



"I couldn't do...": Salman Khan opens up about time when he was in prison



Imran Khan's party observes 'Black Day', several leaders arrested

England white-ball cricket for quite some time now has been way off: Nasser Hussain



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2 NATIONAL
DMK wins Erode (east) bypoll with huge margin amid AIADMK, BJP boycott

"The people of Delhi have shown the door to 'AAP-da' and now a double-engine government will ensure development at a double speed"
-Narendra Modi



"We humbly accept the mandate of Delhi. The fight for the progress of Delhi and the rights of Delhiites will continue."
-Rahul Gandhi, LoP



"We accept the verdict of the people and I congratulate the BJP for their victory in the Delhi elections. I hope they fulfil their promises."
-Arvind Kejriwal



"It was very obvious from all our meetings in Delhi that people wanted change. They voted for change. My congratulations to those who won,"
-Priyanka Gandhi



3 DELHI
Delhi rejected AAP, reposed faith in BJP for development: Sachdeva



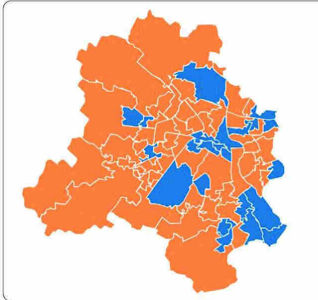
LOTUS BLOOMS in Delhi after 27 years

■ The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) swept back to power in Delhi after 27 years by handing a severe drubbing to the Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the assembly elections.

5 NRC/STATE
Election results mark the end of politics of lies and loot: CM Yogi



Praveen Attre
New Delhi
The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) staged a stunning comeback in Delhi, regaining power after 27 years by routing the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the assembly elections. According to data by Election Commission of India (ECI), the BJP has crossed the magic 36-seat mark. Adding to the ignominy of the AAP that was battling 10 years of anti-incumbency was the shocking defeat of former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal himself and other top leaders including his close aide and former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, Somnath Bharti and Saurabh Bhardwaj. Chief Minister Atishi, an academic and unlikely politician, weathered the storm to retain Kalkaji seat. The BJP won 48 of the 70 seats at stake and the AAP was way behind with 22, according to the Election Commission website. The elections were largely seen as a bipolar contest between the AAP, which made a determined bid for a fourth term, and the BJP. While the AAP had 62 members in the outgoing house, the saffron party had just eight legislators.



Party	AAP	BJP	INC	OTH
Current Result	22	48	0	0
Previous Result	67	08	0	0
2015	62	03	0	0

6 SPORTS
Australia Masters unveil squad for upcoming International Masters League season

7 BUSINESS
New Income Tax Bill to be Introduced in LS: FM

WEATHER
Sunrise 7:05 AM
Sunset 6:07 PM
Moonrise 2:53 PM
Moonset 5:36 AM
Today's Prediction
Maximum 25°C Minimum 11°C
Tomorrow's Prediction
26°C | 12°C



Gopal Rai AAP Won Babarpur	Manish Sisodia AAP Lost Jangpura	Anil Kumar INC Lost Patparganj
Vijender Gupta BJP Won Rohini	Alka Lamba INC Lost Kalkaji	Kailash Gahlot BJP Won Bijwasan
Arvind Kejriwal AAP Lost New Delhi	Parvash Verma BJP Won New Delhi	Sandeep Dikshit INC Lost New Delhi
Satyendra Jain AAP Lost Shakur Basti	Atishi AAP Won Kalkaji	Ramesh Biduri BJP Lost Kalkaji
Saurabh Bhardwaj AAP Lost Greater Kailash	Manjinder Singh Sirsa BJP Won Rajouri Garden	

losing their deposits
With Delhi now in its kitty after a battle of prestige given its symbolic importance as the country's capital, the BJP has extended its footprint, the victories helping it put behind some of the reverses of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections where it bagged 240 seats, short of the 272 majority mark. Hailing the BJP's victory as "historic", Prime Minister Modi said people of Delhi have shown the door to 'AAP-da' and now a 'double-engine' government will ensure development at a double speed. Modi, whose popularity among voters has been reinforced after the Delhi win, said Delhiites are celebrating BJP's victory and respite from 'AAP-da', the Hindi term meaning disaster that he used throughout the campaign to criticise the AAP's 10-year rule. "People of Delhi today have enthusiasm and satisfaction. There is relief of liberating Delhi from 'AAP-da'. I thank all Delhiites for entrusting their faith in 'Modi ki guarantee'." Modi said in his address from BJP headquarters in the evening. He launched a stinging attack on the AAP and the Congress, saying the country needs a serious political transformation and not politics of "dhoor-ta (deceit) and moorkhta (foolishness)". He said people of Del-

hi have short-circuited the politics of short-cuts and asserted that the mandate has made it clear that there's no space for corruption and lies in politics. Training his guns on the Congress, Modi said people have again given a big message to the opposition party and it has secured a "double hat-trick" in the national capital by failing to open account in six elections. "These people are giving themselves the gold medal in defeat. The truth is that the country is not willing to trust the Congress. I had said the last time that the Congress has become a parastatic party. It drowns and takes down its allies with it," he said. Modi claimed that the Congress is finishing off its allies one by one and its manner is also very interesting as it steals the issues and language of its coalition partners to dent their vote bank. "In Uttar Pradesh, it is trying to take away the vote bank that SP and BSP consider their own. Similarly, it uses the language of DMK to try and take away its vote bank in Tamil Nadu. "In Bihar, by spreading

the poison of casteism, it wants to eat up the patent ground of the RJD. The Congress has deployed similar tactics in J-K and Bengal. It is clear that those who join hands with the Congress, their destruction is inevitable," Modi said. In his address, he also said that it is for the first time since independence that the BJP is ruling all the states of the NCR. Attacking the Congress, Modi said, "After 2014, they tried to become Hindu by visiting temples, wearing maalas. They thought that they would be able to dent the BJP's vote bank. Now would have seen that they have now stopped that as they realised that it is BJP's domain." "So, now they have their eyes on these regional parties, to feed off them. The people of INDI alliance have started to realise that the Congress is trying to take back the vote bank these parties had won," he said. Modi said that the Congress is not as it used to be post-independence as it is indulging in the "politics of urban naxals." "Congress leaders when they talk of fighting the Indian State, it is the language of naxals. They want to bring anarchy in the country," he said in a swipe at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who had said in which he had said - "we are now fighting the BJP, the RSS and the Indian State itself." Earlier in the day, Modi said that development and good governance have won. "Development, good governance have won; we will leave no stone unturned for Delhi's all-round development," Modi said on the splendid showing by the BJP that came just months after the saffron party's wins in Haryana as well as Maharashtra where it is part of the Mahayuti alliance. Coming days after the Union budget which gave crucial tax concessions to the middle class, the BJP's winning Lok Sabha streak in Delhi continues after it won all seven seats last year. But the premise this time was different. Ground level issues such as water, drainage and garbage went up against volatile campaigns by both parties with voters grimly evaluating their quality of life in a polluted city. **CONTD ON PAGE-2**

Lotus blooms in Delhi after 27 years

DMK wins Erode (east) bypoll by huge margin amid AIADMK, BJP boycott

Dr. K.A. Paul criticizes EC over Delhi polls

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The BJP also pushed ahead and made 'sheesh mahal' an oft recalled buzzword for the lavish chief minister's residence following the renovations by Kejriwal and allegations of corruption in the Delhi excise policy. It clearly hit home.

