920MH1945PLC004520
Registered Office: Bombay House, 24, Homi Mody Street, Mumbai - 400 001.
Tel: 020 - 66132821; **Website:** www.tatamotors.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING TATA MOTORS LIMITED SUPERANNUATION FUND

This is for the immediate attention of members of Tata Motors Limited Superannuation Fund (Superannuation Fund) who have separated from Tata Motors Limited but have not withdrawn their accumulations from the said Superannuation Fund.

Please note that pursuant to the approval of the Income Tax Department, the Trustees have resolved to implement the following amendment to the Trust Rules w.e.f. **30.06.2024**, namely:

"Payment/credit of interest on member's balances only for a period of up to three months from the date of separation/ superannuation."

No interest will accrue on the Superannuation Fund accumulations remaining un-withdrawn thereafter.

In view of the above position, we request you to kindly withdraw your Superannuation Fund accumulations or, if you choose, transfer the same to National Pension Scheme.

For queries, if any, regarding the above, please get in touch with the 'Retirement Benefits Helpdesk', through:

a. Phone : 020 - 66132821; or
b. Mail ID: retirementbenefits@tatamotors.com

You are requested to take immediate actions at your end to avoid loss of interest.

For Tata Motors Limited Superannuation Fund

Trustee

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
E-TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No: PCMM/CLW/HWH/ E-Procurement/24/33 Dated: 31.05.2024. PCMM/CLW/HWH on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the followings. The following E-Tender/s is/are for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/ likely suppliers are requested to look up the website **www.ireps.gov.in** for detailed instructions please. These are E-Tenders. Only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl. No.; Tender No. ; Description of Stores; Quantity; Due On; Tender Cost** are as follows: **[162]; 25245010A;** Supply installation and commissioning of INDUCTION HEATER 40KVA (along with additional five sets of magnetic temperature probe with cable and socket) As Per CLW Specification No. CLW/TM/4111/23-24/010 Dated 14/05/24. HSN Code: 85142000; **As Per Tender Document; 24.06.2024;** ₹ 0.00. **[163]; 14243002;** 1. LED Corridor Light As Per RDSO Specn. No. RDSO/PE/SPEC/TL/0091-2016 (REV.1), TYPE-L, DRG. NO. LW76090 Alt. 'B' and Bracket For Fitment in Locomotive As Per DRG. NO. CLW/ES/3/SK-2/0673/A, 2. LED CAB Light As Per RDSO Specn. No. RDSO/PE/SPEC/TL/0091-2016 (REV.1), TYPE-L, DRG. NO. LW76090 Alt. 'B' and Bracket For Fitment in Locomotive As Per DRG. NO. CLW/ES/3/SK-1/0673; **As Per Tender Document; 09.07.2024;** ₹ 0.00. **[164]; 14243004A;** LED Type Driver's Desk & Assistant Driver's Desk Illumination As Per RDSO Specification No. RDSO/PE/SPEC/TL/0091-2016 (REV.1), TYPE-F2, DRG. NO. LW76094 Alt. 'A' and Housing Assembly of LED Type Driver's Desk & Assistant Driver's Desk Illumination As Per DRG. NO. CLW/ES/3/SK-1/0672/A; **As Per Tender Document; 12.07.2024;** ₹ 0.00. **[165]; 14242984;** 1. Pantograph Mounting Insulator As Per CLW Specn. No. CLW/ES/AC/I-1/K and Drg. No. CLW/ES/SK-4/AC/I-1/K, 2. Roof Line Insulator As Per CLW Specn. No. CLW/ES/AC/I-1/K and Drg. No. CLW/ES/SK-2/AC/I-1/K; **As Per Tender Document; 11.07.2024;** ₹ 0.00. **[166]; 14242991;** Surge Arrester For Current Transformer As Per Schedule of Requirement (Attached); **As Per Tender Document; 03.07.2024;** ₹ 0.00.
PR8/448 PCMM/CLW/HWH
Like us on : www.facebookcom/clwrailways

WORLD Environment Day

CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

Act now to save our planet

It's time to restore the damaged ecosystem and make this planet a better place to live in

Rashmi.Sanzgiri
@timesgroup.com

The United Nations (UN) every year, since 1974, observes June 5 as the World Environment Day to make people aware of the importance of conserving nature. The 2024 edition of World Environment Day focusses on land restoration, desertification, and drought resilience, under the slogan 'Our Land'.

Deforestation, increasing use of plastic, wastage of water resources, rise in industrialisation and a host of other factors have taken a toll on the environment and wildlife. Hence, it is the need of the hour to restore our ecosystem. According to environmentalists, this is only possible when people across the world join hands to conserve nature and reduce their carbon footprint.

"We cannot wait for 2050 to achieve the net zero carbon emission target; we need to make peace with the planet now. Mitigation and adaptation are not the only solutions anymore—we need to accelerate the natural processes, and boost innovative thinking that can restore the world's ecosystems. The focus should be on conservation of what's left of our planet. Prevention of further degradation is vital now," informs Elsie Gabriel, environmentalist. She further adds, "Restoration could also remove greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. This could bring down the cost of investments in mitigation. The government is doing its part, but communities and individuals as well should contribute towards forests, mangroves, farmlands, cities, wetlands, and marine biodiversity restoration."

The process of ecosystem restoration will help in controlling erosion, improving water quality, protecting habitat, and providing other benefits to people and environment. Here are some important ways of restoring the ecosystem.



WHILE GENERATING LESS WASTE IS A KEY SOLUTION, IT IS EQUALLY IMPERATIVE TO DISPOSE WASTE IN A MORE ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY MANNER

PLANT MORE TREES: The importance of trees and how it's immensely beneficial to the environment is known to all. While industrialisation and infrastructural development is necessary for the nation's progress, it is also important to save and plant more trees. Besides providing food and oxygen, trees help in checking soil erosion, preventing flooding, and protecting wildlife amongst other benefits. It's imperative to preserve forests, woodlands, and green zones in urban areas as it helps to slow down global warming.

"The loss of green cover doesn't mean fewer trees—it implies more soil erosion, greater vulnerability to flooding, higher temperatures, lesser rainfall, and a complete loss of codependent ecosystems. Community-led plantations can go a long way in contributing towards not only increasing green cover, but also restoring peri-urban ecosystems. Having said that, plantation drives are increasingly becoming instruments of greenwashing. Hence, while participating in a plantation drive, one must ensure that the saplings are native to the area. We must nurture them for a couple of months until they are able to survive on their own," states Abhiir Bhalla, youth environmentalist and sustainability consultant.

PICS: ISTOCK

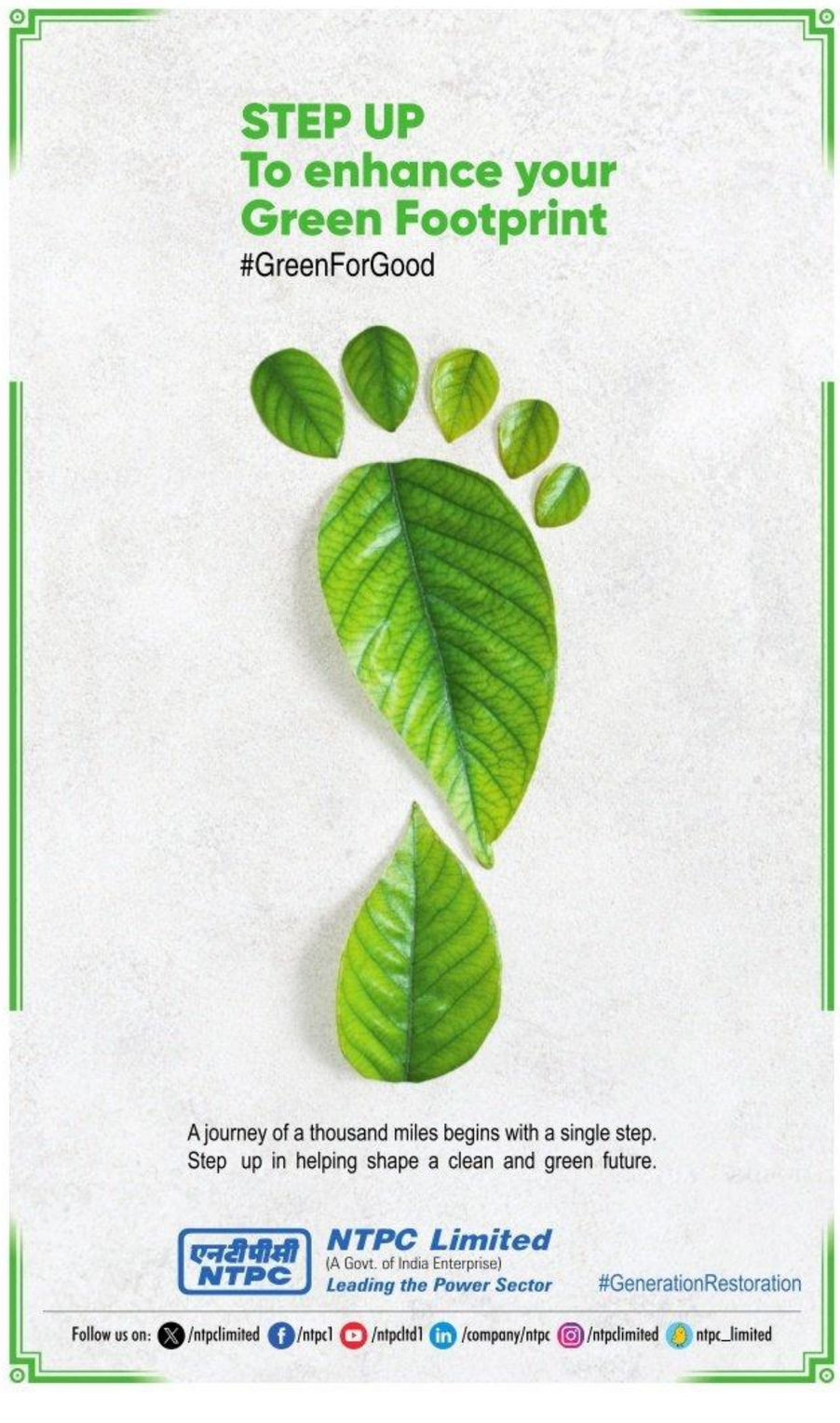


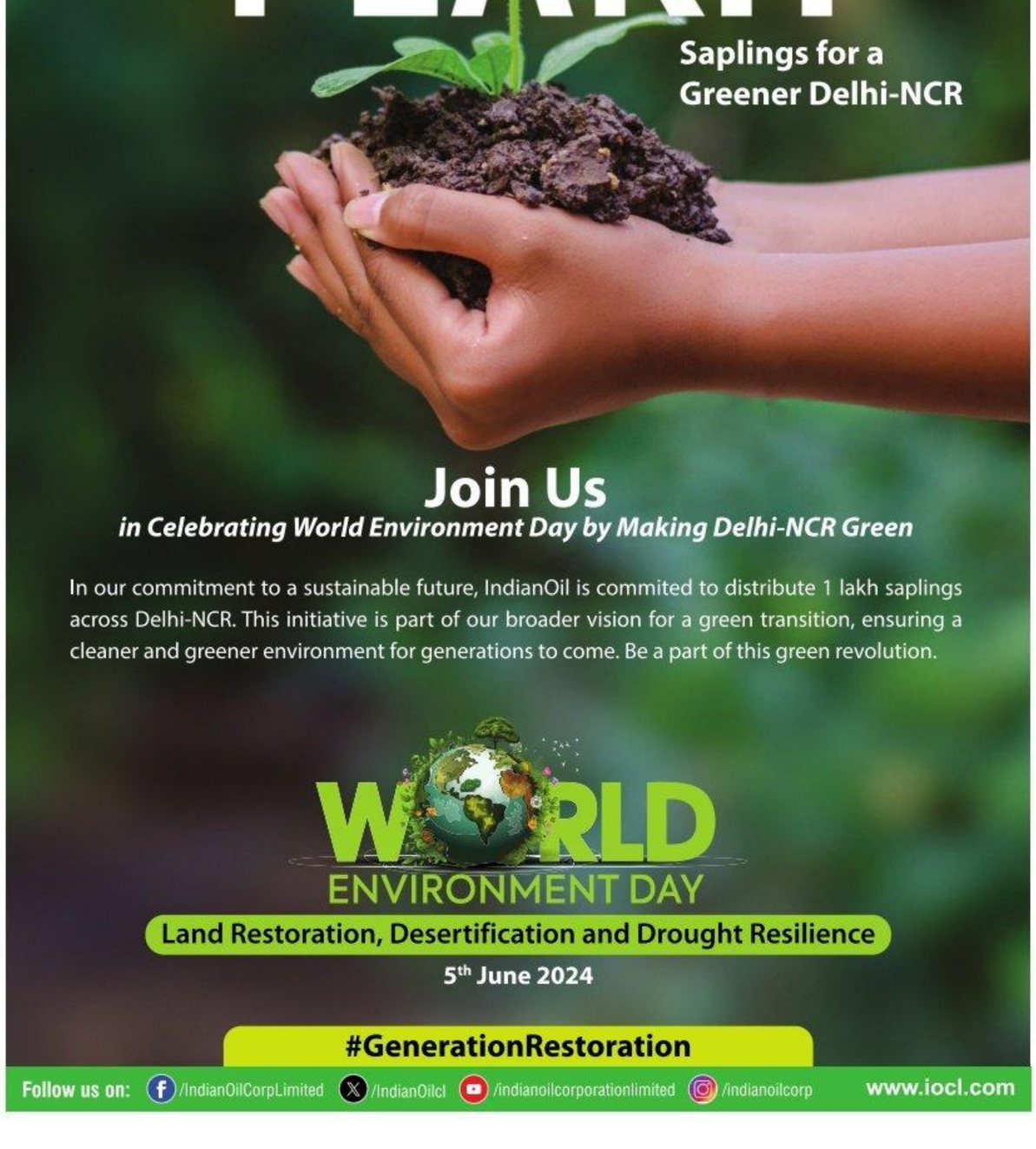
REDUCE, RECYCLE, AND REUSE WASTE: The volume of waste, especially plastic, generated by the increasing urban population is adversely affecting the environment and raising health concerns. The most effective way to manage non-biodegradable waste is by reducing, recycling, and reusing it. One can contribute in this regard by replacing plastic bags with cloth bags, using eco-friendly plates and cups, recycling plastic bottles and choosing digital ways to save paper.

Dharmesh Basu, nature lover, shares, "Believing that the change should begin from home, I created a compost pit to make a better use of the wet waste that my household generates. However, the next question was how to cope with the non-biodegradable waste. We had a few unused plastic bottles, and so instead of throwing it away, I started growing plants in it and hung them on the window grill. While generating less waste is a key solution, it is equally imperative to dispose waste in a more environmentally-friendly manner."

Many experts rightly point out that although India is steadily moving towards becoming a superpower, unless we carefully manage land, water and natural resources, this dream will not become a reality.

(With inputs from Himanshi Duseja)

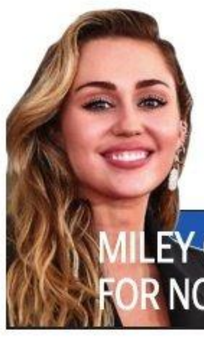




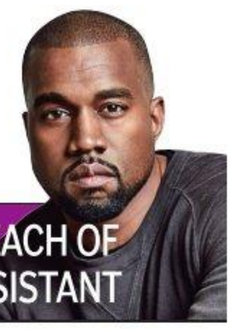
TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024

IF YOU'RE NOT READY TO DIE, THEN HOW CAN YOU LIVE? — CHARLES DE LINT



MILEY CYRUS, WHO WON 1ST GRAMMY IN '24, CALLS OUT MUSIC ACADEMY FOR NOT TAKING HER SERIOUSLY EARLIER: 'BEEN DOING THIS FOR 20 YRS'



KANYE WEST GETS SUED FOR SEXUAL HARASSMENT, BREACH OF CONTRACT AND WRONGFUL TERMINATION BY HIS EX-ASSISTANT

Biden: 'Every reason' to believe Bibi prolonging war for political survival

The May 28 Remark Becomes Public Amid Differences Over Truce Plan; WH Says US Will Work To Ensure Deal Happens

US Prez Joe Biden, asked whether PM Benjamin Netanyahu was prolonging the war in Gaza in an effort to hold on to office, said that he believes "there is every reason for people to draw that conclusion", lending his voice to something many in his administration have been saying privately for months.

His statement came in an interview with Time magazine that was conducted May 28, three days before Biden gave a speech revealing details of what he called an "Israeli plan" to bring about an exchange of hostages and a permanent ceasefire. His decision to describe the Israeli plan in public appeared to be a clear effort to lock in Netanyahu, who didn't publicly reveal the details and seemed to back away from some of them after Biden's statement last Friday.

Both in Jerusalem and Washington, Netanyahu is widely seen as highly aware that an end to the conflict could easily result in his being swept from office — especially once investigations began into how Israel ignored evidence of the Oct 7 attack that killed 1,200 Israelis, and how slowly Israel's defence forces responded. Street protests against him have begun to gather momentum again, seven months after the attack. Netanyahu has made clear, both before and after the attacks, that he is against a two-state solution.

Tensions between Biden and Netanyahu have been obvious for months, as the Israeli PM has refused American calls for Israel to allow far larger amounts of aid to reach Palestinians, and to come up with a plan to evacuate displaced refugees from Rafah, the current centre of military action. But Biden was careful not to criticise Netanyahu other than to agree that he was clinging to office by prolonging the war.

Israeli govt spokesman David Mencer, asked about the interview, said it was "outside the diplomatic norms of every right-thinking country" for Biden to make such comments.

Meanwhile, the White House said Biden believes the ceasefire deal on the table is the best chance to get hostages out of Gaza and end hostilities. The US will continue to work with Netanyahu to try to get the proposal over finish line, spokesman John Kirby said. NYT & REUTERS



AFP

Aid dropped on Gaza's Khan Younis falls near tents sheltering Palestinians

Hamas says can't agree to any deal unless Israel commits to permanent ceasefire, full withdrawal

Hamas cannot agree to any deal unless Israel makes a "clear" commitment to a permanent ceasefire and a complete withdrawal from Gaza, a senior official from the Palestinian militant group said on Tuesday. "Israel only wants one phase where it takes all its hostages, then it resumes its aggression and war on our people," Osama Hamdan, a Hamas official, told a televised press conference. Qatar, which alongside the US and Egypt has been mediating talks between Hamas and Israel, has also urged Israel to provide a clear position that has the backing of its entire govt to reach a deal. REUTERS

'Israeli air strikes in Syria have killed Iran general'

General Saeed Abyar is believed to be the first Iranian killed by Israel since the nations nearly went to war in April

Israeli air strikes near Aleppo, Syria, in the early hours of Monday killed a general in Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps who had been deployed to the country as an adviser, according to Iranian media reports. The Iranian was identified as General Saeed Abyar by Tasnim News agency, a media outlet affiliated with the Revolutionary Guards.