While Modi and other party leaders repeated the need for a 'double engine' government, freebies offered by the AAP were countered by 'Modi's guarantee,' which appeared to find favour with voters.

The people of Delhi have dismantled the 'sheesh mahal' of lies, deceit and corruption and made the city 'AAP-da free', said Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

The AAP, which saw its leaders Kejriwal and Sisodia jailed in the excise policy case, countered the BJP campaign with vigour as yet Yamuna waters were poisoned and that it was just not being allowed to govern because every move was being stymied by the lieutenant governor.

It didn't find the resonance it had hoped for. "We fought a good election... We will play role of constructive opposition but will also be available to people of Delhi," Kejriwal said as he conceded defeat in an election he had hoped would propel him as a national leader.

For the AAP national convener, the face of the party launched on an anti-corruption plank in 2012, it was a tantalising seesaw ending in despair. He lost by 4,089 votes to BJP's Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma, son of former Delhi chief minister Sahib Singh Verma.

"Who will be chief minister will be decided by the central leadership," said Verma, dubbed giant killer for defeating Kejriwal in New Delhi constituency. The BJP had not projected a CM face in the poll campaign.

As one more line was added to the Congress' epitaph, the AAP struggled with its own existential crisis. A loss in Delhi, which it ruled for 10 successive years from 2015, signals an end to its national ambitions with now only Punjab in its pocket.

Chief Minister Atishi, who took over after Kejriwal stepped down last year when he was jailed, won by 3,521 votes against BJP's Ramesh Bidhuri.

"I have won my seat but this is not a time for celebration — this is the time to fight. The battle against BJP's authoritarianism will continue," she said.

It was a dramatic downside for the AAP, which won 67 of the 70 seats in 2015 when it established its dominance by wiping out both Congress and the BJP and 62 in 2020. The promise of mohalla clinics, model schools, free water and electricity seemed to have lost their sheen.

At BJP offices, there were drumsbeats of victory and euphoria, party workers waving flags, holding lotus, catkins, dancing and smearing colours of celebration on each other. And Modi was the mantra.

The ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu extended its winning run in elections on Saturday by emerging victorious in the Erode East bypoll with a massive margin against actor-politician Seeman's NTK, a victory that should come as a major boost to the M K Stalin-led party ahead of next year's Assembly elections.

DMK's V C Chandhirakumar trounced Naam Tamilar Katchi's (NTK) M K Seethalakshmi by a margin of 91,558 votes. In the process, NTK, a Tamil nationalist organisation, forfeited deposit.

With 44 other candidates — most of them independents, in fray, NOTA (None of the Above) grabbed the third place with 6,109 votes.

Chandhirakumar polled 1,15,709 votes while Seethalakshmi came a distant second with 24,151 votes.

The victory sparked jubilation among DMK supporters in Erode and elsewhere. At the party headquarters, Anna Arivalayam in Chennai,

date later said the DMK has secured "75 per cent of the votes."

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DMK workers celebrated the win by bursting crackers. The bypoll was necessitated due to the death of Congress MLA from the segment, EVKS Elangovan last year.

The Congress is a part of the DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance (SPA) in the state and the seat was won by the national party's E Thirumahan Everaa in 2021 elections. Following his

death in January, 2023, his father Elangovan won the bypoll held in March that year.

The February 5 elections that saw DMK and NTK lock horns was fought in the background of a rivalry between the two parties over Seeman's vehement criticism of EV Ramasamy Periyar recently.

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Nadu and founded the rationalist organisation Dravidar Kazhagam, the ideological fountainhead of DMK.

Incidentally, Erode is the native district of Ramasamy.

DMK's triumph, more or less anticipated even as AIADMK and BJP boycotted the hustings, follows the ruling party-led coalition's stunning 2024 Lok Sabha polls show, where it won all the 39 seats in Tamil Nadu, besides netting the lone Puducherry segment.

Assembly elections are scheduled both in Tamil Nadu and the

Puducherry union territory next year. The DMK is keen to retain power in TN, after sweeping the elections in 2021 that ended its 10-year-long stint in the opposition. DMK and its allies had won 38 of the 39 LS seats in the 2019 parliamentary polls as well. The ruling party had retained the Vikramaditya Assembly seat in a bypoll held last year.

It swept the local body elections held in the state after coming to power.

Earlier in the day, the counting of polled votes began at 8 am at a government college in Chittoode in this district.

Postal ballots were taken up for counting first.

The polling on Wednesday witnessed a voter turnout of 67.97 per cent.

The rest of the candidates in the fray put up a poor show, with some of them getting votes in double digits.

Agency



New Delhi Dr. K.A. Paul has strongly condemned the Indian Election Commission, alleging its failure in conducting free and fair elections in Delhi.

Addressing the election results announced today, he claimed that the BJP manipulated Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) to defeat Aam Aadmi Party leaders, including Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia, and Satyendra Jain.

Dr. Paul revealed that he had warned AAP leader and former health minister Satyendra Jain a week prior about potential election malpractices. He stated that when he suggested a meeting to strategize against these alleged irregularities, he never received a follow-up call.

Highlighting his past political predictions, Dr. Paul recalled accurately forecasting the 2008 Karnataka election results, the performance of Chiranjeevi's party in 2009, and other major political events.

He further warned that the BJP is systematically targeting and eliminating any political leader who poses a challenge to its dominance in national politics. Citing examples, he alleged:

J. Jayalalitha - Imprisoned and allegedly killed for not surrendering to BJP's pressure. Lulu Prasad Yadav - Jailed, rendering him politically inactive.

Sharad Pawar - Compromised under pressure, affecting his national and state ambitions. Nitish Kumar - Targeted with legal cases, ultimately surrendering and losing his Prime Ministerial aspirations.

Chandra Babu Naidu surrendered to Modi govt after 52 days of imprisonment. Many other examples.

BJP workers across India celebrate historic win

"AAP-Da government will be leaving after 10 years of destruction": CM Dhama

New Delhi Delhi Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President Virendra Singh...

Manoj Tiwari expressed his gratitude to the people of the national capital and assured them that the government would work for the development.

Tiwari also mocked at Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and said that the party was 'finished' and had no future in the country or any state.

"Words fall short to express our happiness. We express our gratitude to the people of Delhi... The people of Delhi have expressed their faith in PM Modi's guarantee... We will work for the development of Delhi... AAP is finished... AAP has no future in Delhi, Punjab

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BJP leader and candidate from New Delhi constituency Parvesh Verma and Manjinder Singh Sirsa offered prayers at the Gurudwara Bangla Sahib in the national capital.

Speaking to the media, Verma thanked the people for supporting him and giving a huge mandate to the party.

"Delhi's people have given a huge mandate to the BJP. We will respect it and I congratulate the people of Delhi from the bottom of my heart... The credit for this victory goes to Prime Minister Modi... We have many challenges ahead of us, but we have the support of the PM..." Verma said.

Workers of the party also celebrated the victory in Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand.

Jairam Thakur, BJP



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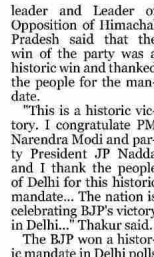
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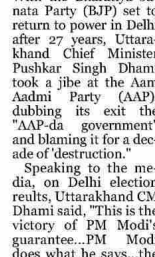
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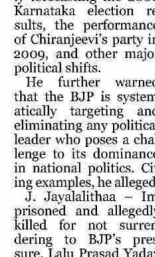
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Delhi rejected AAP, reposed faith in BJP for development: Sachdeva

Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva said on Saturday that the people of Delhi have completely rejected the "corrupt and incompetent" rule of the AAP and its chief Arvind Kejriwal while reposing faith in the BJP by giving it a decisive mandate.

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Delhi. "We extend our gratitude to people from all sections, providing an opportunity to build a developed

tions of society in Delhi," he added.
The BJP leader emphasised that the election victory is a reflection on the people's trust in Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the leadership of BJP National President Jagat Prakash Nadda and Home Minister Amit Shah, and above all, the relentless efforts of the party workers.

He also thanked party leaders like Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and other Union ministers, state

CMs, including Yogi Adityanath and others, for their intensive campaign that created a favorable political environment for BJP's victory.

Taking a dig at Kejriwal, Sachdeva said he repeatedly claimed to be honest, asserting that the people of Delhi would take revenge on the BJP by voting in response to his imprisonment. However, the results show that the people have handed Kejriwal a massive and all-around defeat.

Noida Authority to host the Pet Roll Carnival 2025 in Shivalik Park

Ajeet Kumar
Noida

The Noida Authority is set to host the Pet Roll Carnival 2025 in Shivalik Park, near Shilpa Hot, from February 9th to 10th.



The event will feature over 200 dogs from 35 breeds, with competitions judged by internationally renowned judges.

The event will also feature a pet fashion show on a unique runway, with the best lady dog handler and best child dog selected for age groups 14-18 years. Prizes will be distributed.

The event will also feature various DJ programs, free registration facilities, and demonstrations of pet

agility and obedience by India's most skilled agility kanals and obedient dogs from Koy School.
In collaboration with an NGO, the event will offer on-the-spot adoption facilities, free veterinary consultation and first aid services. Additionally, the event will feature stands of premium dog food, accessories, and two clothing treat brands.

Delhi rejected Kejriwal's politics of lies, deceit: DPCC chief

New Delhi
Delhi Congress President Devender Yadav said on Saturday that the outcome of the Assembly elections was a clear indication that the people of the national capital have rejected former chief minister and AAP's national convener Arvind Kejriwal's politics of "lies and deceit".

Reacting to the results of the Assembly polls on Saturday, he wrote in a post on X. "The results of Delhi Assembly elections are a clear indication that the people of Delhi have rejected Arvind Kejriwal's politics of lies and deceit."

On Congress' dismal performance, he said people's

Delhi govt's GAD forbids to take files from Secretariat amid poll results

New Delhi

The General Administration Department of the Delhi government on Saturday put a restriction on taking any files, documents and computer hardware from the Delhi Secretariat without its permission, amid change in power in the national capital.

In its order addressed to additional secretary to chief minister and secretary to cabinet ministers, the General Administration Department (GAD) wrote, "To address security concerns and safety of records, it is requested that no files/docu-



Delhi Secretariat complex without permission from General Administration Department."

The General Administration Department directed that necessary directions

their respective section/branches.

"This order shall also be applicable to Secretariat Offices and Camp Offices of Council of Ministers and in-charges of both the offices are also directed for compliance of this order.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority," read the order issued by Pradeep Tyal, Joint Secretary of GAD.

Notably, the BJP on Saturday is poised to return to power in Delhi after 27 years with a massive victory by ousting the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the national capital.

Unattended box generates panic

New Delhi

Some residents of North West Delhi's Prashant Vihar area panicked after an unidentified box was found by the locals in the area, the police informed on Saturday.

As per the cops, at around 1:30 pm, a suspicious call regarding an unclaimed black box was received at Prashant Vihar police station.

Police team immediately rushed to the spot and secured the area, making a cordon to ensure safety of the residents. The traffic was halted due to the ongoing investigation.

A team of bomb disposal squad (BDS) arrived at the site, and after thorough inspection nothing suspicious was found. After the situation was stabilised, the traffic flow was reinstated by the officials.

The event was distressing for the residents as a mild intensity explosion was reported near a sweet shop in the area earlier on 28 November, that caused a minor injury to a man. "It was found that a very mild intensity explosion occurred near the wall of a small park.

Parvesh Verma credits PM Modi for his victory



Talking to reporters, Verma said, "I give credit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the party's victory. I also thank the people of Delhi. This is the victory of Modi ji and all the people of Delhi."

BJP's Sirsa wins from Rajouri Garden, dedicates victory to PM, HM

New Delhi
BJP nominee Manjinder Singh Sirsa won from the Rajouri Garden constituency in Delhi defeating his nearest rival from AAP Dhanwanti Chandela by a margin of 18,190 votes.

He has dedicated his victory to prime minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The victorious candidate said, "With Waheguru's blessings and the unwavering support of the people, I have won by 18,190 votes.

This victory is dedicated to PM Modi, HM Amit Shah and BJP president JP Nadda, whose visionary leadership has strengthened Delhi and the nation." "A heartfelt thanks to every BJP karyakarta and voter for their trust," he posted on X. "Thanking the voters of the constituency, Sirsa



felt gratitude to all you God-like people for blessing me with a huge number of votes. This victory is the victory of your faith in the policies of BJP. Together we will fulfill the dream of all-round development of the region." "The BJP candidate secured a total of 64,132 votes against 45,942 votes polled by his nearest rival Chandela. Congress candidate Dharampal Chaddela managed only 3,918 votes.

He has dedicated his victory to prime minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The victorious candidate said, "With Waheguru's blessings and the unwavering support of the people, I have won by 18,190 votes.

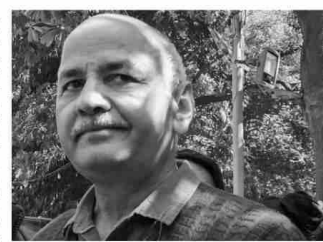
Fought well but lost by 600 votes, says Sisodia

New Delhi

Senior AAP leader and former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia on Saturday conceded defeat in the high profile constituency of Jangpura, situated in south east Delhi, saying the party workers worked hard but unfortunately could not secure a victory.

BJP's Tarvinder Singh Marwah defeated Sisodia by a margin of 675 votes. Addressing the media, he said, "Party workers fought well; we all did hard work. People have supported us as well. But, I lost by 600 votes. I congratulate the candidate who won. I hope he will work for the constituency."

According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), Marwah secured 38,859 votes; while Sisodia secured 38,184 votes and Congress' Farhad Suri could only manage 73,50



and 441 votes went to NOTA.
Once a stronghold of Congress, the saffron party had never won an election from this seat since the inception of the assembly elections in Delhi. However in 2025, the history was rewritten by Marwah.
Sisodia was moved to Jangpura from Patparganj. He was first elected

According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), Marwah secured 38,859 votes; while Sisodia secured 38,184 votes and Congress' Farhad Suri could only manage 73,50 and 441 votes went to NOTA.

past. In his campaign, the BJP leader focused on making a narrative of local versus outsider' where as Sisodia harped on AAP's promises and freebies.
A seasoned politician, Marwah switched to the BJP from Congress in 2022. He had been a member of the Delhi assembly three -1998, 2003 and 2008 on a Congress ticket.

Delhi will not forgive the culprits who destroyed it, says Alka Lamba

New Delhi
Congress leader and Kalkaji candidate Alka Lamba on Saturday criticised her political opponents, declaring that "Delhi will not forgive the culprits who damaged Delhi."

The remarks came after the BJP is leading on 41 seats comfortably above the magical number while the AAP is leading on 29 seats and Congress is nil.



Lamba is trailing from the Kalkaji seat by 19,655 votes

without specifying names, she stated that those responsible for harming the capital's interests would bear the consequences.