He was believed to be the first Iranian killed by Israel since the two countries nearly went to war in April, after Israel bombed Iran's embassy compound in Damascus, killing several commanders. Iran retaliated, attacking Israel with a barrage of 300 drones and ballistic missiles, after which Israel attacked an Iranian military base with a missile. Since then, however, the two countries stepped back from direct confrontations, facing intense global pressure to not ignite a new, wider regional war. And Iran is now enmeshed in a domestic leadership crisis, making a new wave of attacks on Israel seem unlikely. Iran has been reeling from the sudden death of Prez Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash two weeks ago.

Abyar was a member of Iran's Quds Force, a branch of the Revolutionary Guards that operates largely in other nations. He had been in Syria since 2012, when he was deployed to help the govt in Damascus fight a civil war with opposition forces and IS terrorists. The Quds Force now uses Syria as a regional headquarters for coordinating and arming militia groups known as the "axis of resistance", including in Lebanon, Iraq and West Bank. NYT

India's neighbours Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan congratulate Modi

India's neighbours Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan on Tuesday congratulated PM Narendra Modi on the victory of the BJP-led NDA coalition in the general elections and expressed their desire to work closely with him.

As India's "closest neighbour", Sri Lanka Prez Ranil Wickremesinghe said the nation looks forward to further strengthen its partnership with India. "I extend my warmest felicitations to the BJP-led NDA on its victory demonstrating the confidence of the Indian people in the progress and prosperity under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi," he wrote on X.

Nepalese PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' also congratulated his Indian counterpart. "Congratulations to PM @narendramodi on the electoral success of BJP and NDA in Lok Sabha elections for the third consecutive term. We are happy to note the successful completion of the world's largest democratic exercise with enthusiastic participation of the people of India," he wrote on X.

Bhutan PM Tshering Tobgay posted on X that he looked forward to working closely with him to further strengthen ties between the two countries. "Congratulations to my friend PM @narendramodi ji and NDA for the historic 3rd consecutive win in the world's biggest elections."

Meanwhile, in his congratulatory post to Modi, Mauritius PM Pravind Jugnauth said India will continue to grow under his leadership. PTI

Muizzu voices desire to work with Modi

Maldives Prez Mohamed Muizzu on Tuesday congratulated Modi and voiced his desire to work with the Indian PM on bilateral ties. "Congratulations to Prime Minister @narendramodi... I look forward to working together to advance our shared interests in pursuit of shared prosperity and stability for our two countries," wrote Muizzu, whose statements and actions have hit bilateral relations since the pro-China politician assumed office in Nov last year. PTI

WH applauds India for completing polls

The US applauded India's govt on Tuesday for completing a massive election undertaking, White House national security spokesman John Kirby said. Kirby also praised the Indian people for voicing their desires and "participating in a very vibrant democratic process". He said the US looks forward to seeing the final results. REUTERS

Maldives, China discuss further bolstering defence relations

Male: Three months after inking the first bilateral defence agreement with the Maldives, China's ambassador Wang Lixin met the island nation's defence minister Ghassan Maumoon on Monday to discuss "the strengthening of military ties and the security and safety of the two countries", news portal Adhadhu.com reported. They held talks to strengthen military ties between the two countries and discussed the strengthening of military ties and the security and safety of the two countries, it said. The ministry of defence posted from its official X handle about the meeting.

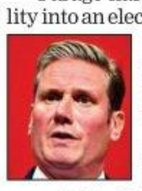
After Maldives and China signed a defence agreement on March 4, Prez Mohamed Muizzu, who is perceived to be pro-China, announced that Beijing would supply military equipment and train soldiers under the agreement but offered no details, the portal said. Two days later, Muizzu announced that the Maldives would get free "non-lethal" military equipment and training from China's military under the agreement and underlined that it would further strengthen island nation's independence and autonomy.

The March agreement was the first time the Maldives had signed a deal with China for military cooperation of this level. Previously, China had been exclusively known for its assistance towards the urban and economic development of the Maldives. PTI

Sunak & Starmer set for first debate face-off as disruptor Farage roils UK election waters

London: The two main contenders to be Britain's next prime minister were set to face off in a televised debate on Tuesday, with Conservative leader Rishi Sunak hoping to boost his party's dismal outlook and Labour's Keir Starmer aiming to cement his status as favourite.





The debate comes a day after populist Brexit-backer Nigel Farage dealt a blow to Sunak's hopes of winning the July 4 election by announcing he will run for parliament at the helm of the right-wing party Reform UK. The return of the populist politician, a key player in Britain's 2016 decision to leave the EU, is a major headache for Sunak's party, which already trails Labour in opinion polls. Farage and Reform look likely to siphon off votes of socially conservative older voters that the Tories have been targeting.

Farage has injected volatility into an election that will almost certainly result in either Starmer or Sunak becoming PM. The two will go head-to-head in a debate on ITV, with Sunak likely to stress his stewardship of the economy, which has seen inflation fall to just over 2% from a peak of over 11% in 2022. Starmer aims to persuade voters tired of Tories that Labour can be trusted with the UK's economy, borders and security. AP



AFP

FARAGE DOUSED WITH DRINK: A person threw a drink in the face of Nigel Farage, the newly appointed chief of Britain's right-wing populist party Reform UK during his campaign launch in Clacton-on-Sea, England, on Tuesday. He was unharmed. Police said they had arrested a 25-year-old woman on suspicion of assault. Farage on Monday said he would stand as a candidate for the Reform UK party in July 4 polls, dealing a blow to PM Rishi Sunak's Conservatives. Farage's popularity has put pressure on Conservatives to be tougher on immigration

Indian student missing in US located, is safe

Houston: A 23-year-old Indian student who went missing in the US state of California last week has been located and "is safe", police said on Tuesday.

Nitheesha Kandula, a California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) student, went missing on May 28 in Los Angeles. John Guttierez, chief of police, CSUSC, posted about her well-being on X without giving any more information. Police had sought the public's help to find Nitheesha, who is reportedly from Hyderabad.

Recently, the Indian community in the US has grappled with students going missing. Last month, Rupesh Chandra Chintakind, 26, was reported missing in Chicago. In April, 25-year-old Mohammad Abdul Arfath missing since March was found dead in Cleveland. PTI

Aus military to recruit non-citizens in a bid to boost troop numbers

Melbourne: The Australian military will begin recruiting some non-citizens in a bid to boost troop numbers, the govt said Tuesday. Only people from other members of the Five Eyes intelligence-sharing partnership who hold Australian permanent residency will be eligible.

The move is part of a push to build a military that can resist foreign coercion through blocked trade routes in the future, defence minister Richard Marles said. Marles, who is also deputy PM, said the change was a major step toward addressing a 4,400-person shortfall in the Australian Defence Force, whose target strength is 63,600 full-time personnel.

The govt intends to increase that number to 80,000 by 2040. Relatively low unemployment is one of the factors working against the Australian military attracting and retaining personnel.

Australia is particularly reliant on open sea and air routes as an island nation that trades with the world and is therefore suspectable to coercion from foreign militaries, Marles said. "We are not trying to make ourselves a peer of the US or of China," Marles told delegates at a security conference. "That's not a credible thing to propose." "In a far less certain world, do we have an ability to be able to resist coercion of any adversary and to make our way?" he added.

New Zealanders who have lived in Australia for at least a year will be eligible to join the military from July, and permanent residents from the US, Britain and Canada will be eligible from Jan 2025. REUTERS



New Zealanders who have lived in Australia for at least a year will be eligible to join the military from July, and permanent residents from the US, Britain and Canada will be eligible from Jan 2025

CONGRESSMAN'S 6-YEAR-OLD SON STEALS SHOW ON HOUSE FLOOR



AP

Republican representative John Rose was fired up when he used his 5 minutes on the House floor Monday to castigate the criminal conviction of ex-prez Trump. But the most memorable part of his earnest speech was not Rose's words. Rather, a sideshow was unfolding behind him in the chamber entirely without his knowledge, courtesy of his young son who was well within the frame of the cameras. First, Guy Rose, 6, looked directly into the cameras, smiling from ear to ear. As the speech rose in a crescendo, Guy amped up his facial high jinks: A roll of the eyes and the classic tongue-out expression. After a few minutes of funny faces & chaotic hand gestures, the Guy added a prop to his performance: A stress ball. Before long, Guy was a meme. A quick look at social media made the elder Rose realise that his son had stolen spotlight. 'This is what I get for telling my son Guy to smile at the camera for his little brother,' he wrote on X. AP & NYT

3 babies abandoned in London over 7 years are siblings, reveals court

London: A baby girl found earlier this year in a shopping bag in east London is the third child to have been abandoned by the same parents in similar circumstances over the last seven years, British police said on Tuesday. The baby girl, named Elsa, was discovered by a person walking their dog one night in Jan near a busy junction in the Newham district, police said. Subsequent DNA tests revealed that Elsa was the full sibling of two other babies who had also been abandoned in the same area.

Harry, the first baby, was found in a park in Newham in Sept 2017, and in Jan 2019 another baby, named Roman, was discovered by dog walkers at a children's play area.

Details of the case were made public on Tuesday after a judge at a family court in east London said the story was of public interest and gave the BBC and PA Media permission to report the sibling link of the three abandoned children. The BBC said the older children had since been adopted while Elsa was in foster care. The court was told she was doing well, acording to the BBC. Family Court documents stated Baby Elsa still had her umbilical cord, and doctors estimate she had been born only an hour before. Although she was extremely cold when found, Elsa was described as crying and responsive. The court has since heard that she is doing well.

"We understand the significant public interest that will come following the lifting of restrictions that allow this information to be reported," detective inspector Jamie Humm said in a statement. "It is significant news and our work has focused on trying to locate the mother and provide support to her." The BBC said the family court was told the children will all know they are siblings and there were plans for them to have some form of contact as they grew up. REUTERS

LEFT TO FATE

Jan 18, 2024 | Baby Elsa was less than an hour old when she was found by a dog walker in London's Newham district in sub-zero temperatures, wrapped in a towel inside a bag

Jan, 2019 | Baby Roman was found in a play area in Newham in freezing temperatures

Sept, 2017 | Baby Harry was found wrapped in a white blanket in Plaistow

Biden orders block on asylum seekers at Mexico border

Prez Biden issued an executive order Tuesday that prevents migrants from seeking asylum at the US-Mexico border when crossings surge, a dramatic election-year move. The order is the most restrictive border policy instituted by Biden, or any other modern Democrat, and echoes an effort in 2018 by Prez Trump. The restrictions kick in once the seven-day average for daily crossings hits 2,500. Daily totals already exceed that number, which means that Biden's executive order could go into effect right away. The border would reopen to asylum-seekers only when the number of crossings falls significantly. The figure would have to stay below a daily average of 1,500 for seven days in a row. The border would reopen to migrants two weeks after that. NYT

AROUND THE WORLD



AFP

NOT THE USUAL MOCK DRILL: The French army conducted an exercise at Tuesday dawn at Normandy's Omaha beach, with soldiers landing on the shore, reenacting D-Day to mark 80-year anniversary

French PM under fire for 'manterrupting' EU poll candidate

France's PM **Gabriel Attal** on Monday faced accusations of deliberately seeking to eclipse the head of the ruling party's list in European elections when he unexpectedly appeared on a stage where she was taking part in a radio debate. Attal strolled into Franceinfo's radio debate with lead candidates amid an exchange between the anchor and Valerie Hayer, the head of the ruling party's list for the June 9 polls. Hayer has largely failed to score with the public in the campaign for the election where the French far right appear set to score a victory in a major setback for the ruling Renaissance party of Prez Macron. "Hello, sorry I'm bursting onto the stage," Attal told the audience as Hayer looked on, saying it was important to him to "encourage Valerie". He then launched into a shortspeech on how many key issues like climate change "can only be tackled through Europe". Hard-left France Unbowed MP Raquel Garrido called the incident "mansplaining or, to be more precise, manterrupting".



Tokyo govt to launch dating app to boost its birth rate

Japan's capital will launch its own dating app as early as this summer as part of govt efforts to boost the plunging national birth rate, a Tokyo official said Tuesday. Users will be required to submit documentation proving they are single and sign a letter stating they are willing to get married. It's not unusual for municipalities to organise matchmaking events in Japan, where births dropped to a new low in 2023, but it is rare for a local govt to develop an app.

Accept Romanian blouse inspired designs: Govt to LV

Romania's minister of culture says she will ask French luxury fashion house Louis Vuitton to acknowledge that a traditional Romanian blouse directly inspired items in one of its 2024 collections. The blouse in question typically has intricate embroidery and tassels and is widely recognised as a symbol of the country's rich folk culture. Louis Vuitton did not comment.

Russia bots target Paris Olympics with deepfake Tom Cruise video

With its athletes barred from competing in the Summer Olympics under the country's flag, Russia has turned its fury on the Games and this year's host, Paris.

Russian propagandists have created an hour-long documentary, spoofed news reports and even mimicked French and US intelligence agencies to issue fake warnings urging people to avoid the Games, according to a report released on Sunday by Microsoft. The report details the disinformation campaign created by a group the company calls Storm-1679. The campaign appears to have accelerated since March, flooding social media with short videos raising alarms about possible terrorist attacks and stoking fears about safety. The operation, while aimed at the Games, is using various techniques to spread disinformation that could also be employed in European and US elections.

The work began in earnest last summer with the release of a fake documentary about the International Olympic Committee, expropriating Netflix's logo and using an artificial-intelligence-powered voice impersonating Tom Cruise. The committee succeeded in having the video titled "Olympics Has Fallen" — a spoof of the 2013 film "Olympus Has Fallen" — removed from YouTube. The attacks have continued, though, with persistent efforts to discredit its leadership, the committee said in March, citing a campaign that used fake recordings of what purported to be telephone calls by officials of the African Union on behalf of Russia.

Storm-1679 now appears to be making shorter videos that are easier to create. It used to focus on disparaging Ukrainian refugees in the West, but after French Prez Macron began to publicly consider sending French troops to Ukraine, it shifted to the Olympics. Microsoft estimates that Storm-1679 produces three to eight faked videos a week, in English and French, with many impersonating the BBC, Al Jazeera and other broadcasters. The group appears to respond quickly to news events, such as protests in New Caledonia, a French territory in the Pacific. Others focus on the prospect of a terror attack in Paris.

Most of the videos pretending to be from CIA and French intelligence are relatively simple. They are unlike anything CIA has actually produced, but to unsuspecting readers online, they could appear legitimate, using the agency's logo and stark white-on-black typography. "They are trying to cultivate an anticipation of violence," Clint Watts of Microsoft, said of the group Storm-1679. "They want people to be fearful of going to the Olympics." French officials and Microsoft say one of the group's tactics appears to be trying to get the attention of fact-checkers. "The content doesn't normally travel from one platform to another, but when their false content is fact-checked by accounts with a large following, the content gets far more views and in front of new and different audiences," Watts said NYT



Microsoft

MISSION DISINFORMATION: A visual from the fake documentary 'Olympics Has Fallen'. Using AI-powered voice and likeness of Cruise and slick graphics, the film with 'Netflix logo' disparages International Olympic Committee in an apparent bid to erode global public support of the Games

ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP

TIMES SPORT | THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024



"I HAVEN'T ALWAYS LOCKED INTO A CONSISTENT SPOT, SO I CAN JUMP IN AT MANY DIFFERENT ROLES. THAT'S WHERE I SEE MYSELF, PLUGGING HOLES IN THIS TEAM."
—Cameron Green | AUSTRALIA ALLROUNDER



AN AIR OF UNPREDICTABILITY

India Embark On Another Quest For The Elusive World T20 Trophy Against Minnows Ireland Today, But The Morning Start & A Dodgy Pitch Could Make It A Bit Of A Lottery

Dwaipayan.Datta@timesgroup.com

BCCI



NO WALK IN THE PARK: Mohammed Siraj bowls during training in New York on match eve

INDIA VS IRELAND PREVIEW

New York: A quaint, little community park tucked away in one corner of a posh Long Island locality isn't quite the venue that you associate with an Indian practice session, that too ahead of a World Cup opener.

But it's a changing cricket world and India are the brand ambassadors of a movement which aims to take the sport beyond the noise and bustle of South Asia. Close to Eisenhower Park, in a newly-built, born out of scratch Nassau County Ground, Rohit Sharma's boys start their journey in the T20 World Cup against a team that they are supposed to blow away in a jiffy.

Ireland, ideally, shouldn't pose a serious threat to the Indian juggernaut. But there's an air of unpredictability about the venue, and more importantly the pitch in play, ahead of the day-match, a rarity in T20s. All of India's games are at 10:30 am local-time starts, which allows the Indian audience back home to latch on to some 8 pm cricket entertainment at the end of day's work or the roller-coaster of Lok Sabha results.

But morning starts with white-ball has its pitfalls — the ball tends to do a lot more than normal. On Monday, Sri Lanka managed only 77 against South Africa on a drop-in pitch at the same venue and they made it extremely tough for the Proteas to go past that score. "Had we got 120, it could have been a different game," Sri Lankan captain Wanindu Hasaranga said, which may not be music to the ears of any team which will be playing here.

The worrying bit about the pitch is the up-and-down nature of it, which makes it incredibly difficult for stroke-play that we are used to on a daily basis. Ireland aren't full of stars who can scare India, but on a pitch where it can be a bit of a lottery, you can never be sure. From an Indian perspective, there is no scope of a let's-take-it-easy approach, because any adverse result can make it a do-or-die situation for them in the game against Pakistan, something that India would be desperate to avoid.

Interestingly, it was 17 years ago in an ODI World Cup in West Indies, where India's outgoing coach Rahul Dravid was the captain, India lost to Bangladesh in the opener and consequently crashed out before the Super-8 stage. The Indian batting legend surely wouldn't want a repeat of that trauma on his coaching farewell and that's why he insists on "adaptability" before the ball rolls.

"All venues will not be the same. It can always happen that we will have pitches where 140 will be enough. The challenge is to adapt and play accordingly," Dravid said on Monday ahead of a practice session.

Captain Rohit Sharma added to that on Tuesday when he said "it is about dealing with the unknown". "Everything is unknown, the venue, the pitch, the opposition. But we have the experience," Rohit said, his usual nonchalance written all over.

If all goes to plan, Virat Kohli and Rohit should open the batting, leaving the middle-order duties to Suryakumar Yadav, Shivam Dube, Rishabh Pant, Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Jadeja and Axar Patel.

The three allrounders Pandya, Jadeja and Axar should give the team the flexibility in the bowling line-up, whereby they can play six bowlers --- the other three being Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh and Kuldeep Yadav.

Left-arm pace Arshdeep bowled quite splendidly in the practice match that India played against Bangladesh on Saturday, where he moved the ball around in the first few overs, making life difficult for the Bangla batters. Mohammed Siraj, though, isn't far behind, especially with the pitch affording variable bounce, and it could be a coin-toss between the two.

"We have some plans but we're not divulging anything for now. It's the start of a journey and we don't want to look too far ahead," Rohit said.

We don't mind that one bit, as long as India are there in Barbados 25 days from now.

FACE-OFF

IRE vs IND

TV TIME: 8.00 PM
STAR SPORTS
HOTSTAR

HEAD TO HEAD

IND	IRE
7	0

LAST FIVE MATCHES

IND	W	W	W	W	L
IRE	W	W	W	L	L

VENUE: NEW YORK

ODDS

IND	IRE
2/10	10/1

7 India have won seven successive T20I games against Ireland between June 10, 2009 and Aug 20, 2023.

1 In the only T20 WC fixture between the two teams, India (113/2) defeated Ireland (112/8) by eight wickets in Nottingham on June 10, 2009.

4 Yuzvendra Chahal (96 wickets at 25.09 runs apiece in 80 T20Is) needs four more wickets to become the first bowler to complete 100 wickets for India in T20Is.

26 Runs needed by Rohit Sharma (3974 runs at an average of 31.79 in 151 matches) to become the third batter after Virat Kohli (4037) & Babar Azam (4023) to complete 4000-plus runs in T20Is.

37 Runs required by Rohit Sharma (963 at 34.39 in 39 matches) to become the third batter after Virat Kohli (1141) and Mahela Jayawardene (1016) to complete 1000-plus runs in the T20 World Cup.

GAVASKAR PICKS KOHLI TO OPEN, WANTS JAISWAL TO BAT AT NO. 3



GAVASKAR



VIRAT

New York: Batting legend Sunil Gavaskar feels Virat Kohli should open with skipper Rohit Sharma against Ireland on Wednesday, with Yashasvi Jaiswal dropping down to No. 3. There has been a lot of debate around Kohli's batting position in the T20 World Cup. "Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli to open the batting along with Yashasvi Jaiswal at three," Gavaskar said on Star Sports. "Suryakumar Yadav at four, Rishabh Pant at five. At number six , I'd have Hardik Pandya, number seven would be Ravindra Jadeja, number eight, not necessarily in that batting order, Shivam Dube. Number nine Kuldeep Yadav, number 10 Jasprit Bumrah and number 11 will be Siraj," Gavaskar said. PTI

'Tried to convince Dravid to stay on, but he has priorities'

Skipper Rohit Explains Why India's Head Coach Has Had 'A Lot Of Influence' On Him

Dwaipayan.Datta@timesgroup.com

New York: "When you don't have to wait for more than 10 minutes at the immigration counter in the United States, you know this is important." Rohit Sharma was being his usual cheeky self on the eve of the start of India's month-long T20 World Cup journey.

Half of it will be in the US and the skipper wants to leave behind "something memorable" for all those who are rooting for him. While Rohit doesn't want to overburden himself with expectations, there is an added element that is driving him, even though he doesn't want to put it out in as many words.

Coach Rahul Dravid announced on Monday that it would be his last assignment and you can see that Rohit didn't want it to happen that way. "I tried to convince him to stay on, but he has priorities. With Rahul *bhai*, my equation goes way deeper than a coach-captain relationship. We go a long way back, he was my first international captain and he has had a lot of influence on me," Rohit said, as the obvious question lingered: "Do you want to do it for him?"

Rohit probably got a little emotional, but he had to pull the curtains down on any possible overflow. "We don't want to look too far ahead, but I won't say anything more than that." Rohit kept it at that.

Before the ODI World Cup opener in Chennai last October, the captain had said that there was a sense of "unfinished business". After a magnificent run, it stayed unfinished and Rohit struggled for a very long time to come to terms with it after coming so close.

"I thought a lot about it, for a very long time. But then that's what it is," Rohit said, adding that he doesn't want to stress himself out with a must-win mind-set. "We will take it as it comes, for now it's tomorrow's game."

Ireland are an opposition that India aren't too familiar with. In fact, Rohit hinted that he doesn't want to dwell too much on the opposition either. "It doesn't matter what their areas of strength are. It is about what we do and how we play. If we can execute our plans, we should be fine."

'IPL scores won't be possible here'

But the one thing that Rohit wants to assure going into the opener is "proper communication" among the players. The conditions are difficult and Rohit makes it clear "that IPL like scores won't be possible here".

"During the game against Bangladesh, we wanted the batters to communicate and get the message back to the players to follow. There is a lot of experience in the dressing room and I hope that experience comes to the fore," Rohit said, adding that "getting the little details right" will make the difference.

Special 'bouncer training' for perfectionist Pant

Dwaipayan.Datta@timesgroup.com

New York: Rishabh Pant desperately wants to get it right. It's his comeback for India after a horrific accident and the effort that the Delhi boy put in on Tuesday at the nets was phenomenal.

The pitch here is playing unpredictable, the bounce being uneven, and the shot the wicket-keeper batter wanted to perfect, for more than an hour, was the hook. "Bouncer dalo, boss," he kept telling the throwdown expert if the latter missed his length by an inch.

There is a chance that Pant will be promoted to No. 3 to keep the left-right combo going, and the maverick just wants to leave no stone unturned. The ball whizzed past his face a few times on a practice pitch that was slightly unpredictable, to say the least.

Normally top batters don't want to risk themselves against pace so close to a World Cup opener. But Pant is different. "Get it right bhai, bouncer khelna hain mujhe (I have to play bouncers)," he kept demanding as the throwdown expert seemed to run a little out of breath. The ball did hit a couple of times, but it didn't matter.

Pant played spectacularly on Saturday against Bangladesh and if his work-out at the nets on Tuesday is anything to go by, we are in for a treat from the Delhi boy who never gives up.

Getty Images



HIGH STAKES: Rishabh Pant bats in the nets

Afghans off the mark with resounding win over Uganda

AP



FIVE-STAR EFFORT: Afghanistan's Fazalhaq Farooqi celebrates with a teammate after taking the wicket of Uganda's Ronak Patel in Guyana

AFGHANISTAN VS UGANDA

Providence (Guyana): Pacer Fazalhaq Farooqi produced a fiery spell after Rahmanullah Gurbaz and Ibrahim Zadran struck half centuries in a solid opening partnership as Afghanistan began their T20 World Cup campaign with a comprehensive 125-run victory over debutants Uganda here.

Kolkata Knight Riders opener Gurbaz (76 off 45 balls) and his partner Zadran (70 off 46 balls) registered the second-highest opening partnership (154) in the men's T20 World Cup as Afghanistan posted a challenging 183/5 after being asked to bat.

Left-arm pacer Farooqi (5/9) then knocked the wind out of the Ugandan batting lineup with his maiden five-wicket haul. The debutants were shot out for 58 in 16 overs.

"The kind of start we wanted as a team. Does not matter who we play, it is about the mindset," Rashid Khan said after the match. "The hard work we have done in the last few weeks, the way the openers started and the way our bowlers bowled, it was a great overall team effort," Rashid, who polished off the tail, added. "That is the beauty of this team. We have so many options and that makes it easy as a captain."

Seamer Farooqi was twice on the brink of claiming a hat-trick and was lethal with the new ball. After being hit for a four off his first delivery, he bowled a brilliant in-swinger which clipped Ronak Patel's bat before crashing onto the stumps. He then trapped Roger Mukasa leg before wicket with a similar delivery.

"I have missed it (getting the hat-trick) a few times (smiles). Something that is not under my control and if I get a chance again, I will try to get that hat-trick," Farooqi said. Naveen-ul-Haq also picked up two wickets in his first over, leaving Uganda in dire straits at 18/5.

Farooqi then returned in the 13th over to snare three more wickets to register his career-best figures in T20 Internationals.

Earlier, with the ball coming on to the bat nicely and a fast outfield, Afghanistan's openers started strong. Gurbaz assumed the role of the aggressor first as he smacked the second ball of the innings for a six. Zadran quickly followed suit, hitting four consecutive boundaries in the sixth over off Dinesh Nakrani.

By the end of the first Powerplay, Afghanistan were scoring at an impressive rate of 11 runs per over. Gurbaz, who four boundaries and as many sixes, raced to his fifty off just 28 balls in the ninth over. Uganda's poor fielding only added to their woes. PTI

Brief scores: Afghanistan 183/5 (Gurbaz 76, Ibrahim 70, Masaba 2-21, Kyewuta 2-25) beat Uganda 58 (Farooqi 5-9) by 125 runs.

5/9 Fazalhaq Farooqi has produced his career-best T20 performance. His previous best in T20Is was a 3/11 vs Sri Lanka in Dubai on Aug. 27, 2022. His performance is the best ever by an Afghan bowler in the T20 World.

125 Afghanistan's triumph is their second largest in terms of runs in the T20 World Cup, behind the 130-run victory vs Scotland in Sharjah on Oct 25, 2021.

2 Afghanistan are the second team after South Africa to record two wins by 100-plus runs in the T20 WC. SA defeated Scotland by 130 runs at the Oval on June 7, 2009 and by 104 runs vs Bangladesh in Sydney on Oct 27, 2022.

58 Uganda have recorded their lowest total in T20Is and the fourth lowest in T20 World Cup history.

—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

MY T20 FORM IS BEST IN A DECADE AFTER SUCCESS IN THE IPL, SAYS CUMMINS



PAT CUMMINS

Bridgetown (Barbados): Australia pace spearhead Pat Cummins feels his T20 game is at its "best in a decade" as he heads into the World Cup high on confidence after a successful IPL campaign.

"Probably as well as I have for the last 10 years really," Cummins told cricket.com.au of his T20 bowling. Having never played in he Caribbean, the Australian Test and ODI captain had his first-ever training session in the West Indies on Monday. But Cummins is confident of how he's placed ahead of the World Cup, having continuously played T20 cricket since March in the IPL. "We played 17 games straight at the IPL. For the most part, international T20s are after the Test series, and you've got to try and hit a yorker or a slower ball, and then go back to a Test series. So just getting the pace of the game and executing some of those balls that you need more in T20 cricket than in other formats, I feel really well placed."

Cummins feels that sticking to the same format significantly impacts the tactical side of bowling. "A lot of T20 bowling in particular is about thinking through your sequencing of which ball to bowl or when, and you get to learn pretty quickly what's working and what isn't." PTI

Schedule, travel too hectic for us while others rest: Sri Lanka



WANINDU HASARANGA

New York: Sri Lanka captain Wanindu Hasaranga and spinner Maheesh Theekshana have lambasted the scheduling of their team's matches in the ongoing T20 World Cup, saying the roster is "unfair" and has already forced them to cancel one practice due to the long travel time. Sri Lanka lost their group D opener to South Africa and Theekshana spoke out on the scheduling which he believes has negatively impacted the team.

"So unfair for us, we have to leave every day (after the match) because we are playing (at) four different venues," Theekshana said. "The flight we took from Florida, from Miami, we had to wait like eight hours in the airport to get the flight. We were supposed to leave at 8 pm but we got the flight at 5 am. It's unfair for us, but it doesn't matter when you play," he added.

South Africa, on the other hand, will be playing two more games here while India, who will start against Ireland on Wednesday, will also play three matches in the city before their last group match in Florida. "Even from the hotel, it (the practice venue) is one hour and 40 minutes. Even today (for the match against South Africa), we had to wake up around 5 am to come here," Theekshana said.

The island nation was forced to cancel a training session ahead of the South Africa match. Theekshana refused to take names but did mention that a few teams "have got the opportunity to stay in the same place but their hotel is only 14 minutes to the ground". I can't say the (names of the) teams that are playing in the same venue, so they know what the conditions are like. They're playing practice games at the same venue. No one will get that.

Skipper Hasaranga echoed the sentiment. "We had a tough time last few days. All four games in four venues. It's hard. We didn't know. This is our first game in New York. Next game in Dallas, next game is in Florida where we played two games, that's the only plus point we have," he said.

Sri Lanka manager Mahinda Halangoda has written to the ICC on the matter. PTI

Appointing Bravo as bowling coach a fantastic move: Afghan coach Trott

Providence (Guyana): Afghanistan chief coach Jonathan Trott on Tuesday said the decision to rope in Dwayne Bravo as the team's bowling coach for the T20 World Cup worked wonders as the West Indian's presence has made his job easier.

Speaking to the media after his side's first win, Trott credited the contribution of Bravo, who according to him, has brought about a change in the approach of Afghanistan's bowlers. "DJ (Dwayne Bravo) coming into the side, fantastic. Having quality coaches also with huge experience as players (is great), but also vast franchise experience in this format of the game," Trott said. "(It's) only a brilliant thing to have a player like him coming to the side as coach and it makes your job a lot easier, but it also makes the coaching more enhanced.

"We've seen the start of his first game with us and we saw the bowlers bowl really well, so credit to Dwayne. A nice start for the boys."

'Pretty special moment for us'

Meanwhile, Uganda captain Brian Masaba said he was more focused on the positives rather than the defeat. "It's a pretty special moment for us, hearing our national anthem and seeing our flag at the World Cup. First game, a lot of nerves, so it's good to get that out of the way. It's something I will cherish for the rest of my life. We will look to come out and play better next game," he said. PTI

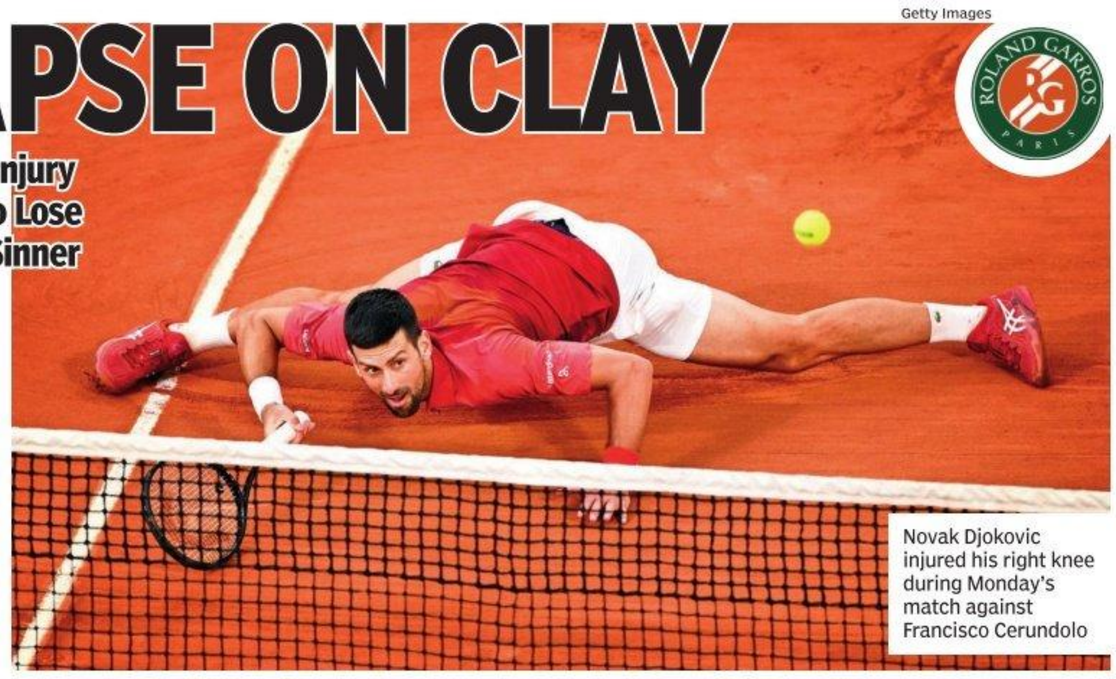
COLLAPSE ON CLAY

Struggling with A Knee Injury Djokovic Pulls Out, Set To Lose World No. 1 Ranking To Sinner



Prajwal.Hegde@timesgroup.com

Getty Images



Novak Djokovic injured his right knee during Monday's match against Francisco Cerundolo

Paris: Novak Djokovic, who slipped and stumbled times without number during his Roland Garros fourth-round match on Monday, has torn the medial meniscus on his right knee.

The tear, picked up by a MRI scan he had late on Tuesday afternoon, forced the top-seed and defending champion to withdraw from the French Open.

The 24-time major winner was to play the seventh-seeded Casper Ruud in the quarterfinals on Wednesday.

Djokovic was covered in clay, courtesy the many tumbles, en route to a record-breaking 370th Grand Slam victory 6-1, 5-7, 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 in the fourth round against Francisco Cerundolo late on Monday evening.

"In the third game of the second set, when I slipped, it affected the knee, I started feeling the pain," Djokovic said. "It disrupted my play. For the next two sets, I didn't want to stay in the rally too long. Every time he would make dropshots or changed directions, I was not comfortable (chasing)."

"At one point I didn't know whether I should continue," he said. "I got medication then, and after the third set, I asked for more medication. That (dose) kicked in after 30 to 45 minutes, which was just about the end of the fourth set. That's when things started to improve for me. I started to feel less limitations in my movement. "

Djokovic raised the slippery condition of the court several times with the chair umpire.

"I felt today that with the sun coming out after long days of rain, it affected the court, particularly the upper layers of the clay," Djokovic said. "I don't know what exactly they have done, it seemed like some of the clay was removed, so there was very little, almost no clay on the court today. Then when the sun is out it affects the clay in such a way that it becomes slippery."

Djokovic's exit in the quarterfinals of the clay court major, where he emerged victorious last year, means Jannik Sinner will be the new World No.1 when the rankings change on Monday.

Djokovic has been ranked No. 1 for a record total of 428 weeks, he has finished as the year-end No.1 a record eight times.

Rajawat stuns Prannoy; Lakshya in second round

Manne.Ratnakar
@timesgroup.com

Priyanshu Rajawat shocked HS Prannoy 21-17, 21-12 while Lakshya Sen, Treesa Jolly-Gayatri Gopichand and Sumeeth Reddy-Sikki Reddy advanced to the second round of the Indonesia Open BWF Super-1000 tournament in Jakarta on Tuesday.

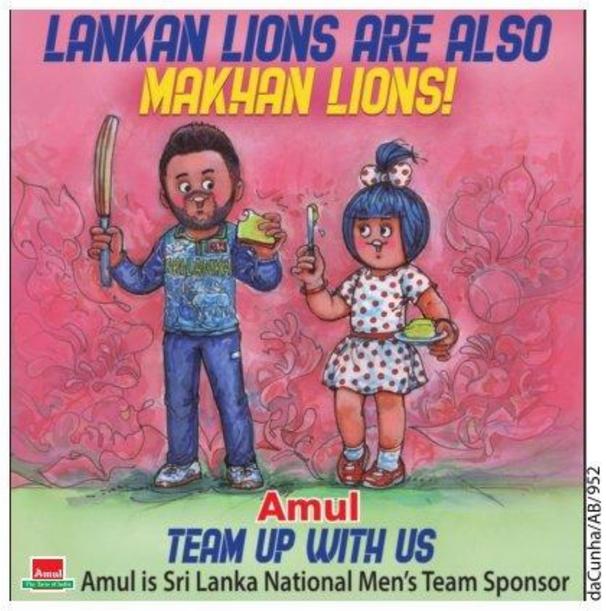
Kiran George squandered two match points (20-18) in the third game to lose to Weng Yang Hong of China 21-11, 10-21, 20-22.