Lamba's remarks are seen as a veiled attack on the AAP, as Congress has termed the party with 'failed governance'. She emphasised that the real loss would be for those who have damaged Delhi.

Delhi set for new growth under BJP rule: Raja Iqbal

New Delhi

Following the BJP's victory in the Delhi Assembly elections, Leader of Opposition in the MCD, Sardar Raja Iqbal Singh, on Saturday expressed his gratitude to the people of the city, stating that a "double-engine government" will propel the national capital's development to new heights.

Singh emphasized that the people of Delhi have chosen Prime Minister Narendra Modi's work-oriented politics and the BJP's governance while rejecting the negative and divisive politics of the AAP.

The BJP leader asserted that the party would chart a comprehensive roadmap for the city's progress, ensuring holistic development.

Criticizing the AAP, he alleged that the party had mismanaged the city, turning it into a garbage dump and obstructing its development over the past decade.

Delhi have voted against 10 years of 'misgovernance' of the AAP. She added that people here have put their trust in Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

According to the latest update from the ECI, BJP is ahead on 48 seats, having won 41 and leading on seven seats. While AAP is ahead on 22, having won 20 and leading on two seats. Congress has failed to even open its account in the Delhi elections for the third straight time.

Earlier in the day, BJP MP Bansuri Swaraj on Saturday said that people in

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Saurabh Bhardwaj loses Great Kailash seat to BJP's Shikha Roy by 3,188 votes

New Delhi
Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Saurabh Bhardwaj on Saturday lost the Greater Kailash assembly constituency to Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate Shikha Roy, with a margin of 3,188 votes.

According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), BJP leader Shikha Roy received 49,594 votes while Bhardwaj got 46,406 votes. Congress candidate Garvit Singhvi, on the other hand,

merely garnered 6,711 votes. Bhardwaj, who was seeking re-election from the Greater Kailash assembly constituency, thanked AAP supporters and volunteers, urging them not to be disheartened.

"I want to thank all the supporters, volunteers, and donors of AAP and tell them not to be afraid, not to be disappointed, we win big battles by losing these small battles, so there is nothing to be afraid of. We will come forward again. I think as an MLA we did whatever we could for our people," he said.

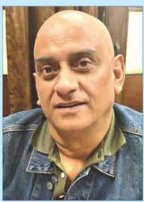
Suggesting that his chances of winning from the Greater Kailash seat were high, Bhardwaj said that they would analyse the results.

"We will analyse the result, why this result came, because all the reporters who came to my area, all the common people who came to campaign, everyone had seen that our graph was very high.

The approval rating was very high. Even the staunch supporters of BJP used to say that we will win the elections this time, but it is not appropriate to comment at this time," Bhardwaj said.

Meanwhile, AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal lost the New Delhi assembly seat to BJP's Parvesh Verma by a margin of 4089 votes, the ECI declared on Saturday.

Earlier in the day, BJP MP Bansuri Swaraj on Saturday said that people in



By Dr. Anil Singh, Editor, STAR Views

BJP's resounding victory in Delhi: AAP's decade of dominance ends in defeat

The political landscape of Delhi has undergone a seismic shift, as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) secured a decisive victory in the assembly elections, clinching 48 seats while reducing the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) to a mere 22 seats. This marks the end of AAP's decade-long rule, which was once hailed as a model of governance but now stands rejected by voters. The Indian National Congress (INC), which has struggled for relevance in Delhi's politics for years, managed to win 10 seats, showing signs of a slow revival but failing to pose any real challenge.

The verdict signals widespread disenchantment with AAP's governance, allegations of corruption, and an over-reliance on populist welfare schemes. In contrast, BJP's aggressive campaign, emphasis on development, and promise of a corruption-free administration found resonance among voters. With the party now preparing to form the government, Delhi residents are anxiously awaiting clarity on the fate of several AAP-initiated schemes, including free bus rides for women and free electricity up to 200 units. The first major policy direction will emerge in BJP's inaugural cabinet meeting, where in-charge Jay Panda has announced that cleaning the Yamuna River will be a key priority. This marks the beginning of a new political era for Delhi, but the crucial question remains: Will BJP be able to deliver on its promises, or will it face the same voter backlash as its predecessor?

The election outcome highlights a decisive swing in favor of BJP:

BJP: 48 seats
AAP: 22 seats
Congress: 0 seat
Others: 0 seat

The results not only mark a landslide victory for BJP but also reflect a significant decline in AAP's vote share, indicating that its core voter base has eroded. While Congress has shown minor improvements, it remains far from reclaiming its past influence.

Why BJP Won; The Key Factors Behind Its

Despite its welfare-driven governance model, AAP failed to address fundamental civic issues like traffic congestion, waste management, and rising crime, leading to frustration among residents. Several of its ambitious promises were made at the state and national levels to tackle patriarchal beliefs. To prevent sex-selective abortions, the PCPNDT Act must be strengthened. Financial incentives such as Haryana's Ladi and Aapki Beti Hamari Beti programs encourage families to help girls. Providing funds for girls' education through educational empowerment, scholarships, and infrastructure support are effective steps. Limited effectiveness outside high inequality areas. The impact of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao varies; some southern and eastern states are seeing a decline in SRB. This means that focused interventions in high-inequality states are not enough. Social norms that favor sons include the statement that "raising a daughter is like watering a neighbor's garden." Changing attitudes requires more than just financial incentives. Low female labor force participation is still one of the lowest in the world, even with improved educational standards. Women who experience economic insecurity are less able to resist patriarchal systems.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi's nationwide appeal played a crucial role in BJP's success. Voters saw BJP as an extension of Modi's vision, particularly regarding urban development, business reforms, and anti-corruption policies.

is, including employment generation and industrial development, remained unfulfilled. AAP's governance also came under scrutiny due to multiple corruption allegations, including the liquor scam, which severely damaged its credibility. The party leadership remained on the defensive throughout the campaign, failing to offer a convincing counter-narrative.

AAP's heavy reliance on freebies and subsidies—such as free electricity, free bus rides, and water subsidies—initially won it voter support but eventually raised concerns about financial sustainability. BJP effectively used this argument, portraying AAP's policies as short-term populism that weakened long-term governance and infrastructure development. Over time, many voters, particularly from the middle-class and business communities, began questioning AAP's economic approach, leading to a shift in their support towards BJP.

Another major setback for AAP was its failure to expand beyond its niche voter base. The party continued to rely heavily on auto drivers, lower-middle-class families, and government employees, while BJP systematically penetrated various demographic segments, including traders, small business owners, and professionals. Moreover, internal leadership disconnect and mismanagement

Education and Healthcare: BJP has promised improvements in education and healthcare, but these sectors may see structural overhauls, shifting away from AAP's welfare-driven model.

Jay Panda senior leader of BJP's first cabinet meeting will focus on Yamuna River pollution, signaling an immediate shift in governance priorities. This suggests that environmental concerns and infrastructure development will take precedence over AAP's existing welfare-driven model.

A Way forward What Lies Ahead for Delhi?

BJP's landslide victory in Delhi marks the beginning of a new political era, bringing an end to AAP's welfare-centric governance and ushering in a development-focused administration. While the electorate has strongly endorsed BJP's leadership, the party now faces the challenge of delivering on its promises and proving that its governance model is more sustainable and effective than AAP's populist approach.

The verdict also raises concerns about policy continuity, as many AAP welfare schemes may be revised or discontinued. The new government will need to tread carefully to balance fiscal discipline with social welfare, ensuring that any restructuring of policies does not alienate key voter segments.