Treesa-Gayatri made short work of Cheng Yu-Pei and Sun Yu Hsing of Chinese Taipei 21-15, 21-11 in women's doubles. They will face seventh seeds Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara. The Japanese enjoy a 1-0 win-loss record against the Indian girls.

Sumeeth-Sikki downed Vinson Chiu and Jennie Gai of USA 18-21, 21-16, 21-17 in the mixed doubles first round.

The shock of the day was Prannoy's defeat without a fight. Rajawat will face reigning world champion Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand in the second round.

Lakshya, who suffered first round losses in the last two tournaments, registered a fluent 21-12, 21-17 victory against Kanta Tsuneyama of Japan. In the second round he will face Kenta Nishimoto of Japan.



Arjun breaks into world top-5 in FIDE rating list

New Delhi: Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi's strong showing in the French Team Chess Championship has helped him reach the fifth spot in the FIDE standings, making him the highest ranked Indian by live rating.

Arjun, with a ELO rating of 2769.7, has so far added 8.7 points to his tally.

Esha finishes sixth: Young shooter Esha Singh finished sixth in the women's 25m pistol at the ongoing ISSF World Cup in Munich as India's search for their first medal continued. AGENCIES

Germany draw with Ukraine; England, Croatia ease to wins

Berlin: Host Germany and England kicked off the true buildup to the European Championship with their first warmup games, only after Real Madrid capped the club season by signing Kylian Mbappé.

About 90 minutes after France captain Mbappé finally confirmed he was joining the new Champions League winner, Germany put the national team action on midsummer's center stage in an enterprising 0-0 draw with Ukraine.

England got off to a slow start before a second half surge in a 3-0 win over Bosnia-Herzegovina, including a national record-extending 63rd goal for Harry Kane, who went on as a substitute. Croatia, another of the European powers, eased to a 3-0 win over North Macedonia.

All three Euro 2024 contenders were without their Madrid stars — Toni Kroos, Jude Bellingham and Luka Modric — who are resting this week after their title win on Saturday against Borussia Dortmund.

It was a night for untested lineups to search for some rhythm in their play and debuts given to several emerging talents ahead of rosters being finalized on Friday. AP

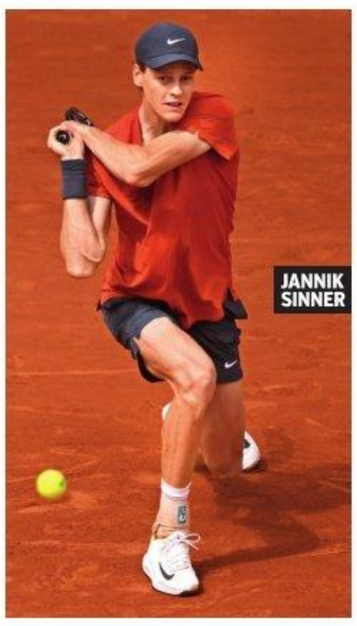
Stimac likely to pick Edmund as first from I-League for national duty

Marcus.Mergulhao
@timesgroup.com

Panaji: Edmund Lalrindika has sufficiently impressed national team coach Igor Stimac for him to count upon the forward for India's crucial FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifiers against Kuwait and Qatar.

Edmund is among the four players summoned from the I-League, India's second-tier club competition, for the national camp. But while Lalrinzuala (Aizawl FC) did not join due to injury and Muhammad Hammad (Real Kashmir) was released after the first leg, Edmund (Inter Kashi) and David Lalhlansanga (Mohammedan Sporting) are in the fray for a national team debut.

Should Stimac hand him the opportunity, he will become the first player from the I-League to play for the national team in the last five years.



RESULTS

Quarterfinals: Men: Jannik Sinner (2), Italy, def. Grigor Dimitrov (10), Bulgaria, 6-2, 6-4, 7-6 (3).
Women: Coco Gauff (3), USA, bt Ons Jabeur (8), Tunisia, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3; Iga Swiatek (1), Poland, def. Marketa Vondrousova (5), Czechia, 6-0, 6-2.

It's smooth sailing for Sinner

Prajwal.Hegde@timesgroup.com

Paris: Jannik Sinner's tennis is controlled, rapid-fire shotmaking. Cold and absolute. The 22-year-old's crown is a riotous, unruly mess, everything he steers clear of on the court.

Each time Sinner, the Roland Garros No.2 seed, stepped up to the microphone for the on-court interview, he quickly pushed his hair under his cap, restraining every strand, attempting order on mayhem.

After extending his perfect run in majors this season with a 6-2, 6-4, 7-6 (3) quarterfinal win over Grigor Dimitrov on Tuesday, Sinner wore a flushed expression. He had just ripped 29 winners in the 2-hour 29-minute contest to make his first French Open semifinals, but there was more.

A little before Sinner took the Court Philippe Chatrier for the last-eight clash, Novak Djokovic had withdrawn from the clay court major which would result in Sinner becoming the new world No.1 when the rankings change on Monday. Sinner, who'll be the first Italian and the 29th player to climb the top spot, had no idea about the happenings around him. His team had ensured that.

> **I came here with some doubts, physical doubts. My body seems stronger and stronger day by day, which for me was the main goal coming here."**
> **—Jannik Sinner**

The 22-year-old, whose face briefly reflected the emotion when he was told about the No.1 ranking on the court, regained his calm by the time he walked into the pressroom an hour later. "It's not the way we were expecting it, he had two very long matches, tough matches, five sets, so it's tough. It's tough also for the tournament. Novak retiring, it's always tough," Sinner said. "Talking about myself, I'm very happy about this achievement. It's a lot of work we put in daily. It's a daily routine. Obviously happy to have this number."

Sinner, who will take on the winner of the Carlos Alcaraz-Stefanos Tsitsipas clash on Friday, has his eyes set on the play.

"In two days, there is a very important match for me, the semifinals, I'm focused on that at the moment. But, yes, of course, very happy to have this number now," Sinner said. "It's a great achievement, but I want to measure myself on this surface, on the clay. It's a surface where I struggle a lot sometimes, especially the beginning. We have seen this in the last years."

Sinner, who arrived in Paris battling for fitness following a hip injury, said, "I came here with some doubts, physical doubts. My body seems stronger and stronger day by day, which for me was the main goal coming here. I'm happy that I have a chance to play here in a very important match for myself in the semis."

Gauff, Swiatek set up semis clash

Earlier World No.1 Iga Swiatek displayed sizzling form as she rolled past the reigning Wimbledon champion Marketa Vondrousova 6-0, 6-2 in the women's quarterfinals.

The Pole will take a 19-match winning streak at Roland Garros into the semifinals against American Coco Gauff as she looks to advance to the final for the fourth time in six appearances in Paris.

Gauff, 20, the No.3 seed, came from a set down to reach her second career Roland Garros semifinal, defeating the No.8 seed Ons Jabeur 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 in 1 hour and 57 minutes.

TIMES NATION

After four terms as MP's CM, Shivraj now books LS seat

Bhopal: Having served 16.5 years as Madhya Pradesh CM, Shivraj Singh Chouhan is back where he started — as Lok Sabha MP from Vidisha, reports **Suchandana Gupta**.

After yet another thumping victory on the seat he has won five times earlier, what does the future hold for BJP's longest serving CM? What plan does the party brass have for 'Mama', as Chouhan is popularly known in the state?

In the 2023 assembly elections, when BJP won 163 seats in an emphatic victory, there was intense speculation over whether Chouhan will get a fifth term as CM. No one had campaigned harder.

However, it was Mohan Yadav, a minister in the Chouhan cabinet for three years, who was propelled to the top job, and the four-term CM was reduced to being an MLA. As Yadav was sworn in, Chouhan called a press meet and said, "I want to say humbly that I'd rather die than go (to New Delhi) and ask for something for myself." Chouhan's success as CM was largely on account of his flagship schemes.

New realities may make Modi tweak game but not faze him

▶Continued from P 1

The new realities of coalition politics will mark a sharp change from the first two terms, when BJP's own numbers cushioned it from pulls and pressures from NDA partners.

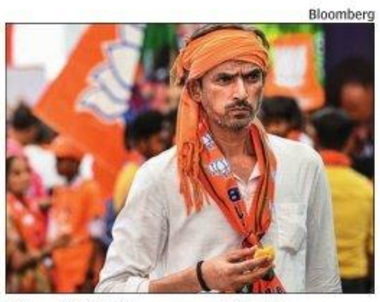
In any case, the party will be faced with a 'difficult' Lok Sabha because of the jump in opposition's numbers and the new-found bounce in their step.

In their post-verdict comments, Rahul Gandhi and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge loudly proclaimed their intent by claiming that PM Narendra Modi had suffered a moral defeat and needed to quit. Akhilesh, who played the caste card with precision, Mamata, Uddhav and Pawar will be more than ready to supplement Congress' aggression.

The changed complexion of the Lok Sabha, the return of coalition govt in the real sense of the term, and the revival of caste factor in Uttar Pradesh and pockets of Rajasthan and Haryana mark the return of politics that was the norm until Modi's two consecutive landslides.

All these may be constraints for Modi, requiring him to calibrate his game, but may not necessarily faze him. In his address to party workers, he reiterated that his new term will be one of "historic decisions".

Bloomberg



The shrinking gap with the opposition in a contest largely perceived to be stacked in the incumbent's favour was largely because of the performance of the SP-Congress combine in UP

"This is Modi's guarantee," he stressed while signaling the likelihood of steps particularly aimed at women, the poor, Dalits and tribals.

His statement that the year marks the 350th anniversary of the coronation of Chhatrapati Shivaji also struck many as significant.

The shrinking gap with the opposition in a contest largely perceived to be stacked in the incumbent's favour was largely because of the performance of SP-Congress combine in Uttar Pradesh. The two partners managed to expand their support beyond the 'MY' constituency to build a larger coalition that also included a significant number of non-Yadav backwards. They also managed to lure in large sections of Dalits, feeling disappointed with Mayawati, by successfully painting BJP's 400+ target as an anti-quota plot.

As a result, election in vast swathes of the state, which accounts for 80 Lok Sabha seats got localised with caste prevailing over BJP's larger themes of nationalism, Hindutva and development.

But the result also brought out Modi's resilience. BJP swept diverse geographies — from MP and Delhi to Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh — and posted impressive victories in Chhattisgarh, Assam and Jharkhand.

The Modi factor's pull was also manifest in the breakthrough in Kerala with BJP candidate Suresh Gopi recording the party's first-ever LS victory in the state, which has all along seen bipolar contests between Congress and Left. Despite the loss of seats, BJP retained its dominance in Rajasthan and, along with JD(U), in Bihar.

But the results underscore the strongest challenge that Modi has had to face since he moved to the Centre in 2014. The opposition's resolve to reduce him to a 'normal' PM and his response should make for an intense duel. Society, economy and polity will all feel the impact.

Scindia reclaims Guna after 5 yrs, posts 5.4L win

Bhopal: Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has reclaimed Guna, the family seat, with an emphatic victory over Congress's Yadvendra Singh Yadav by over 5.4 lakh votes, reports **Ashutosh Shukla**.

Scindia had lost the seat to a former aide, KP Yadav, in 2019. It was a defeat that would change the course of his political career. He switched from Congress to BJP, toppling the Kamal Nath-led Congress govt, was elected to Rajya Sabha, and appointed aviation and steel minister. But the loss in Guna shadowed him until Tuesday's thumping victory.

"My heartfelt gratitude to my family members of Guna Lok Sabha constituency. I dedicate this historic victory to you. It was with your support that I resolved to contest the election from Guna," he tweeted. Scindia led a blistering campaign, not only in Guna but elsewhere. He urged voters to elect a 'triple engine sarkar' — PM Modi at the Centre, CM Mohan Yadav in Madhya Pradesh and himself in Guna.

Will use 3rd term to root out corruption in all forms: PM

▶Continued from P 1

Digital India and technology have given wings to containing corruption, but this fight is becoming difficult. Glorifying the corrupt with extreme shamelessness is giving strength to them. However, the third term of NDA will be utilised to eradicate corruption in all forms, Modi said, an assertion which appeared significant in view of opposition's aggressive denunciation of alleged misuse of central probe agencies.

The trademark assertiveness extended to his digs at Congress and the praise of EC for "showing the mirror" to those who doubted the integrity of polls. Modi said Lok Sabha polls were a victory of democracy and a reflection of people's unflinching faith in the country's Constitution and gave a boost to the pledge to make India a developed nation.

Piyal Bhattacharjee



PM Narendra Modi, Rajnath Singh and party president J P Nadda at BJP headquarters after LS election result in New Delhi on Tuesday

Hailing the EC, its officials and security personnel, the PM said 140 Indians should be proud of the credibility of the country's election process. "I exhort people of the country, influencers, opinion makers that they should make the whole world aware of the country's electoral process, as it has given a new identity to the country," he said, an apparent response to opposition parties' continuous attack on the poll panel.

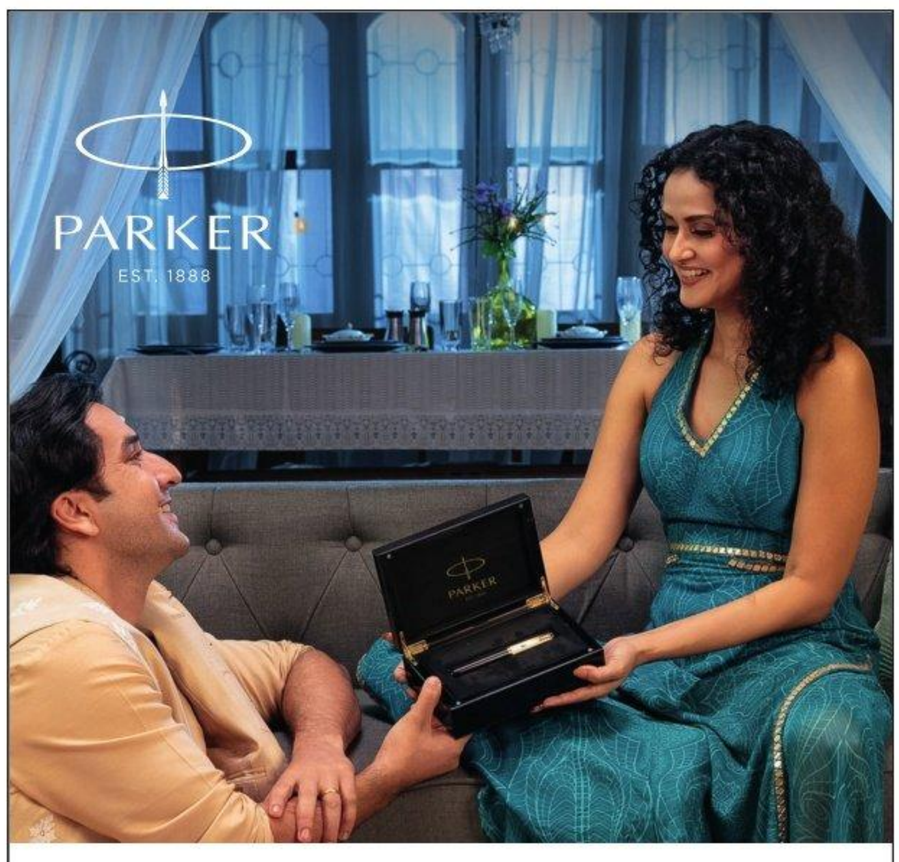
The PM said NDA's win was the victory of the world's largest democracy, of unwavering loyalty to the Constitution, of the pledge of a developed India, of the mantra of 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas', of 140 crore Indians.

Taking a swipe at opposition amid their celebrations over NDA's reduced victory margin, Modi said, "Our opponents together could not win as many seats as BJP alone has won."

Stating that it was an emotional moment, Modi said, "This is my first election after my mother passed away but millions of mothers, sisters and daughters of the country never let me feel the absence of my mother."

The PM said 10 years ago, the country gave a mandate for change as that was the time when the country had sunk to the depths of despair. "We were blessed with terms like 'fragile five', newspaper headlines were filled with scandals every day, and the country's young generation became apprehensive about their future. Then the country entrusted us with the task of extracting pearls of hope from the deep ocean of despair. We all tried and worked with full sincerity. In 2019, expressing faith in this effort, the country again gave a massive mandate. After this, the second term of NDA became a guarantee of development and legacy," he said.

Modi further said, "In 2024, with this guarantee, we went to every corner of the country to seek people's blessings. Today, I bow down with humility to the blessings that NDA has received for the third time."



Parker. Unwrap Happiness.

Gift a Parker today

brought in India / Nepal by Luxor

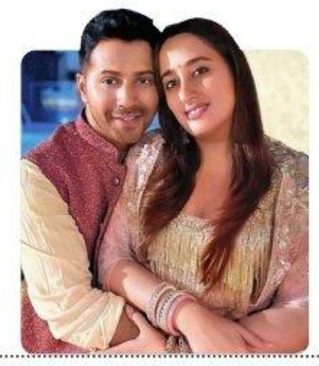
Luxor Writing Instruments Private Limited CORPORATE OFFICE: A40, Hosiery Complex, Phase II Extension, Noida - 201305, District Gautam Budh Nagar (U.P.), Ph : 0120-4899100, Email: customercare@luxoroffice.com
For Corporate Enquiry : Contact : Ph. No. 9810326200, Email ID : b2bsales@luxoroffice.com
Follow us on: /parkerpensindia /parkerpenindia Available at: All Leading Stationery & Gift Outlets.
Buy online @ www.luxor.in

World Environment Day

Delhi Times

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024
ADVERTORIAL, ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

OF INDIA



VARIETY
VARUN-NATASHA WELCOME FIRST CHILD
P2

Any feedback related to stories in Delhi Times?
Mail us @delhi.times@timesgroup.com

HOW THE Abhinetas FARED THIS TIME

NETAJI KA MIC

Names from showbiz who were part of the electoral fray this time had a mixed outing

DREAM GIRL'S DREAM RUN

BJP MATHURA

HEMA MALINI

The veteran actress is the pefect example of how to leverage one's on-screen aura for a dream run in electoral politics. The parliamentarian got third-time lucky as she continued to strike a chord with her voters in Mathura.



Status at 6:00 PM

Leading against Mukesh Dhangar by 2,72,599

Past electoral record

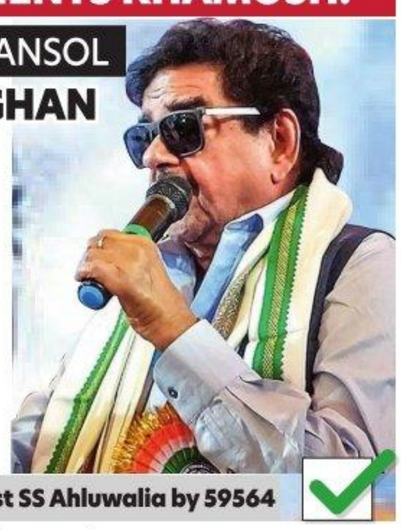
Hema Malini tasted electoral politics in 1999, when she campaigned for colleague Vinod Khanna in Punjab. In 2004, she joined the BJP as a Rajya Sabha candidate. In 2014, she defeated the Mathura incumbent, Jayant Chaudhary (RLD) and won again in 2019, making this her Lok Sabha hat-trick.

OPPONENTS KHAMOSH!

TMC ASANSOL

SHATRUGHAN SINHA

Sinha, an old war-horse, still knows a thing or two about playing to the gallery. On a TMC ticket in Asansol, Sinha campaigned hard and brought in his A-game to the mix.



Status at 6:00 PM

Leading against SS Ahluwalia by 59564

Past electoral record

Sinha switched camps from BJP (2006) to INC (2019) to finally finding a slot Didi's team and has been impactful in his newest role. Interestingly, Sinha and Rajesh Khanna had allegedly had a fallout when the former contested in the New Delhi by-elections in 1992 which Khanna eventually won. In 2009 Sinha had defeated his colleague Shekhar Suman (INC), but joined the INC after BJP denied him a ticket.

FROM REEL TO REAL

BJP MEERUT

ARUN GOVIL

Govil channelled his reel charisma during the campaign, hoping to make solid gains on the ground. It seems the charm did not quite wear off on a generation that's moved on from the DD days.



Status at 6:00 PM

Leading against Sunita Verma by 10,873

The electoral entry

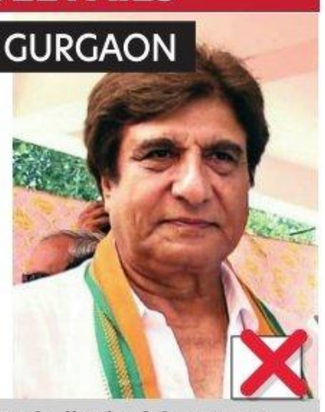
The goodwill that Arun Govil had gathered during his stint as Ram in the '80s *Ramayana* came in handy when he was selected to represent the BJP in the Meerut hotseat. Govil replaced sitting MP Rajendra Agarwal, who had won three consecutive terms.

SEQUEL FAILS

CONGRESS GURGAON

RAJ BABBAR

An NSD alumni who created a niche for himself in Bollywood with his style of method acting, Raj Babbar has also stayed true to his political niche. The Congress loyalist had a tough fight in the Gurgaon constituency.



Status at 6:00 PM

Trailing against Rao Inderjit Singh by 70,512

Past electoral record

Raj Babbar became a political face during the late 80s. He continued till 2004 as an SP MP till he was ousted from the party. Joined INC in 2008 and defeated SP's Dimple Yadav to earn his fourth term in the RS. Since then, it has been a patchy ride for the actor, with two losses. (2014, 2019).

TRP DROP?

BJP AMETHI

SMRITI IRANI

Irani's meteoric political rise on the back of her tremendous TV popularity and ability to dominate every debate and narrative is well documented. Despite her vociferous pitch and sustained campaigning, the BJP leader's show may not get renewed for the next LS season after all.



Status at 6:00 PM

Trailing against Kishori Lal by 1,64,331

Past electoral record

Irani, who joined BJP in 2003, entered Parliament as a RS member. She earned the moniker of a giant killer when she defeated Rahul Gandhi in Amethi in 2019. Before that Irani had to fight her way through two losses: against INC's Kapil Sibal in 2004 and Rahul Gandhi in 2014.

QUEEN'S ROYAL DEBUT

BJP MANDI

KANGANA RANAUT

The actor has always identified herself as a proud daughter of the soil, who was given a BJP ticket from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh. The showbiz experience helped in her well-attended roadshows where she urged people to consider her as their "sister, daughter."



Won against Vikramaditya Singh by 74,755

The electoral entry

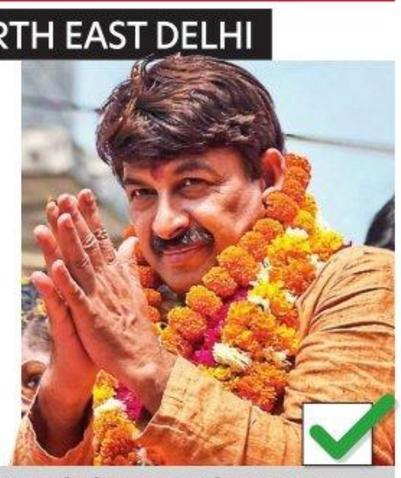
As someone with strong world views and vocal political positions, it was a natural progression for Kangana to earn her political stripes some day. On her very first brush with electoral politics, Kangana has done good the faith placed in her by the party.

SEASON 3 STARTS

BJP NORTH EAST DELHI

MANOJ TIWARI

For someone who was once defeated by BJP's Yogi Adityanath, to emerging as their best bet in a keenly-contested elections, Manoj Tiwari has scripted a blockbuster for himself.



Status at 6:00 PM

Leading against Kanhaiya Kumar by 1,24,838

Past electoral record

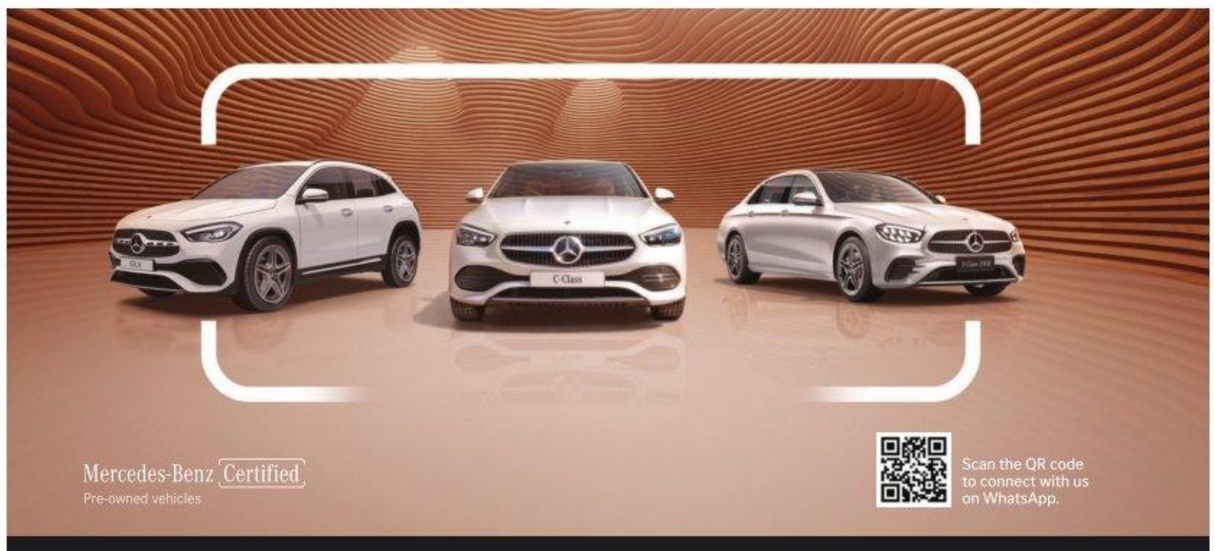
Manoj Tiwari has been a heavy hitter, taking on the likes of Yogi Adityanath in 2009 (when he lost as an SP candidate) and defeating AAP's Anand Kumar in 2014 after joining the BJP. In 2019 delivered his biggest blockbuster by defeating INC's Sheila Dikshit by a margin of 3.63 lakh votes.

CONTINUED ON 4









Experience the state-of-the-art new service facility in Gurugram

Discover the future of Mercedes-Benz service at T&T Motors' upgraded MAR2OX facility in Gurugram. This state-of-the-art centre manages all your automotive needs with utmost expertise - be it for periodic servicing or specialized repairs.

Enjoy peace of mind knowing your vehicle is in the hands of certified professionals using the latest tools and technology.

To book an appointment, please call us on +91 93555 70808

Mercedes-Benz

T&T MOTORS

Gurugram Service Centre:
Village Begumpur Khatola, Sector - 35, Gurugram - 122001
Our Network: Delhi-NCR | Rajasthan | Odisha

Certified luxury. Unparalleled benefits.

Car Model	Colour	Mfg. Year	Mileage	Registration
AMG GLE 53 Coupé	Obsidian Black	2022	3419	Unregistered
C200	Selenite Grey	2023	2780	Unregistered
C200	High-tech Silver	2023	2440	Unregistered
EQE500 4MATIC	Diamond White	2023	7280	Unregistered
EQS580 4MATIC	Obsidian Black	2023	3378	Unregistered
GLB200	Denim Blue	2022	2455	Unregistered
GLB200	Cosmos Black	2023	2203	Unregistered
GLC300 4MATIC	Polar White	2023	2583	Unregistered
GLC300 4MATIC	Polar White	2023	2422	Unregistered
GLC300 4MATIC	Polar White	2023	3914	Unregistered
GLC300 4MATIC	Selenite Grey	2023	2300	Unregistered
C200	Mojave Silver	2021	12655	Registered

Hassle-free Documentation | Verified Vehicle Service History
Trade-in & Finance Options*.

Call T&T Motors at +91 9654252588

Mercedes-Benz

T&T MOTORS

South Delhi | West Delhi | Gurugram | Timings: 9.30 am - 6:30 pm
URL: www.tandtmotors.mercedes-benz.co.in

Wasn't taken seriously at the Grammys before Flowers wins: Miley



Miley Cyrus

Miley Cyrus opened up about her experiences with the Grammys, noting that her victories for the hit single *Flowers* in February marked the "first time actually being taken seriously" at the awards. In a recent interview to a magazine, Miley discussed winning her first Grammys – for Record of the Year and Best Pop Solo performance – after more than twenty years in the music industry.

"No shade, but I've been doing this for 20 years, and this is my first time actually being taken seriously at the Grammys?" she told the magazine.

Throughout her career, Miley has released eight studio albums, the latest being 2023's *Endless Summer Vacation*. This album received nominations for Album of the Year and Best Pop Vocal Album, while its lead single *Flowers* was also nominated for Song of the Year. Agencies

I've had a hard time figuring out what the measurement is there, because if we want to talk stats and numbers, then where the fk was I? And if you want to talk, like, impact on culture, then where the f**k was I? This is not about arrogance. I am proud of myself**

Announcing Special Offer @ All Tuition Centers !

MATHS TUITION
Available at
JANAK PURI

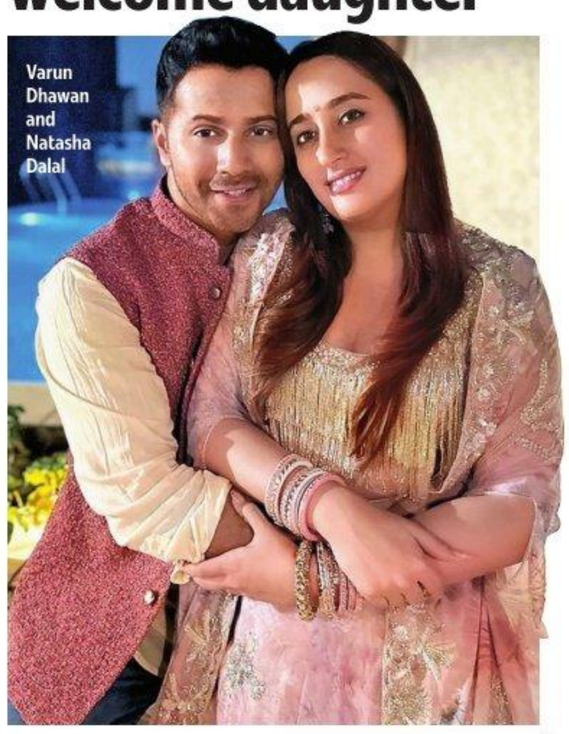
AGGARWAL MATHS
Academy provides Tuition of these subjects - Maths, Economics, Accountancy. Call: 9999xxxxxx
AD SAMPLE

XXXXXX TUITION
Classes-SAKET. Maths Tuition Teacher Online & Offline Classes for Class 11 & 12. Call: 9999xxxxxx
AD SAMPLE

Advertise in your Zone at very reasonable cost!

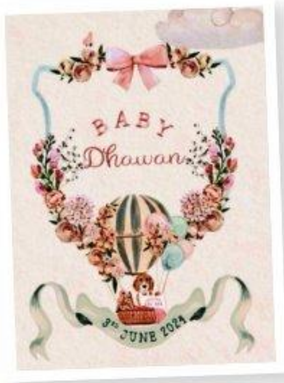
For details contact: **Amit @ 9811790649**
or Email : amit.ghosh@timesgroup.com
TIMES interact

Baby Dhawan's here! Varun and Natasha welcome daughter


Varun Dhawan and Natasha Dalal

Varun Dhawan and **Natasha Dalal** became parents to a baby girl on Monday. Announcing the birth of their little one on Tuesday morning, Varun shared a cute video on Instagram.

The adorable clip featured an illustration of Varun's pet dog Joey who was seen holding a placard that read 'Welcome Lil sis' (sic). The video post also read, "Baby Dhawan, Proud parents Natasha and Varun, Proud Family – 'Dalals and Dhawans'." In the caption, Varun wrote, "Our baby girl is here. Thank you for all the good wishes for the mama and the baby (*sic*)."



Fans and celebs congratulated the couple on social media. "The best news! Congratulations to you both (*sic*)," Samantha Ruth Prabhu commented. "Congratulations...wohoo (*sic*)," Priyanka Chopra wrote. Arjun Kapoor also took to his Instagram stories to congratulate the couple. Agencies

POV

Have you passed the chopsticks test?

Perhaps you know this already, but your dexterity with a pair of chopsticks says a lot about how well you know your nigiri from your oshi, your temari from your temaki. And if you are planning to google these different dishes, chances are you are yet to belong to that social set of well-informed and well-travelled foodies, who use chopsticks the way most of us would wield a *chammach*. Without a second thought.

In a video posted by Farah Khan, she pranks her co-host Bharti Singh by taking her out to a fancy restaurant where they serve her a 24-carat gold-foil sushi. Bharti picks up a piece with her fingers and pops it into her mouth. A 'horrified' Farah quips: "*Pehli baar kisiko dekha golgappe ki style mein sushi khate huey*." While this was probably said in jest, Bharti could be all of us who still struggle to get it right when it comes to getting a grip on the slender sticks.



The surging popularity of modern Asian and Japanese food has posed a serious challenge to most first-generation adopters of global cuisine. No matter how many influencers and celebrities make it seem super easy to wield the chopsticks, it takes practice. And ambition. You have to be really determined to train yourself in the high art of wielding them. Not just to fit in, but as a mark of respect – to the food and the culture. As any millennial or Gen Z-er will tell you, using a knife and fork to have your bulgogi or bimbimbap or udon is as sacrilegious as using cutlery to have your *naan* and *dal makhni*.

The legendary Anthony Bourdain was once asked if he would ever decline a dinner invitation from anyone. While Bourdain said he could break bread with anyone who was nice to him, even if they were the KGB, he had his reservations about a certain former POTUS. Bourdain was doubtful if this controversial Republican knew "how to use the chopsticks... let alone grasp them." On the other hand, he was impressed with Barack Obama, who was "very, very proficient with the chopsticks."

Perhaps foreshadowing the chopsticks test that the modern world would face one day, Confucius had (allegedly) said: "Knives are for warriors, chopsticks are for scholars." Some food for thought?

Agree? Disagree? Got a POV idea? **Write to us at:** pov@timesgroup.com

LEISURE

EVENTS

SCREENING
Alliance Française de:
Multiple screening of French sound documentaries.
June 7, 6.30pm, Alliance Française de Delhi

EXHIBITION
India Habitat Centre:
Bloom In Grace - An exhibition of paintings by Puja Kumar. Today. Convention Centre Foyer, IHC

Email us at tims.delhitimes@timesgroup.com

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Medium

6					4			
			7			1		
9		3	1				4	
1	7			2			8	
	3						5	
	8			7			9	3
	6				2	5		9
		1			3			
			6					4

HOW TO PLAY

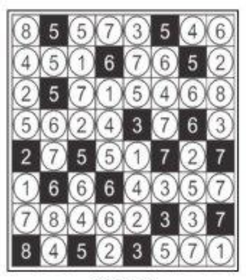
Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

TIMES HITORI

HOW TO PLAY

1. A number may appear just once in each row or column. Eliminate repeat numbers by darkening cells. (see example)
2. Darkened cells must never be adjacent in a row or column.
3. Unmarked cells must create a single continuous area, undivided by darkened cells.
4. Every time you darken a cell, you can automatically circle its vertical and horizontal neighbours, which means they cannot be eliminated.
5. Any cell "sandwiched" between neighbours of the same value can be circled. (e.g. 6 [4] 6)
6. A "triple" is a special case of sandwich. Circle the centre cells, and darken the ends. (e.g. [6] [6] [6])

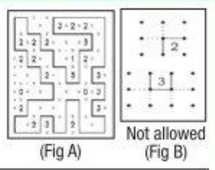
6	1	1	4	4	3	5	7
6	3	1	5	4	3	8	7
5	5	5	2	9	4	7	1
1	9	7	3	1	8	1	6
6	6	1	7	3	5	1	2
2	4	8	1	4	7	5	9
7	2	7	9	6	1	4	3
7	7	5	8	7	9	7	4


Example

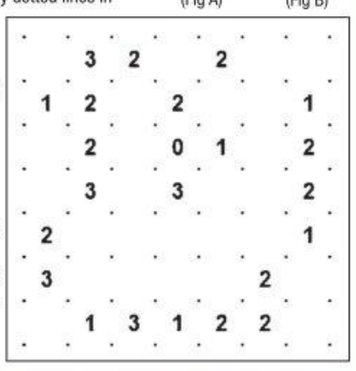
LOOP THE LOOP

RULES

- Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A).
- Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B).
- Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines.
- You can't draw lines around zeroes.
- Each puzzle has just one unique solution.