As BJP takes charge, Delhi's political landscape stands transformed, setting the stage for a governance shift focused on development, law enforcement, and long-term infrastructure planning. Whether this transformation will yield the desired results or create new challenges remains to be seen, but one thing is clear—Delhi has chosen change, and the BJP now holds the responsibility to justify this mandate.

About the Author
 (The writer is an Editor, Star View)

Breaking Time Sudoku

What to do
 Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digit 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only correct solution.

3	9	5	2	4	7	8	1	6
2	6	7	1	8	5	9	4	3
4	1	8	3	6	9	2	7	5
8	3	1	4	5	2	7	6	9
6	5	2	7	9	8	4	3	1
9	7	4	6	3	1	5	8	2
7	4	3	5	2	6	1	9	8
5	8	6	9	1	4	3	2	7
1	2	9	8	7	3	6	5	4

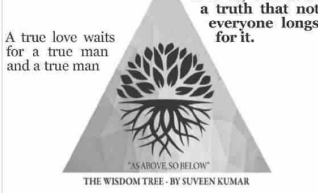
Solution, Sudoku

6	1	9		2	3			
		3		4				
2		8	4	6	5	1		
3	1		4	3		2		
8			1	9		9	5	
7	3	6	9	4			2	
	8			7				
6	9			3		4	7	

THE WISDOM TREE BY SUVEEN KUMAR

Most of us have experienced true love at some point of time in our life yet we say and support that it doesn't exist, most of us have lived a time when love is nothing but life and life is nothing but love, most of us have felt that longing with them it's life else it's death. Everyone who has been in love, has been in true love but not everyone who has been in true love, has died in true love. A true love can only exist with truth and purity, as long as you remain truthful and pure in love, it lives with you. A true love needs a true heart to live in, a heart full of lies, fakes, cheats, tricks, dramas, bad-intents, impure feelings, beating for multiple people at the same time, waiting for someone better, fighting for a little more can do nothing but question if true love ever exists. True love exists just as false love does.

Moral: No matter how great a true love is, but it is a truth that not everyone longs for it.



TOP STORY

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About the Author
 (Priyanka Saurabh, Research Scholar in Political Science)



By Priyanka Saurabh

If you don't save your daughter, then where will you get a daughter-in-law from?

and Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act of 1994, sex-biased sex selection has been made possible by prenatal sex determination techniques. Wealthier economic groups and higher castes have higher rates of SRB skewed towards males, indicating that monetary incentives alone may not be a sufficient deterrent. SRB has improved in states such as Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Haryana since the implementation of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao. SRB is declining in southern and eastern states, which are generally known to have better sex ratios. This is a worrying trend. Although states surrounding Delhi have improved, Delhi too has seen a decline in SRB. While here were the basic goals and strategies for the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao campaign.

The PCPNDT Act must be enforced more stringently to prohibit sex selection on the basis of gender. Girls' education, safety, and survival must be enhanced. Delaying child marriage and increasing women's educational attainment is important. Efforts must

be made at the state and national levels to tackle patriarchal beliefs. To prevent sex-selective abortions, the PCPNDT Act must be strengthened. Financial incentives such as Haryana's Ladi and Aapki Beti Hamari Beti programs encourage families to help girls. Providing funds for girls' education through educational empowerment, scholarships, and infrastructure support are effective steps. Limited effectiveness outside high inequality areas. The impact of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao varies; some southern and eastern states are seeing a decline in SRB. This means that focused interventions in high-inequality states are not enough. Social norms that favor sons include the statement that "raising a daughter is like watering a neighbor's garden." Changing attitudes requires more than just financial incentives. Low female labor force participation is still one of the lowest in the world, even with improved educational standards. Women who experience economic insecurity are less able to resist patriarchal systems.

According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2024, India ranks 127th globally in terms of pay equality, with women earning only Rs 39.8 for every Rs 100 earned by men. Conditional cash incentives (e.g., conditional cash transfers) are the focus of policy rather than systemic change. The underlying causes of gender bias are not addressed by the Ladi scheme. To achieve structural change in the areas of employment, property rights, and financial autonomy, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao must go beyond catchphrases. Gender-sensitive policies are being strengthened. Instead of "saving girls," Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao needs to focus on "empowering women" in leadership, financial inclusion, and employment. Encourage more women to pursue entrepreneurship and careers by offering incentives. Address employment gaps and pay disparities. Enforce equal pay laws to reduce the gender pay gap. Encourage more people to work by providing maternity benefits, flexible work schedules, and childcare assistance. Increasing enforcement of

the PCPNDT Act, monitoring diagnostic clinics, and taking strict action against illegal sex determination are all ways to strengthen legal and social reforms. Strengthen accountability systems at the local level of government. Ensure women's rights to property and inheritance.

Make inheritance rights equitable, especially in areas where daughters are still not given equal property ownership. Encourage women to own property together within families. Drive community-driven behavior change and engagement. Increase grassroots participation through local leaders. Encourage teachers, religious leaders, and influential members of the community to oppose patriarchal traditions. Involve more men in conversations about gender equality. Campaigns that change the narrative of the value of daughters need to shift their focus from "protecting girls" to "empowering girls." Encourage uplifting messages about daughters as assets for the success of the family. The Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao program has successfully raised aware-

ness on the issue of son preference, but due to inadequate implementation and monitoring, it has failed to achieve its main goal in its current form. The scheme is losing the momentum it has built up over the years due to the lack of district and state-level meetings. Therefore, the working committees at the district and state level should be represented by community-level workers, aware of the difficulties faced by female students, such as lack of toilets, and have effective monitoring and evaluation systems to show how well the schemes are working towards their goals. In India, Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao has been a notable policy intervention to address gender-based discrimination. Although it has contributed to the improvement of SRB in some areas, its impact is still limited due to inherent patriarchal beliefs and structural barriers to women's

About the Author
 (Priyanka Saurabh, Research Scholar in Political Science)

Election results mark the end of politics of lies and loot: CM Yogi

■ UP CM calls BJP's victory 'a triumph of service, security, good governance, and public welfare under PM Modi's leadership'

Lucknow
Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, on Saturday, stated that the results of the Delhi Assembly elections and the Milkpur Assembly by-election in Ayodhya district, Uttar Pradesh, indicate a clear rejection of the politics of 'lies and loot.' Speaking to journalists, he remarked, "The service, security, good governance, and public welfare initiatives that have been continuously implemented over the last 11 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi have triumphed. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the winning candidates in Delhi and to every dedicated BJP worker."

CM Yogi also extended his congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP National President JP



Nadda, Home and Cooperation Minister Anit Shah, and the central leadership for reviving the party's dominance in Delhi after two and a half decades.

He emphasized that the era of false promises and exploitation has ended in the capital, allowing the residents of Delhi to finally benefit from genuine development, good governance, and public welfare

witness true development, and his residents will finally have access to welfare schemes that had been obstructed by the Aam Aadmi Party government for the past 11 years.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath stated that the Milkpur by-election result signals the end of dynastic and deceptive politics by the Samajwadi Party, as people have embraced the double-engine government's model of service, security, and good governance.

He emphasized, "This result proves that no matter how many lies or propaganda the Samajwadi Party spreads for political gain, the public is ready to hold them accountable. BJP's Chandrabhanu Paswan's victory by nearly 6,00,00 votes reflects the people's strong trust in the double-

engine BJP government and the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi."