(Fig A)

Not allowed (Fig B)

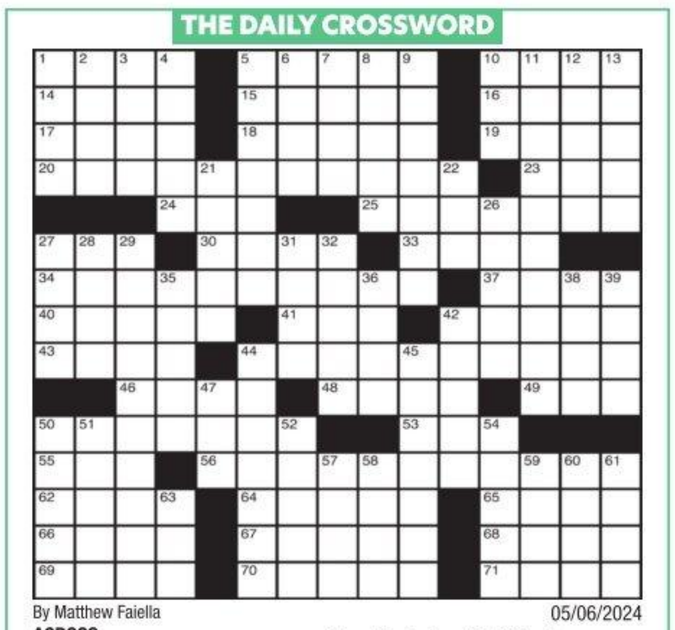


HOW TO BEGIN:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a deadend **(Fig B)**.

THE DAILY CROSSWORD



By Matthew Faiella 05/06/2024

ACROSS
1 Sudden impulse
5 Patatas bravas, croquetas, etc.
10 "SOS" quartet
14 Pre-migraine phenomenon for some
15 Make up (for)
16 Round vegetables
17 Smelting waste
18 Sulks
19 Quick kiss
20 Exercise done by making a grilled cheese sandwich?
23 Sea urchin delicacy
24 Microsoft's Satya Nadella, e.g.: Abbr.
25 April birthstone
27 Letters before xis
30 Royal flush cards
33 Intl. oil cartel
34 Exercise done by lounging on the couch and bingeing a new show?
37 "While we're on the subject ... "
40 Pair on a tandem bike
41 __ Lingus
42 How onion rings are fried
43 Milhouse's pal
44 Exercise done by hitting the snooze button and staying in bed?
46 Native American tent
48 Horseback game
49 Some boxing match finales
50 Greek currency used in "Percy Jackson" novels
53 Short reply?
55 Unagi, in sushi
56 Exercise done by lying around doing nothing all day?
62 Emulates
64 Like early PC graphics
65 Desire
66 Secure skates, say
67 Subside
68 Bit of inspiration
69 Lil' one
70 Bender of "Futurama," for one
71 Nightfall

DOWN
1 Winged stinger
2 Dance taught at some Oahu hotels
3 Country whose emblem resembles a tulip
4 Orlando team
5 Bubble tea pearls
6 At the peak of
7 Rain heavily
8 Chipped in?
9 Word with jam or cram
10 Tablet download
11 Time to grab a brewski
12 Club ingredient
13 Sought, as a price
21 Gets closer to
22 Tree goo
26 No-good jerkface
27 Fed. crash investigator
28 Eye layer
29 Know-it-all
31 Footnote abbr.
32 Source of wool
35 Room with a slanted ceiling, often
36 Cookie with a Blackpink collaboration
38 Grain tower
39 Spanish cheers
42 Tappable images
44 Like wining and dining?
45 Backyard swings, slide, and sandbox, e.g.
47 Research grant?
50 Handed out
51 Terminate a debt
52 Mexican marinade made with chili peppers
54 Calamari
57 Boring
58 Mother of Artemis
59 Pakistani language
60 Range listed on video games
61 Tropical tree
63 "Happy now?"

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

C	U	R	E		M	E	S	S	Y		D	E	M	O
A	S	I	F		F	A	T	H	A		A	L	A	S
M	E	D	I	T	A	T	E	O	N		N	E	S	T
A	D	D	L	E		M	A	K	E	O	V	E	R	
R	O	L	E	X	E	S		L	E	X		A	R	I
O	N	E			R	I	N	S	E	S		T	A	C
			A	M	A	N	A			T	E	E	T	H
	M	O	D	U	S	O	P	E	R	A	N	D	I	
C	O	N	A	N			E	W	E	R	S			
R	N	C		I	R	I	S	E	S			P	D	F
A	G	O		C	O	N		S	T	O	P	H	E	R
M	O	U	T	H	O	F	F			A	I	O	L	I
S	O	R	E		M	E	A	S	U	R	E	O	U	T
I	S	S	A		B	A	R	O	N		C	E	D	E
N	E	E	R		A	R	E	S	O		E	Y	E	S

©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 04/06/2024

SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters in the four word jumbles, one letter to each square/circle, to make four ordinary words

WROTE
AOISS
AEIDNT
EENSHM

One writes to make a home for oneself, on paper, in time and in ___ ___. - Alfred Kazin (6,5)

HOW TO PLAY

Now arrange the letters in the circles to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing word as indicated





FINOLEX FORTUNE



finolexpipes.com | 1800 200 3466
For appointments : **ANUPAM V KAPIL**
9822042295 or **anupamvkapil@gmail.com**

See what the stars have in store for you - according to your moon sign.

ARIES: You are in no mood for contradiction or reproach. You are not feeling completely fulfilled. You are aware of the unimportance of certain people that happen to work with you. Don't keep your thoughts and feelings to yourself.

TAURUS: Careless words can easily be blown out of proportion. Your attitude can only make matters worse. Lower your expectations and things will seem easier. Set the tone in your personal life, everything seems more difficult and complicated than usual.

GEMINI: You are looking for work. You want to spare your relationship, learn to be more tactful. Your heart races at the smallest smile and you have difficulty keeping a hold of yourself. You must be willing to clarify your position.

CANCER: You may see very clearly those areas of your life where you have sabotaged yourself, and this is your chance to do something about this and begin the process of healing. You had previously assumed love wasn't for you, today's events could well force you to reconsider.

LEO: Your energies conspire to disrupt your self-assurance. You aren't doing anyone any favours by working too hard. Consider all your options. Think and then decide what you want to do.

VIRGO: There may not be a lot you can do, except compromise. Others are as responsible for tasks as you are. A chance to increase your income, perhaps through a temporary enterprise of some sort could come your way today.

LIBRA: You feel you don't have the freedom to express yourself fully and you are not being given the attention you deserve. There is a calm and harmonious day ahead for your personal life. Your emotional status will be very good. You will be as good as being reborn.

SCORPIO: You feel as though there is something getting in your way. It would be a great shame to let it go unnoticed. This is a necessary step before you can make a move towards reconciliation. You have a chance to visit or take a little business trip; go ahead.

SAGITTARIUS: Nothing seems to be going right anymore. Work will mean slogging a lot harder for a while, but the money will open up a few doors for you that you hadn't counted on. Don't expect to be too busy.

CAPRICORN: Why are you worrying what other people might say about what you are doing? Since when have their opinions meant so much to you? Keep moving in the direction that seems right to you and ignore those who pull disapproving faces. You have what it takes to work out a strategy that will give you more freedom.

AQUARIUS: Your partner may find it hard to put up with some of your more manipulative techniques. You are optimistic and enthusiastic as far as love is concerned. Work today and you will bear fruits some time later. Withdraw rather than fight a duel. Things are looking up for you.

PISCES: Just relax, and allow your opponents to be themselves. A new encounter knocks you off your feet. You just might decide to go for it. Your mind is especially sharp today.

SPELLATHON

Today's Ratings:
03-average | 04-good | 05-outstanding



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown in today's puzzle? In making a word, a letter can be used as many times as it appears in the puzzle. Each word must contain the central letter. There should be at least one seven letter word. Plurals, foreign words and proper names are not allowed. British English Dictionary is used as reference.

DENNIS THE MENACE



SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES

TIMES SUDOKU

2	5	8	6	9	7	3	1	4
7	9	1	5	4	3	6	2	8
3	6	4	8	1	2	5	7	9
5	8	6	9	4	7	1	2	3
4	3	2	9	6	8	7	5	1
1	7	9	3	2	5	4	8	6
9	2	3	1	5	6	8	4	7
8	4	5	7	3	9	1	6	2
6	1	7	2	8	4	9	3	5

LOOP THE LOOP



TIMES HITORI

4		6	9		7	5	8	
7	2		9	6	1	4		3
2	4	8	1		7		9	
	6		7	3	5	1	2	
1	9	7	3		8		6	
	5		2	9	4	7	1	
6	3	1	5	4		8		
	1		4		3	5	7	

SPELLATHON

clot, COLLECT, colt, tell, toll

SCRAMBLE

Answer: One writes to make a home for oneself, on paper, in time and in others', minds. - Alfred Kazin

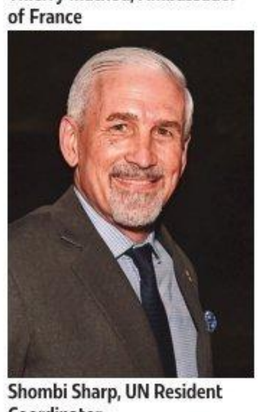
Words: Tower, oasis, detain, enmesh

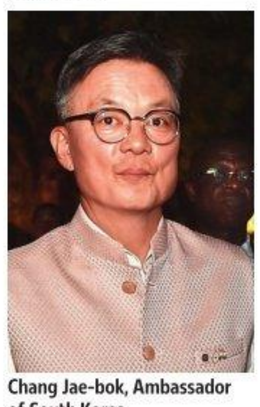
Vol. 24 No. 156
RNI Registration No. DELENG/2001/5765.
Published for the proprietors, Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd. by Rajeev Yadav at Times House, 7, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi – 110 002 and printed by him at Times of India Press, 13 & 15/1, Site IV Industrial Area, Sahibabad (U.P.) and Bennett Coleman & Co. Ltd. Plot No. 7-8, Sector M-11, Transport Hub, Industrial Model Township, Manesar, Haryana-122051.
Regd. Office: Dr Dadabhai Naoroji Road, Mumbai – 400 001.
Editor (Delhi Market): Anshul Chaturvedi, responsible for selection of news under PRB Act.
© All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission of the publisher is prohibited. Circulated with The Times of India in Delhi & adjoining areas.

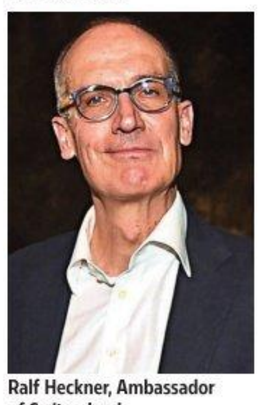
Heat, dance and a farewell at the Italian Day celebration in Delhi

Pics: Ranjit Kumar


Thierry Mathou, Ambassador of France


Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator


Chang Jae-bok, Ambassador of South Korea


Ralf Heckner, Ambassador of Switzerland

Riya Sharma

Dancing with a marching band, relishing Italian delights, and emotional goodbyes marked the Italian National Day in the capital on Monday. The Ambassador of Italy Vincenzo de Luca, who hosted the National Day, also bid farewell to friends, colleagues, and counterparts before leaving for Italy later this month.

'WILL TAKE THE LOVE OF INDIAN PEOPLE WITH ME'

The event began with musicians from the Neemrana Music Foundation singing the national anthems of the two countries, followed by a speech by the Italian ambassador. "It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to the celebration of the Italian National Day. The second of June marks the date when the people of Italy chose to live under the Republic and end the dramatic conflict that caused enormous losses. June 2, 1946 was a day of joy, of hope, of reconciliation.

My term in India is almost complete and I will be leaving the country before the end of the month. I cannot but feel grateful for the exciting trips, it was not always an easy ride with COVID, lockdowns, but it was always challenging and eye-opening and most importantly, it was lovely. Above all, I take with me the love of Indian people, their friendship, their affection which has supported and inspired me during my tenure," he said.

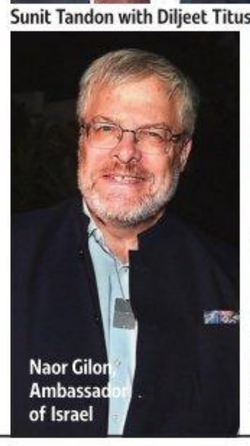

"Vincenzo de Luca has been a fantastic representative of Italy... He is the closest friend that India could ever have," said Jan Thesleff, Ambassador of Sweden

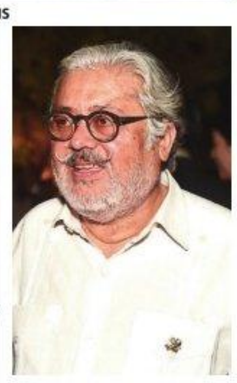

Meenakshi Lekhi with Vincenzo de Luca, Ambassador of Italy

"Friendships are there to last, and the ambassador's time here when he arrived during COVID wasn't an easy one. But he has been a great support. He has worked to bring the two countries together
– Meenakshi Lekhi, who was invited as the chief guest


As the formal program concluded, Vagaband, a marching jazz band, welcomed the guests to dance with them


Sunit Tandon with Diljeet Titus


Naor Gilon, Ambassador of Israel


Chetan Seth


Shivani Wazir Pasrich

Beating the heat

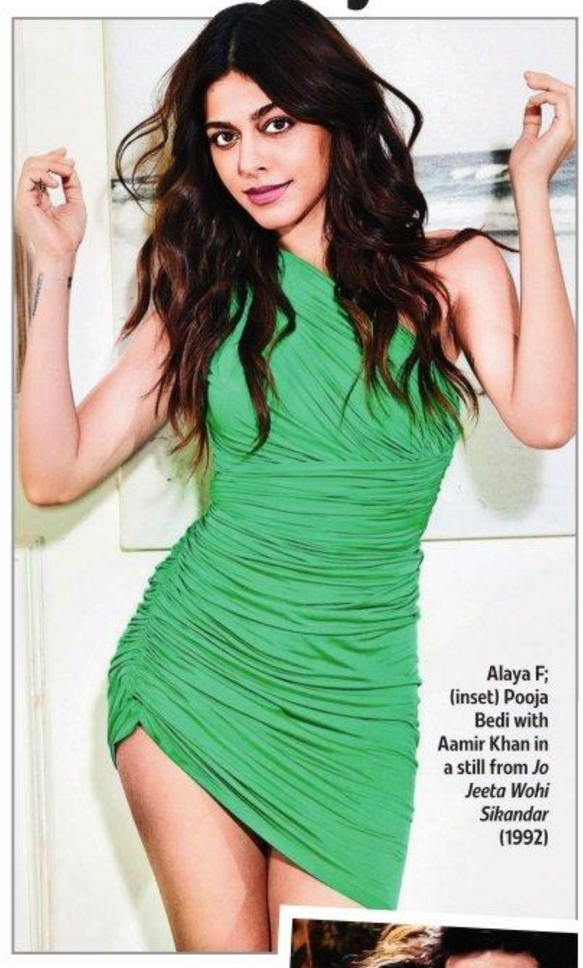
The scorching heat was inevitable, but it didn't deter the spirits of the guests. Hand fans and tissue papers became added accessories. Shivani Wazir Pasrich, who was dressed right for the occasion, said, "We could see all of them melting on stage but they managed it with amazing music." Jan Thesleff, Ambassador of Sweden, added, "I have forgotten about the heat though I would like to take my tie off but it is a fantastic atmosphere with the best music and entertainment."

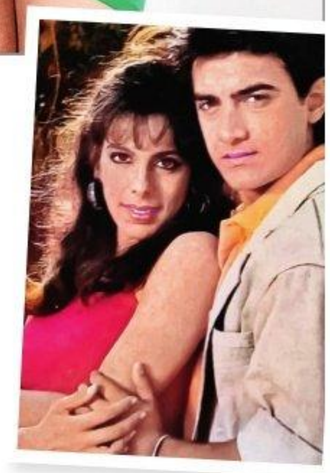



>> Meenakshi Lekhi



Mom allowed us to watch only Jo Jeeta: Alaya F


Alaya F; (inset) Pooja Bedi with Aamir Khan in a still from *Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar* (1992)

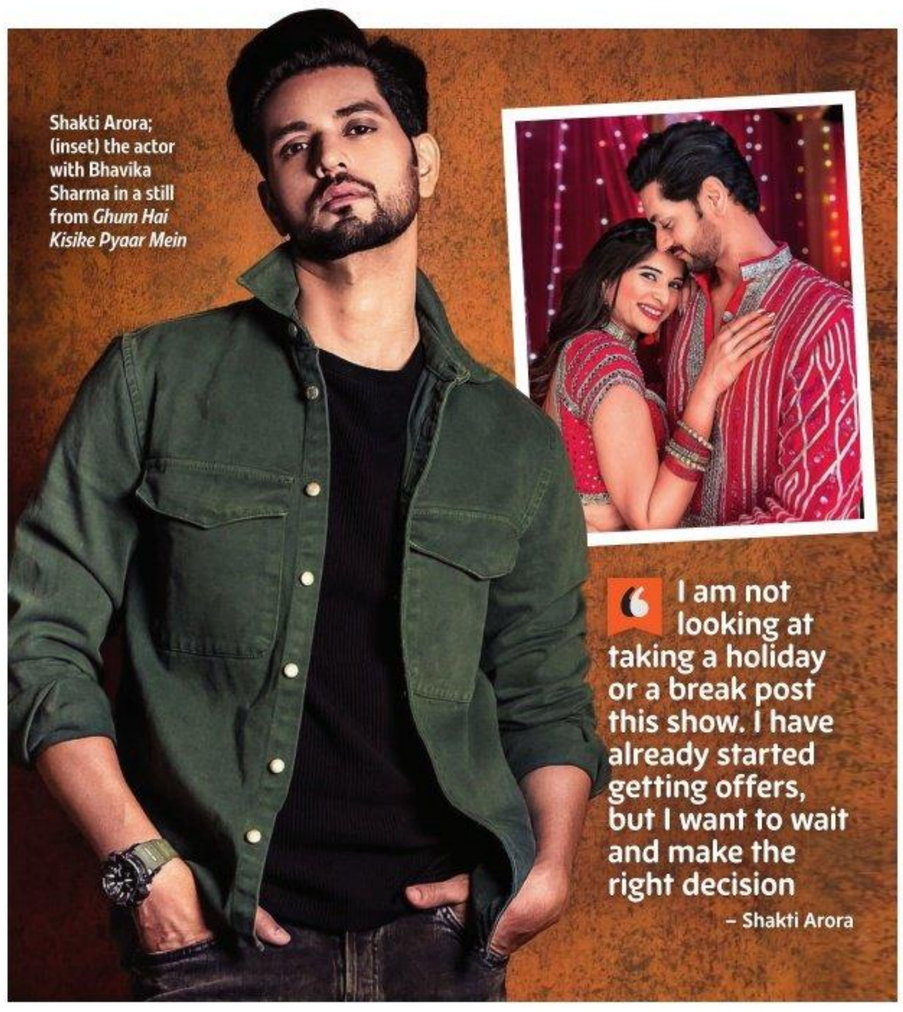


Alaya F's mom, Pooja Bedi, has been a part of films like *Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar* (1992), *Lootere* and *Phir Teri Kahani Yaad Aayee* (1993), but while growing up the actress was allowed to see just one of them. Alaya shares, "My mother allowed me to see only one movie that she has been a part of – *Jo Jeeta Wohi Sikandar*. She didn't let me see the rest because she was so embarrassed by what she had done in them (laughs). Once, on her birthday, I found some footage of one of her other films, and she was so embarrassed that we all were laughing."

Alaya, who debuted with *Jawaani Jaaneman* (2020) and has been seen in movies like *Srikanth*, *Bade Miyan Chote Miyan* and *Freddy*, shares that her mom loves watching her on the screen. She says, "Mom loves all my work so far. The moment she sees me on screen, she bursts out crying. When I am about to come on the screen, I start looking at her because I know how much she tries to hold or control her emotions."

— Onkar Kulkarni

Initially, the leap & my exit from Ghum Hai came as a shock: Shakti


Shakti Arora; (inset) the actor with Bhavika Sharma in a still from *Ghum Hai Kisike Pyaar Mein*

"I am not looking at taking a holiday or a break post this show. I have already started getting offers, but I want to wait and make the right decision
– Shakti Arora

Shakti Arora, who is currently playing the lead in *Ghum Hai Kisike Pyaar Mein*, will bid adieu to the show soon. *Ghum Hai...* is taking a leap and the makers have decided to introduce a new lead actor.

Expressing disappointment, Shakti, who entered the show a year ago. said, "It is sad. Initially, when I was told that the show is headed for a leap, I was shocked because it had been doing well in terms of ratings. A leap is generally planned when a show is not doing well. But I slowly came to terms with it and accepted it is as a part of the business. Also, our season lasted for a year which is good. What I am actually disappointed with is that the love angle between Savi (Bhavika Sharma) and my character Ishaan was not explored. In the first season, the love angle between actors Neil Bhatt and Ayesha Singh was portrayed well, so I don't understand why that was not done in our season. But, all's well now and I am happy to move on and focus on future projects."

Commenting on the sudden time leaps and changes in storylines in TV shows, Shakti said, "People want to see romance, separation drama, basically *masala*, and that's how the makers get good viewership. So, if you don't give the audience fights and tragedy, a show's popularity could dip. Also, I don't feel anybody is to be blamed when it comes to sudden leaps or exits in a show."

Shakti is hoping to take up something interesting soon. "I want to focus on a meaty role, good script and if there are good offers in OTT, that too."

— Tanvi Trivedi

If you don't know the right people, you are a nobody here, says Harsh Chhaya


Harsh Chhaya; (inset) the actor in a still from *Undekhi*

Tanvi Trivedi

His career spans three decades, and he's an actor who has been appreciated for his performances. But Harsh Chhaya is also known to call a spade a spade. In a recent social media post, he wrote about favouritism and unprofessionalism in showbiz. When we spoke to him about this, he elaborated further on the highs and lows of showbiz and why in recent times, he hasn't been seen much on the screen. Excerpts from the conversation:

While you are currently doing OTT shows, you seem to have kept away from television and films for a while now. Why?

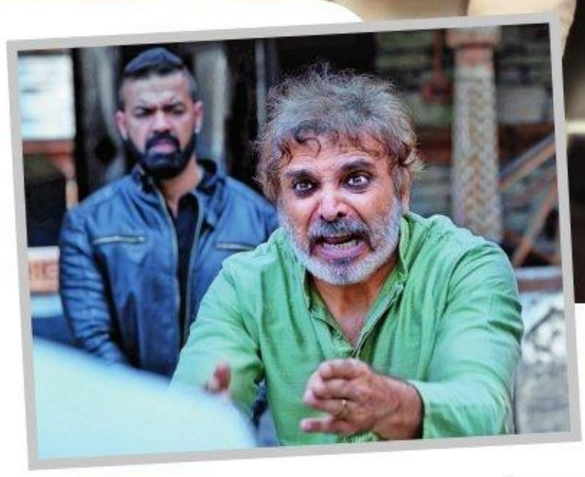
I will credit my entire career to the kind of roles I was offered in television a decade ago. But, in the past few years, I haven't enjoyed doing TV or films. I say films because normally one believes that after playing smaller parts, you will eventually bag bigger roles. But that has not happened. I continue to get offers for four scenes in insignificant roles. Similarly, in television, earlier there were good stories, and every character was well written, but today, there is a hero, heroine and the rest are standing in the background.

You recently put out a post on social media where you said that even after doing two good web shows (*Undekhi*, *Mukhbir*) you weren't offered good roles. What do you think went wrong?

My performances in web shows *Undekhi* and *Mukhbir* got good feedback and yet, I am sitting at home. So, one wonders what went wrong. Being a character actor is not easy in showbiz. In addition, I am not happy with how the entire casting system behaves with actors who are not film stars or new actors, but somewhere in the between. If you haven't done films with stars, then you are perceived as someone who doesn't hold much weight. I have no problem in auditioning, I had auditioned for my part in *Fashion* too, but why audition for a role which will last for two days? So, I have kept myself busy with voice overs and enough roles to run my kitchen in the last few years.

Do you think the shooting experience has changed a lot, in terms of the process and professionalism?

Earlier, the entire film unit would stay together. Today, it is divided according to the number of days you shoot. If you don't belong to a particular group or don't know the right kind of people, then you are a nobody here. Only a few directors like Madhur Bhandarkar or Subhash Kapoor are professional about this. And if you refuse a role, they tend to spread the word that you are not an easy guy to work with.



"I will credit my entire career to the kind of roles I was offered in television a decade ago. But, in the last few years, I haven't enjoyed doing TV

"There were attempts made to get me out of *Jolly LLB* by bad mouthing me. But director Subhash Kapoor continued working with me

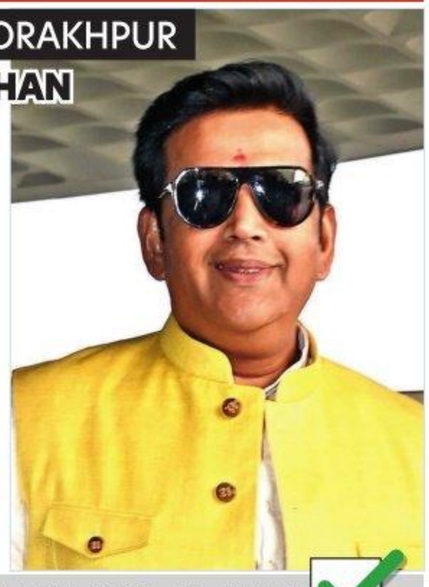


CELEB CANDIDATES HAVE A MIXED DAY

THE BHOJPURI EXPRESS

BJP GORAKHPUR

RAVI KISHAN



The popular actor who's been getting a whole lotta love for his performance in *Lapataa Ladies*, is getting as much love for his voters as well in Gorakhpur. That too for the second time.

Status at 4:00 PM

Leading against Kajal Nishad by 78,302

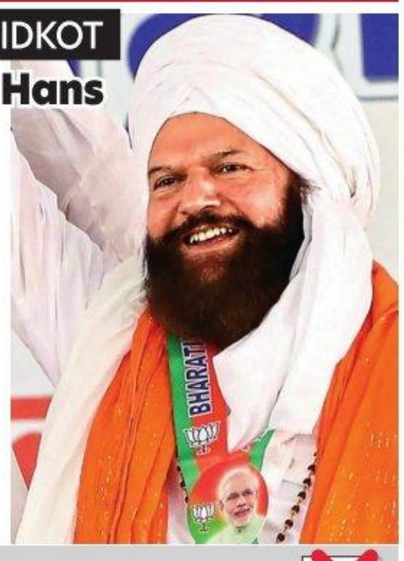
Past electoral record

Lost from Jaunpur on congress ticket (2014), joined BJP in 2017 Ravi Kishan been on a winning streak ever since.

HITTING A BUM NOTE?

BJP FARIDKOT

Hans Raj Hans



It is not always a smooth ride for musicians who get into the heat and dust of Indian politics. But sufi-folk singer Hans Raj Hans, with his robust fan following and on-stage charisma had proved to be an exception. Until now.

Status at 4:00 PM

Trailing against Sarabjeet Singh Khalsa by 1,72,685

Past electoral record

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, Hans Raj Hans was elected as the Member of Parliament from this North West Delhi seat.

POWER STAR'S POWER PLAY

JSP PITHAPURAM (AP ASSEMBLY)

PAWAN KALYAN



Following a successful stint in cinema, Telugu actor Pawan Kalyan, known as the Power Star, began his political career in 2008 with Yuvarajyam, the youth wing of Praja Rajyam Party, founded by his brother Chiranjeevi.

Status at 4:00 PM

Leading by 67,843 against Vanga Geetha Viswanth

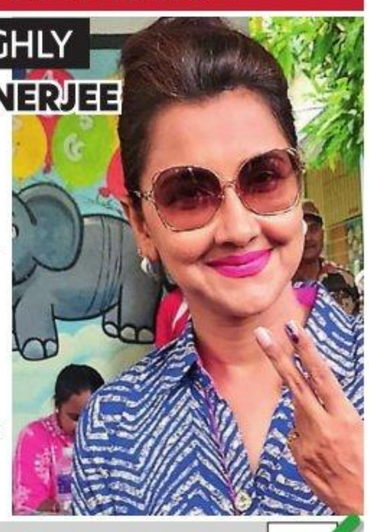
Past electoral record

Though he campaigned, Pawan Kalyan did not contest in 2009 elections. On March 14, 2014, he founded the Jana Sena Party, advocating social justice and reform. Jana Sena contested in 140 constituencies in 2019.

THIS 'DIDI' IS NO 1

TMC HOOGHLY

RACHNA BANERJEE



It was a masterstroke when Didi (Mamata Banerjee) roped in Rachna, the popular host of *Didi No 1* show, as a candidate. Pitted against her former colleague and friend BJP heavyweight Locket Chatterjee, Rachana's every move and word was scrutinised, meme-fied and analysed.

Status at 4:00 PM

Leading against Locket Chatterjee by 29,889

The electoral entry

Despite her many detractors, who had much to say about her naivete and lack of understanding of political issues, Rachana is poised to prove once again that popular abhinetas can make for winning netas as well.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

TMC GHATAL

DEV



Darling of the masses, with a commendable grip on the box-office even during its bleakest phases, Dev nearly quit politics before Didi (Mamata Banerjee) pulled him back. Pitted against his former colleague Hiranmoy Chatterjee, Dev has been a visible and hard working campaigner poised for a hattrick.

Status at 4:00 PM

Leading against Hiranmoy Chattopadhyaya by 1,29,037

Past electoral record

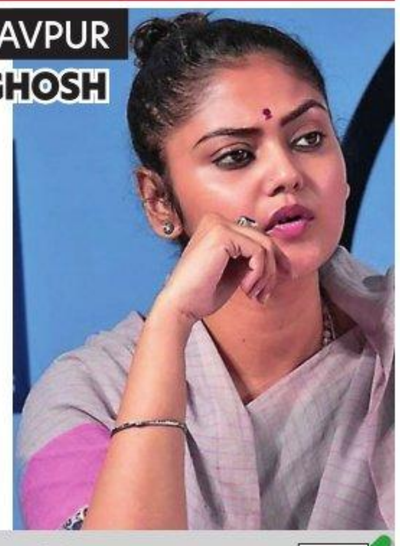
Won the 2014 Lok Sabha Elections as TMC candidate. Re-elected in 2019.



QUEEN OF ACES

TMC JADAVPUR

SAAYONI GHOSH



The film and television actress has been known for her firebrand persona and ability to connect with youngsters at the grass-roots level. No wonder wonder TMC trusted her with the hotseat of Jadavpur this year.

Status at 4:00 PM

Leading against Anirban Ganguly by 1,86,326

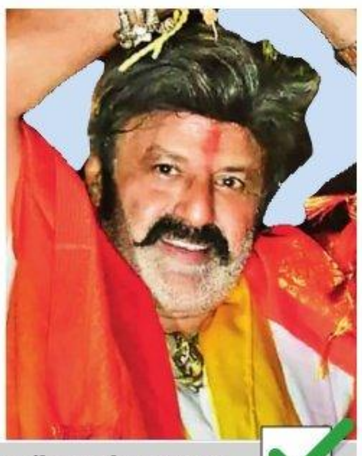
Past electoral record

President of AITMC youth wing, she contested from Asansol (South) but was defeated by Agnimitra Paul (BJP).

THRICE BLESSED

TDP HINDUPUR (AP ASSEMBLY)

BALAKRISHNA



Son of the legendary Telugu actor, founder of the Telugu Desam Party, and former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, the late NTR, Balakrishna is heir to a cinematic and political legacy few can boast of. He enjoys great popularity among his voters as he bids to secure a third consecutive term.

Status at 4:00 PM

Leading against Deepika TN by 23,430

Past electoral record

He won the Hindupur Assembly Constituency seat in both the 2014 and 2019 Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly elections with significant margins.

A SMASHING DEBUT

TMC BAHARAMPUR

YUSUF PATHAN



The former cricketer was a surprise choice for TMC against Congress heavyweight Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury. Pathan's decision to join electoral politics got a thumbs up from his family and younger brother Irfan Pathan.

Status at 4:00 PM

Leading against Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury by 46,936

The electoral entry

For a political novice, Pathan put on an impressive performance in the high-octane fight against the Congress veteran and proved his detractors wrong

THIRD TIME LUCKY!

BJP THRISSUR

SURESH GOPI



The National Award-winning actor, won his first election marking BJP's first win from Kerala in the parliamentary elections. Gopi was nominated as a Rajya Sabha MP in 2016. The same year, he became a member of BJP.

Status at 4:00 PM

Leading against VS Sunilkumar by 74,686

Past electoral record

Gopi, who was a part of the Students Federation of India (SFI) in his younger days, contested under BJP's banner in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, but lost. In 2021, he again contested elections, this time the Kerala Assembly polls. He contested from Thrissur, but lost again.

THIRD TIME'S NOT THE CHARM

YSRCP NAGARI (AP ASSEMBLY)

RK ROJA SELVAMANI



A veteran of over 150 films, actress RK Roja Selvamani carved a niche for herself with her performances in films across all four south Indian languages. After a successful acting career, she ventured into politics in 1998. Presently, she serves as Minister for Tourism, Culture, and Youth Advancement of Andhra Pradesh.

Status at 4:00 PM

Trailing against Gali Banu Prakash by 40,687

Past electoral record

After unsuccessful bids with TDP in the 2004 and 2009 elections, she joined the Indian National Congress in 2009. She joined YSR Congress Party, winning as MLA from Nagari in 2014 and 2019.

The carbon footprint left behind during concerts is huge: Ricky Kej

Debarati S Sen

Three-time Grammy winner musician Ricky Kej has been an environmentalist for many years. On World Environment Day today, he tells us how some bands are attempting eco-friendly shows, but they have a long way to go.

Ricky says, "I believe that greenwashing is far worse than not doing anything at all for the environment. Greenwashing makes concertgoers believe that they're doing something good for the environment when that's not actually the case."

Kej explains that bands need to come out with the facts and figures about how their concert is eco-friendly. He says, "Doing something good for the environment in this case, is not doing the concert at all! That's because there are flights involved, so there's carbon footprint, ground transportation, printing of materials, posters, use of generators, batteries and more."

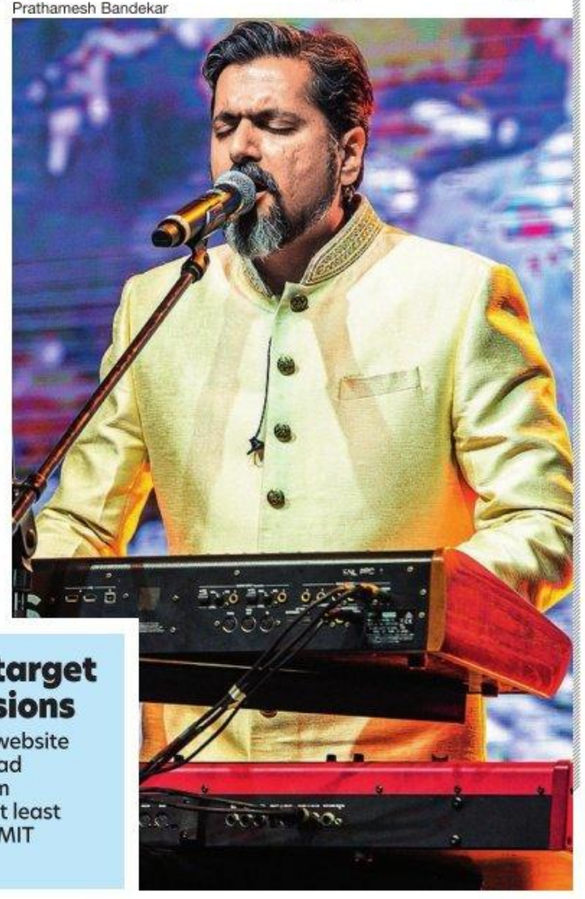
'WE CAN'T RUN EVEN A FRACTION OF A CONCERT ON SOLAR POWER'

Ricky further explains, "It is not possible to run even a fraction of a concert with just solar power,. Earlier this year, the concert we did at the Gateway of India, had a huge number of solar panels at the venue. We were able to power only the lighting and a little bit of the sound system during the soundcheck with that, not the rest of the concert."

'BANDS CLAIMING THEIR SHOW IS ECO-FRIENDLY SHOULD GET FACTS'

"Bands power batteries with solar energy, and then they power the concert with that because it is held at night. So, obviously the battery will have to travel from city to city. One may as well use diesel which is used in trucks, and the generator that will be powering the concert, right? Bands who claim their show is eco-friendly, should state facts about how much of the concert is solar powered? The overall carbon footprint left behind during concerts is huge. Once all the calculations are made, you will see that the impact on the environment is much higher."