Congratulating Chandrabhanu Paswan on his victory, the Chief Minister expressed gratitude, stating, "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to BJP officials, allied parties, and all the dedicated workers of the Milkpur Assembly in Ayodhya. The faith people have placed in the double-engine government will be honored, and the government will strive to meet their hopes and expectations." He further highlighted that the election results in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh are significant in putting an end to the politics of deception and corruption. He added, "These victories serve as new inspiration to lead us toward a brighter and more prosperous future."

Sanatan Culture's unity shines at Mahakumbh: Arif M. Khan

■ Bihar Governor at Mahakumbh: "The Essence of Sanatan Culture lies in unity"

Prayagraj
Bihar Governor Arif Mohammed Khan participated in the sacred rituals of the Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj.

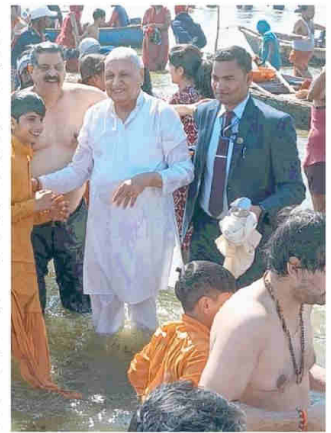
Governor Khan began his spiritual journey by joining the 'Maha Aarti' ceremony on the banks of the Ganges, offering prayers to the holy river. Following the Aarti, he took a holy dip in the Ganges, a ritual believed to cleanse the soul and liberate one from worldly sufferings.

His participation in these ancient traditions highlighted the spiritual significance of the Maha Kumbh, which draws millions of devotees seeking divine blessings. During his visit, Governor Khan engaged in various religious and cultural activities, highlighting the significance of the Kumbh as a platform for spiritual enlightenment and social harmony.

Governor Khan began his visit by joining saints and devotees in the 'Maha Aarti' ceremony on the banks of the Ganges.

The Governor described the Maha Kumbh as a unique blend of knowledge and spiritual practice, emphasizing its role in guiding individuals toward a path of righteousness and inner peace.

During his stay, Governor Khan held discussions with prominent religious leaders, including Mahabaleshwar and Akhanda chiefs, on topics related to Sanatan Dharma (eternal religion) and Indian culture. He praised the Kumbh as a timeless tradition that has been or-



ganized since ancient times to inspire humanity to follow the path of truth and virtue. He also highlighted the importance of the Kumbh as a platform for discussing sacred texts such as the Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, and Dharmashastras.

Governor Khan participated in a program organized by the Ganga Mahasabha and interacted with saints such as Juna Akhara's Mahant Mahamandaleshwar Avadheshanand Saraswati, Swami Teestandan Maharaj, Swami Achhutanand Maharaj, and Computer Baba. He described the Maha Kumbh as a festival that promotes social unity and mutual goodwill, bringing people from all walks of life together in a spirit of harmony.

In his address, Governor Khan stated, "The Maha Kumbh is not just a religious gathering but a confluence of knowledge and spirituality. It is a means to alleviate human suffering and guide individuals toward a life of spiritual fulfillment. The Kumbh has been a source of divine wisdom since time immemorial, and it continues to inspire millions to walk the path of truth and righteousness."

The Governor's participation in the Maha Kumbh underscores the event's universal appeal and its role in fostering cultural and spiritual unity. His visit has been widely appreciated by religious leaders and devotees alike, who see it as a testament to the inclusive nature of the Kumbh and its enduring relevance in contemporary society.

Milkpur is 'false' victory of BJP: Akhilesh Yadav



Lucknow
Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Saturday said the BJP's victory in the Milkpur bypolls is a "false" one and that the party will never be able to celebrate and look in the eyes of the PDA or down-trodden sections.

"BJP's guilt of rigging the polls will keep them in fear of defeat in future. Besides, the BJP cannot face the growing power of the PDA on the strength of vote, hence it tries to win by missing the electoral system," he said in a statement after defeat of the Party candidate in Milkpur assembly bypolls in Ayodhya.

SP President claimed that such an electoral rigging can be done in one or two bypolls but it cannot be possible in the general assembly elections when there will be 403 assembly seats at stake.

"The BJP people also know this, that is why the BJP leaders postponed the by-election of Milkpur along with 9 other assembly bypolls held earlier. PDA means 90 percent of the people and they have seen this rigging in Milkpur with their own eyes," he said.

Akhilesh Yadav warned that government officers who have committed the crime of electoral scams will be punished for their anti-democratic crime when SP comes to power.

"Everyone's truth will be revealed one by one and neither nature will spare them, nor law. BJP will leave them (officials) by using them," he predicted about the officers who were involved in rigging the Milkpur polls.

"The true victory of the PDA in Ayodhya was during the Lok Sabha elections, this Milkpur assembly win of BJP will cost them dearly," he added.

BJP has won the Milkpur assembly bypolls with a record margin.

Rajarishi Modi Receives Blessings from All Four Shankaracharyas at Maha Kumbh 2025

Prayagraj
Rajarishi Modi, a visionary billionaire, spiritual leader, and global citizen, received the blessings of all four Shankaracharyas (Shankaracharya Swami Nischalananda Saraswati, Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwara nand, Shankaracharya Swami Sadanand Saraswati, and Shankaracharya Bharati Terth) during a momentous gathering at the Maha Kumbh 2025.

The esteemed religious leaders bestowed their blessings upon Rajarishi Modi and his Dharam Dand, recognizing his unwavering commitment to spiritual and humanitarian causes.

The esteemed religious

leaders bestowed their blessings upon Rajarishi Modi and his Dharam Dand, recognizing his unwavering commitment to spiritual and humanitarian causes.

Conferred with the title Rajarishi by all four Shankaracharyas, Dr. Modi is widely respected for his dedication to propagating the teachings of Adi Shankaracharya and the timeless philosophy of Advait (oneness). His presence at the Maha Kumbh reaffirmed

his commitment to these spiritual principles.

During his time at the sacred event, Dr. Modi engaged in profound discussions with the Shankaracharyas, delving into Adi Shankaracharya's insights on the interconnectedness of all beings.

Their conversations centered on fostering a deeper understanding of shared humanity, inspiring global peace, and encouraging co-existence.

Delhi mandate public endorsement of PM's leadership: Haryana CM

Komal Ramola Chandigarh
Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, while expressing gratitude to the people of Delhi for giving a clear mandate to the BJP, said the people have endorsed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's capable leadership and guarantee of social welfare.

Assuring that the BJP would restore Delhi's honour and glory on Saturday, he said this election stands as a testament to the public trust in Prime Minister Modi's competent and visionary leadership.

Taking a dig at the AAP, the chief minister said that the people of Delhi have rejected the party's misguided policies and repudiated the BJP's welfare-oriented policies. He accused Arvind Kejriwal of insulting Haryana's soil, wondering how could he be loyal to Delhi as he couldn't be loyal

to Haryana. He said under the prime minister's leadership, India has achieved historic milestones over the past decade and emerged as a global power.

He said the country has made strides toward self-reliance under the prime minister's leadership. Initiatives like Digital India, Make in India, Ujjwala Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Kisan Samman Nidhi, and the Garib Ann Kalyan Yojana have empowered every section of so-

ciety. As a result of the Modi's leadership, India has now become the fifth-largest economy in the world, said the Chief Minister.

Saini asserted that the people of Delhi are now prioritising development in the national interest. The public has recognised and rejected the politics of appeasement and false promises that have misled them for years, he said. The chief minister said the people of Delhi now stand firm with the prime minister's policies and the BJP's transparent and strong governance.

He congratulated the dedicated and hardworking BJP workers whose commitment and perseverance played a crucial role in this victory.

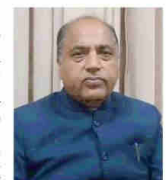
Saini assured that after the formation of a BJP government in Delhi, all Central government schemes reach the public with complete transparency.

Congress reached zero due to its failures, same will happen in Himachal: JR Thakur

Rajan Panchhi Mandi
Leader of opposition in Himachal Pradesh, Jai Ram Thakur on Saturday congratulated his party for victory in the Delhi Assembly elections, saying that the AAP has been eliminated from the national capital and the Congress in the hill state will also face the same fate.

The BJP state unit celebrated Delhi's victory in all districts. Addressing the victory rally in Shimla on Saturday, he said, "The people have given BJP a decisive mandate. Under PM Narendra Modi's leadership, Delhi will progress along with the rest of the country."

He credited BJP's performance to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, stating that Delhi's voters chose development and corruption-free governance.



Taking a jibe at AAP and Arvind Kejriwal, he accused them of failing to address key issues like broken roads, the liquor policy controversy, and corruption.

He claimed Kejriwal avoided accountability, remained silent on real problems, and relied on false promises.

Thakur further added that Delhi's people had suffered under AAP's rule and had now voted for change.

"Delhi's pain is real, and the people have chosen PM Modi's leadership to end it,"

he said. Congress suffered a devastating blow in the 2025 Delhi Assembly elections, and failing to open its account for the third consecutive term.

He said that people of the country trust only in PM Modi's guarantees.

"Today, the people of Delhi have overwhelmingly voted for Modi's good governance and development politics. Delhi's heart now beats only for Modi hi Modi. I am grateful to the people of Delhi for giving a thumping majority to the BJP and bringing good governance and a double engine government to Delhi that would ensure stability and progress," he asserted.

The Aam Aadmi Party promoted lies, anarchy, drama, and accusations, but the people of Delhi have rejected them and accepted Modi's good governance and effective administration.

The Leader of Opposition said that the people of Delhi have rejected the politics of lies and corruption, and the same fate awaits the Congress party in Himachal Pradesh.

Taking a dig at Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, he alleged that Sukhu campaigned for Alka Lamba in Delhi election, but her security was also forfeited.

Talking to reporters he further claimed that the BJP's victory in Delhi has also made roads difficult for the Sukhu led Congress government in Himachal Pradesh.

Congress, which failed miserably, reached zero and the same fate awaits in Himachal Pradesh, he asserted. He advised the Congress leaders to understand that the people of the country have rejected their politics of deception and guarantees.

Rail connectivity in Mewat will improve mobility: Haryana CM

Komal Ramola Chandigarh

Haryana Chief Minister, Nayab Singh Saini said that after 2014, the double-engine government of the Center and Haryana, working under the able leadership of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, has been ensuring holistic development without any discrimination. Inspired by Shaheed Hasan Khan Mewati, the government has been implementing several development projects in Mewat.

He said that to directly connect Mewat with Delhi and Alwar via rail, a railway project will be executed in the region, for which budgetary provisions have been made. The construction of



the railway line will not only facilitate smooth transportation for the people of Mewat but will also open new avenues for employment opportunities for the youth, said the Chief Minister while addressing representatives of the All India Mewati Panchayat at his residence, Sant Kabir Kutir

on Saturday. The representatives expressed their gratitude by honouring Sh. Nayab Singh Saini with a traditional turban for approving the railway project in Mewat.

The Chief Minister said that under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJKV), 115

backward districts across the country have been identified, with Nuh being the first to be designated as an aspirational district by Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi. The Prime Minister himself will oversee and monitor initiatives related to health, nutrition, education, agriculture, and skill development in this district, shared Sh. Nayab Singh Saini.

Nayab Singh Saini said that an LTL battery industry will be established on 178 acres of land in Mewat, attracting an investment of Rs.7,197 crore and government has decided to establish an Integrated Manufacturing Township (IMT) in Mewat, which will further

promote industries and create new employment opportunities. The pro-investment policies of the present state government have increased investor interest in Mewat, leading to the establishment of new industries in the region, said the Chief Minister.

He said that under the SVAMITVA Yojana, Mewat has been declared L1 Dora-free, with 1,25,158 properties identified across 396 villages, and 99 percent of beneficiaries have received ownership rights. This has enabled the residents to avail benefits from various government welfare schemes, said the Chief Minister said

that to enhance drinking water supply in Mewat, new equipment worth Rs.50 crore has been installed. Besides this, rainylwells costing Rs. 9.42 crore have been constructed in Jamalgarh and Sunhera village to address water supply issues for local residents.

The Chief Minister said that the present state government is committed to improving education in Mewat. A Government Girls' College has been constructed in Punhana, ensuring access to higher education for girls closer to their homes. Furthermore, girls enrolled in Nuh's government ITI receive a monthly stipend of Rs. 1,000 from the Mewat Development Agency to en-

courage technical education and skill development, said Nayab Singh Saini.

The Chief Minister shared that to provide quality healthcare services, a Rs. 36 crore project has been implemented at Shaheed Hasan Khan Mewati Medical College, including the construction of four operation theatres, an auditorium, two hostels, and boundary walls. Besides this, a health training center has been established in Nagina, while Tauru's PHC has been upgraded to CHC status. An ANM College has also been established in Punhana, with 50 percent of its seats reserved for girls from the Mewat region, shared Sh. Nayab Singh Saini.



Australia Masters unveil squad for upcoming International Masters League season

New Delhi
The excitement of the International Masters League (IML) is at its peak, and all eyes are on Australia Masters. Under the captaincy of Shane Watson, the team is fully prepared to make an impact in IML 2025, with their first match scheduled against West Indies Masters on February 24 in Navi Mumbai.

This league will see Australia facing some of the biggest legends of the game, including Sachin Tendulkar from India, Brian Lara from West Indies, Jacques Kallis from South Africa, Kumar Sangakkara from Sri Lanka, and Eoin Morgan from England, as per IML press release.

Australia Masters have a well-balanced squad featuring experienced players like Shaun Marsh, Dan Christian, Ben Cutting, and James Pattinson, who bring both batting and bowling depth to the team. World Cup-winning captain Shane Watson expressed his excitement, saying, "It's always special to be back in India, a place that holds so many great memories for me. The rivalry between Australia and India is intense, and we thrive on that challenge. Leading Australia Masters in the IML is an honour, and our only goal is to lift



the trophy. With the legends of the game competing, it won't be easy, but we are ready to give it everything."

This league is a golden opportunity for cricket fans to relive the magic of past legends. The highly anticipated India vs. Australia match will feature a battle between Sachin Tendulkar's batting brilliance and Shane Watson's lethal bowling. Meanwhile, Brian Lara's aggressive batting will be a major threat to Australia's bowlers, and Jacques Kallis' all-round abilities will make South Africa a tough competitor. Kumar Sangakkara's experience as a wicketkeeper-batsman will play a crucial

role for Sri Lanka, while Eoin Morgan's England side will aim to give Australia a fierce fight. Among the co-owners of Australia Masters are Indian-American entrepreneurs Hari Aggarwal, Ajay Gupta, and Ruchika Gupta. Hari Aggarwal, the founder of CNA Group, is on a mission to promote sustainability in sports. He stated, "Sports demand strategy, precision, and endurance—but now, sustainability must be part of the game. Having witnessed global efforts toward a cleaner planet, I see the IML as an opportunity to set new standards for eco-friendly sports, ensuring a greener fu-

ture for cricket and beyond. Sustainability is not just a responsibility—it's a necessity. And through cricket, we can make it a way of life."