Prathamesh Bandekar





Coldplay exceed their original target of 50% reduction in CO2e emissions

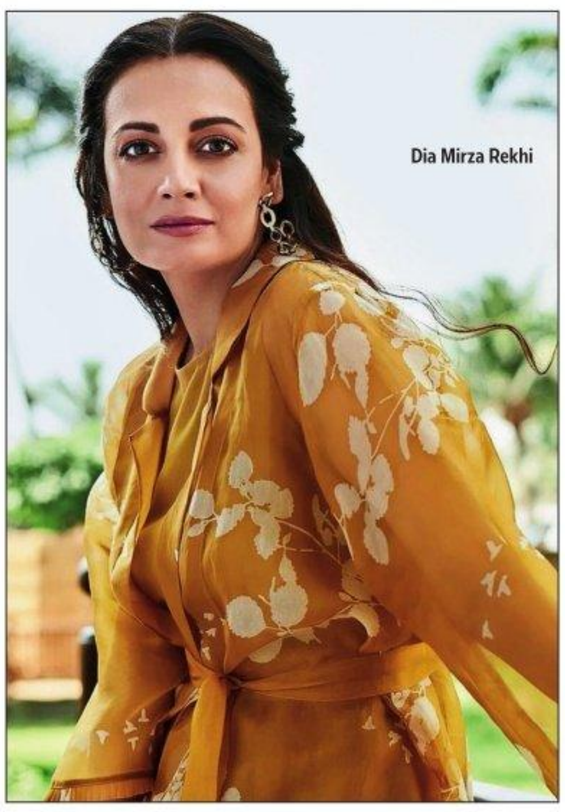
On World Environment Day, Coldplay through their website and social media handle communicated that they had pledged to reduce their direct carbon emissions from show production, freight, band and crew travel by at least 50 percent. These figures have been verified by the MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative.

A film set can exist without consuming mindless plastic, says Dia Mirza Rekhi

Dia Mirza Rekhi has been advocating for a greener planet for quite a few years now. On World Environment Day today, the actress talks about the efforts that film crews can take to reduce plastic and other waste while shooting.

Dia is also a producer and shares that a lot of production houses have already taken some positive steps towards making a greener change. She explains, "The good thing now is that a lot of the platforms are bringing sustainability into their mandates for production. So, more and more productions are eliminating single-use plastic products on set. They have stopped printing paper and are managing their waste. But I think beyond the realm of these collaborations, if every producer just ensures that there is no food waste and that all the waste that is generated is managed and disposed of scientifically, it will be a big step towards maintaining a greener environment." The actress says that even when film crews travel for outdoor shoots, it is their responsibility to keep the surroundings clean.

— Onkar Kulkarni



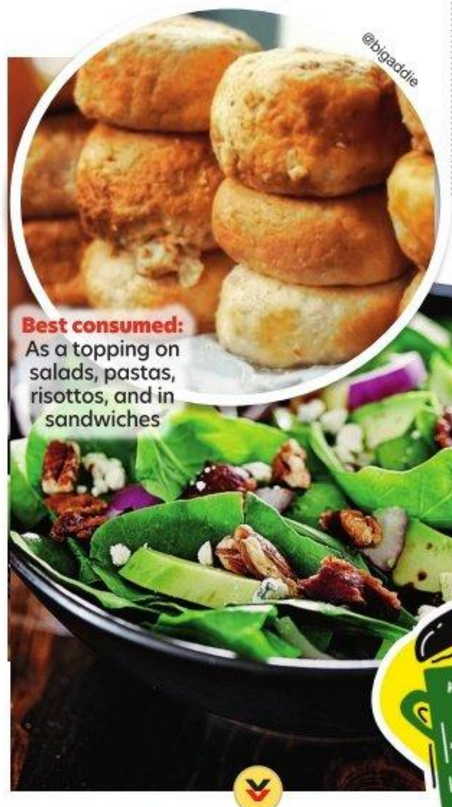
Dia Mirza Rekhi

Desi cheese variants you need to try right away

Nandini Ganguly

Mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan, gouda; you may be familiar with these cheese varieties that are common in global cuisine. But did you know that there are multiple Indian artisanal cheese variants as well? Those beyond *paneer* and ones that come loaded with flavour and history.

Pics: iStock

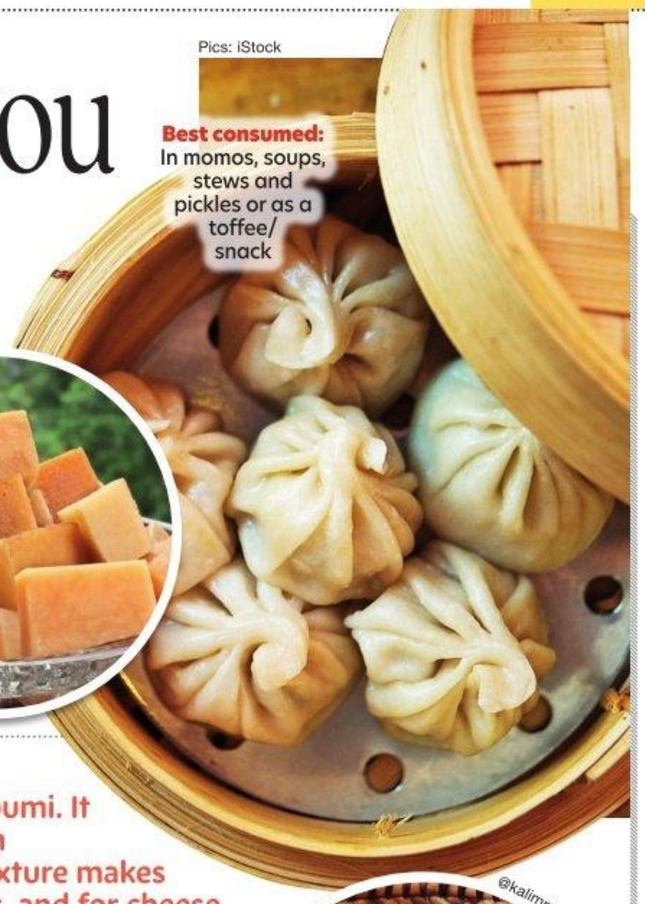


Best consumed: As a topping on salads, pastas, risottos, and in sandwiches

Chhurpi cheese

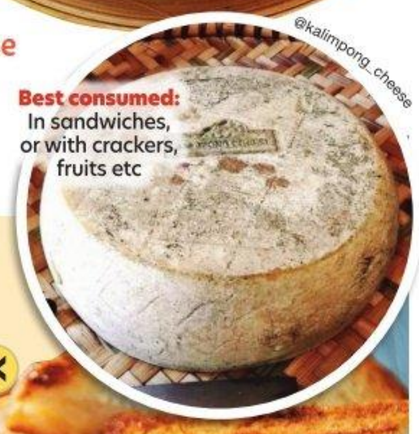
Considered to be the hardest cheese in the world, *chhurpi* traces its origin to Sikkim, Darjeeling and Kalimpong, and countries like Nepal and Bhutan. *Chhurpi* or *durkha* is made from yak's milk and is known for its toughness and smokyness. Thanks to a lengthy fermentation and drying process. There is a softer version, which borders on a neutral-tangy flavour. *Chhurpi* is culturally significant in the Himalayan regions, where its process is passed down generations.





Best consumed: In momos, soups, stews and pickles or as a toffee/ snack

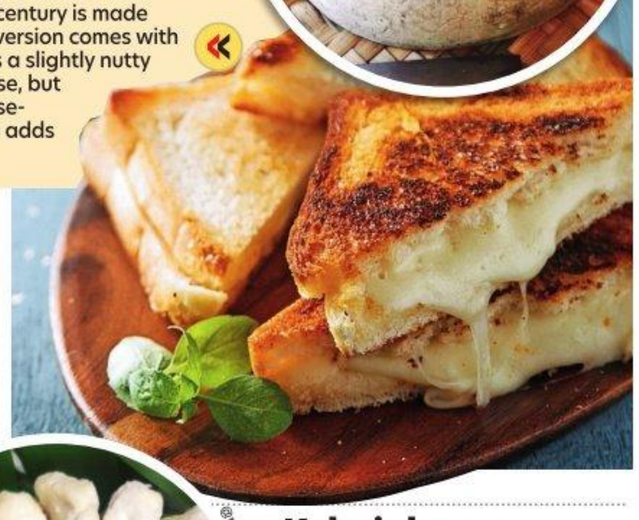
> Indian cheese varieties are more artisanal. *Kalari* reminds me of halloumi. It works wonderfully in a phyllo pastry with caramelised onions. Its versatile texture makes it perfect with breads, canapes, and for cheese platters. *Bandel* cheese, on the other hand, pairs well with Sundarban honey
>
> – Prachi Saraogi, F&B consultant & founder, indigenous product & services brand



Best consumed: In sandwiches, or with crackers, fruits etc

Kalimpong cheese

This semi-hard cheese introduced by the Swiss missionaries in Kalimpong in the 19th century is made from cow's milk. While the unripened version comes with a hint of tang, the ripened cheese has a slightly nutty flavour, almost like aged gouda cheese, but sharper. The fusion of European cheese-making techniques and local tradition adds to the distinctive taste of this variety.



Bandel cheese

This is a product of the 16th century Portuguese colonies, and European cheese-making techniques. It gets its name from a small town by the banks of Hooghly in West Bengal, called Bandel. Made by curdling cow milk and separating curd from whey, this complex, salty and crumbly cheese is shaped into round cakes. There's a smoked variety too that infuses a distinct aroma. Paneer and *chhena*, are descendants of Bandel cheese. Only one family from West Bengal, that has been making this variety for 11 generations, is said to be actively producing it even today.



Best consumed: Grilled, fried, sauteed, or melted and served with bread



Kalari cheese

This traditional cheese from Jammu and Kashmir's nomadic Gujjar and Bakarwal community is made from cow, buffalo or goat's milk. It's heated, stretched, and kneaded into a thin sheet before being hung to dry. *Kalari* is then smoked over a fire made from walnut or apricot wood, which imparts a distinct smoky flavour. *Kalari*, *kaladi*, or *maish krej*, meaning milk *chapati* in Kashmiri, is a ripened cheese that's reminiscent of mozzarella due to a similar texture and flavour profile.

This World Environment Day, let us show some kindness to Mother Earth

iStock



Conventional farming practices frequently depend on pesticides and chemical fertilisers, which contribute to soil degradation, water pollution, and biodiversity loss. These chemicals contaminate water sources and diminish soil fertility which, in turn, hinders the cultivation of nutritious crops.

Conventional farming can be transformed through organic farming. Organic products are grown under a system of agriculture without the use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides.

Jayen Mehta (MD, GCMMF, Amul) shares, "At Amul Organic, we recognise the impact of harmful practices which contribute to rising chronic diseases and pollution of soil and water. Our mission is to nurture our planet back to health and provide safe, healthy food for the present and future generations. We are dedicated to creating a pesticide-free India. Our commitment is to produce the purest, most natural products for families across India."

He goes on to add, "Our quality-control measures ensure that our products remain free from over 225 chemicals and pesticides. With 75 years of trust and National Programme for Organic Production certification, we are dedicated to providing sustainable, nutrient-rich food for generations to come. This World Environment Day, join us in celebrating the transformative power of organic produce to build a sustainable future for generations to come."

Visit shop.amul.com to explore more organic products



"DRIVING CHANGE, SHAPING FUTURES: THE YMCA WAY OF EDUCATION"

THE INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES (IMS)

NEW DELHI YMCA Established 1927

ONE YEAR / SIX MONTHS PROGRAMMES

- BUSINESS DATA ANALYTICS
- BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
- HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
- MARKETING & SALES MANAGEMENT
- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
- INTERNATIONAL TRADE
- SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT
- BANKING & FINANCE
- ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND BUSINESS
- EXPORT & IMPORT DOCUMENTATION
- MANAGEMENT SKILLS
- INTERNATIONAL HRM
- BRAND MANAGEMENT
- FOREIGN EXCHANGE MANAGEMENT
- WEALTH MANAGEMENT



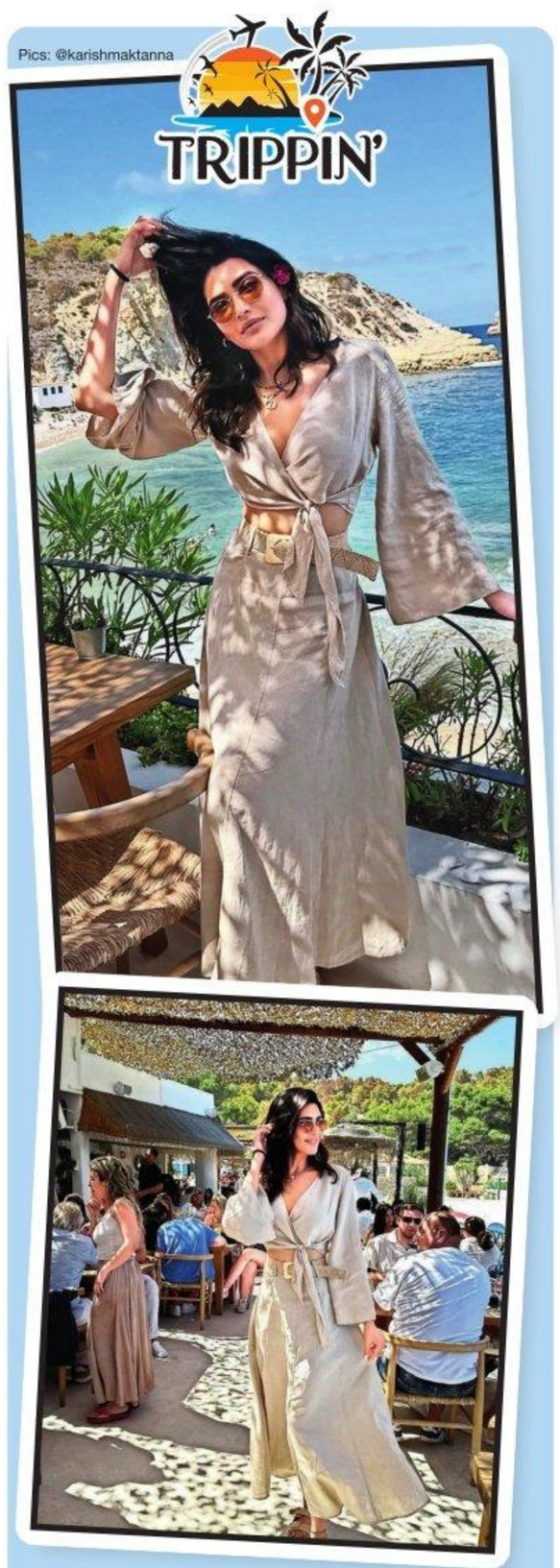
THREE MONTHS PROGRAMMES

- E-ACCOUNTING, GST & INCOME & RETURN FILING
- STOCK MARKETS & TRADING
- BUSINESS COMMUNICATION
- BASIC ACCOUNTING
- ADVANCE ACCOUNTING
- FUNDAMENTALS OF INSURANCE
- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & MACHINE LEARNING



CLASSES MORNING / AFTERNOON / EVENING / WEEKEND
OPEN FROM 9.00 A.M. TO 5.00 P.M. (MONDAY TO SATURDAY)

New Delhi YMCA, Gate No. 2, 2nd Floor, 1 Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001
TOLL FREE : 18001214180
TEL: - 011-43644020, MOBILE : 9871393500, 9871806002
E-MAIL : ims@newdelhiymca.in / WEBSITE www.newdelhiymca.in



SPAIN's got the sunshine, and KARISHMA TANNA seems to be adding sparkle to it with her señorita vibes

Vegan burgers: A healthy and tasty plant-based twist



Plant-based patties in burgers can be just as juicy, flavourful as the traditional meat options

Devika V Menon

Who says a burger needs meat? Food blogger Vijayalakshmi Vikram says plant-based patties can be just as juicy, flavourful, and satisfying as their classic counterparts. "In addition, they're healthier and great for the environment. It's a win-win," she said.

When making vegan burgers, mushrooms and beans, are an excellent alternative, she tells us. "Honestly, there are plant-based alternatives for almost anything these days, so as a vegan I never feel like I'm missing out on anything in life. Being vegan for over seven years is more than just a diet for me, it's a lifestyle choice built on kindness to animals and living compassionately."



> Plant-based patties are juicy, flavourful, and satisfying. They're also healthier and great for the environment. It's a win-win
>
> – Vijayalakshmi Vikram

Black bean & mushroom burger with crunchy peanuts

Ingredients:

For the patty (makes six):

- 400 gms button mushroom
- 3 large potatoes
- 100 gms panko bread crumbs
- 100 gms tofu
- 1 full cup cooked black bean or kidney beans
- 3 tbsp chilli flakes, 1 tbsp soya sauce, 1 tbsp each of onion and garlic powder, salt to taste

Veggies for the burger:

- Lettuce • Sliced onions
- Cucumber • Tomato
- Jalapenos

METHOD

Prep work for patty:

- Shred the mushrooms.
- Boil the potatoes
- Pressure cook beans

Prep work for spread:

- Hang 400 gms of peanut curd in a muslin cloth
- Roast capsicums in a preheated oven at 175 degrees for 45 mins

For the patty: Heat oil in a pan. Add the mushroom. Then add 1 tbsp soya sauce, 1 tbsp onion powder, 3 tbsp chilli flakes, salt, 1 tbsp garlic powder, and 100 gms of finely shredded tofu.
Saute until all the water is evaporated. Add mashed boiled potato. Mix well. Grind roasted peanuts and the black beans. Transfer to a mixing bowl. Add bread crumbs, make into patties and refrigerate. After an hour, shallow fry on low flame.
For making the spread: Blend the roasted capsicum, the hung peanut curds, garlic powder, and salt to a paste. You can also add a boiled potato or cashew nuts.
Assembling the burger: *Tawa* heat the burger buns, then place the patty, lettuce leaves, onion, tomato, cucumber slices and add the spread.





DRIVE HOME INDIA'S BEST-SELLING* LUXURY SEDAN AT ₹59,999*/MONTH.

THE 3 GRAN LIMOUSINE



Starting at **₹60.6 Lakhs** | Includes **Registration Charges** | Includes 4 Years **Service Charges** | Assured **Buyback** | **Corporate Benefits** with BMW Corporate Advantage Programme

BMW Deutsche Motoren

Delhi/NCR
H5 / B-1, Mohan Co-operative,
Industrial Estate, Mathura Road,
New Delhi-110044.
Tel.: +91 99901 88866
Web: www.bmw-deutschemotoren.in

Faridabad
Plot No. 01, Sector-27B,
Urban Estote, Mathura Road,
Faridabad-121003.

Noida
H-8, Sector 63, Noida,
Uttor Pradesh-201301.

KNOW MORE.

*Terms and conditions apply. All offers are from BMW dealerships. Please contact your nearest authorized BMW dealership for detailed terms and conditions. The above offer is only available on the BMW 3 Series Gran Limousine 330Li M Sport. The above offer is all inclusive of registration charges (Delhi RTO), service package (BSI Plus 4 years/60000 km). Taxes, if any are extra as applicable. Offer valid till 30th June 2024 and is subject to change without prior notice. Above calculations are on a sample basis, based on a specific tenure, mileage and finance amount. Finance is at the sole discretion of BMW India Financial Services Private Limited. Corporate benefits would differ from individual to individual. Assured buyback percentages are dependent on the finance tenure and mileage chosen. The model, equipment and possible vehicle configurations illustrated in this advertisement may differ from the vehicles supplied in the Indian market. *Source: JATO Dynamics India.