Ajay Gupta, Chairman of Indus Communities, strongly believes in the power of sports to unite communities.

"At Indus Communities, we have always focused on building not just homes, but thriving communities. Cricket has the same power—it brings people together, fosters camaraderie, and creates lifelong memories," Ajay Gupta said as quoted by an IML press release.

Meanwhile, Ruchika Gupta, Founder & CEO of Health Click Away, is determined to bridge the gap between sports, fitness, and technology. Speaking about her vision, she said, "Health and performance go hand in hand. India and Australia share a deep-rooted connection through cricket, a sport that unites both nations in passion, discipline, and excellence. Drawing inspiration from this shared legacy, we can further empower individuals to make balanced nutrition and mindful eating an integral part of their daily lives, enhancing both sporting excellence and overall well-being."

Test cricket is hard but T20 harder, says Ryan Rickelton



New Delhi
While many consider Test cricket to be the ultimate challenge for players, South Africa's Ryan Rickelton sees there is something more difficult in the T20 format.

Rickelton became South Africa's first double Test centurion since 2016 with his blistering display against Pakistan in Cape Town. However, the top-order batter has hinted that scoring those runs was quite easier than the 303 he has garnered in seven innings for finalists MI Cape Town in SA20.

"I grew up wanting to be a Test player and thought that in T20, you can just whack a few, but T20 cricket is flipping hard. It's different, but it is harder," Rickelton said as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

Rickelton outlined the challenge of constantly playing under pressure in the T20s makes it much more challenging than Tests, where one can bid his time and work their way through at low intensity.

"Test cricket is very hard, but with T20s, there's a lot more pressure on every delivery. In Test cricket, you can bid your time and work your way through it at a lower intensity. In T20s, you've got to score [off] every ball," he said.

"There's always pressure on you, internally, externally, there's a more detailed analysis on you as a player, and against your opposition. They're always trying to hit your weaknesses. There's a lot more to it than it seems," he added.

The southpaw has fared well in first-class cricket and consistently maintained his average high. But in T20s, it has been a completely different story. Three years into his T20 career, Rickelton saw a blip in his form and worked hard to make up for it in the past year.

Rickelton's average in the T20s has jumped to 29.84 and boasts a strike rate of 140.77. He topped the run-scoring chart in the previous edition of the SA20, which was during the time he started implementing changes in his batting technique after having a conversation with his batting coach at Lions and MI Cape Town, Hashim Amla.

"I spend a lot of time with Hash. He was a phenomenal player and a calm guy in the way he dealt with his success and his failure, so that's awesome. It's just hard to obviously deal with that's around of the spectrum, but he was an incredible player, and he's a very good coach. Batting is very relationship-based, and having spent three years with him, I can trust his eyes and his perspective as a coach," he said.

"It's also nice to have someone that's around frequently. Even when I move up into the Proteas space, he's still the guy I call back. He'll watch [me play], and I'll toss some thoughts to him. It doesn't mean that I disregard anyone else's [views], but the guys that can see little intricacies coming into your game or what you're thinking behind the scenes are the kind that can relate to you a little bit more," he added.

GT bring Season Two of 'Junior Titans' to Palanpur



Palanpur
Following the successful conclusion of the Junagadh, Bhavnagar, and Bharuch legs, Gujarat Titans brought the exciting second season of Junior Titans to Palanpur.

The initiative, themed 'Let's Sport Out,' is designed to spark a love for outdoor sports among children under 14 and was held at the School Of Science (SOS), Palanpur. The event saw an enthusiastic turnout, with over 950 children from 22 schools participating, including 12 government schools and two NGOs, as stated in a release from Gujarat Titans.

A unique initiative by Gujarat Titans, Junior Titans encourages children to participate in outdoor activities. The program seeks to establish a vibrant sports culture by nurturing a lifelong passion for outdoor sports from an early age.

With four cities successfully taking part in the ongoing second season, the initiative will now move to Ahmedabad for its final stop. The inaugural edition reached over 5,000 children from 17 schools, inspiring children to actively participate in various sports, including cricket, football, and athletics.

The COO of Gujarat Titans, Arvinder Singh, said that the franchise is helping the children realize the joy of playing outdoors.

"Our vision with the Junior Titans is simple - we have to help our children realize the joy of playing outdoors. This is not only vital for their personal growth, but also helps them realize their sporting potential. We're happy with the overwhelming response we've got so far across the four cities we've covered for the second season. As we approach our final city, Ahmedabad, we're hopeful of getting more young kids joining us in making this season a grand success," Arvinder Singh was quoted in a release from Gujarat Titans as saying.

The children engaged in several activities during the event in Palanpur that include Titan Says - an interesting warm-up activity, a LALIGA masterclass, a showcase of glorious moments of Gujarat Titans, and a fun quiz. They also took part in exciting challenges such as fitness exercises, facing the bowling machine, hitting the stumps, bowling and penalty kick. Overall, the children had enriching physical as well as interactive exercises to improve their sports acumen.

The Junior Titans takes place every Saturday across cities in Gujarat. The final event will take place in Ahmedabad on February 15.

Uttarakhand Clinches Silver and Bronze in Women's 10,000m Final at National Games

Pawan Lalchand Dehradun

Uttarakhand made a strong mark in the women's 10,000m final, securing both silver and bronze medals in a thrilling race at the 38th National Games. The event, which witnessed intense competition, saw Maharashtra's Santivani Jadhav claim the gold with a time of 33:33.47.

Ankita of Uttarakhand delivered an impressive performance, securing the silver medal with a commendable timing of 34:31.03. Close behind, her state counterpart Soniya clinched the bronze, clocking 35:45.19, ensuring Uttarakhand's dominance on the podium.

The race was a testament to Uttarakhand's growing presence in long-distance running, with both Ankita and Soniya showcasing grit and endurance. Their stellar performances add to the state's emerging reputation as a hub for athletic talent.



Speaking after the event, Ankita expressed her joy and gratitude, stating, "I recently represented India in the

Olympics, and now in the National Games, I have bagged a silver medal in the 10,000m race. This is not my primary event, but I participated and won. I feel very proud of this achievement, and I am also proud that Uttarakhand is hosting this year's National Games."

Soniya echoed similar sentiments, emphasizing the hard work and dedication that led to this achievement. "I feel amazing after winning this medal. I never even thought that I would win, but through hard work and determination, I have reached this stage. This victory means a lot to me."

The performance of these athletes has brought pride to Uttarakhand, reinforcing the state's commitment to nurturing sports excellence. With their remarkable display, Ankita and Soniya have set a high benchmark for upcoming athletes, promising a bright future for the state in athletics.

England white-ball cricket for quite some time now has been way off: Nasser Hussain

New Delhi

Former captain Nasser Hussain believes for quite some time now England are way off in white-ball format from where they were under former skipper Eoin Morgan.

The Three Lions arrived in India on a white-ball tour looking for some positives and winning momentum before heading to Pakistan for the Champions Trophy.

After landing in the sub-continent, England's hopes were quickly dashed away by a relentless young Indian team. England got outfoxed in all aspects as the T20I series ended with a 4-1 series defeat for the touring party.

The defeat didn't leave England's shadow and continued to follow the touring party in the first ODI in Nagpur. India spinners Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav continued to expose England's Achilles heel, forcing them to fold on a sub-par 247.

In reply, Shubman Gill (87), Shreyas Iyer (59) and Axar Patel (52) contributed handsomely to steer India past the finishing line comfortably with more than 11 overs to spare.

"It's followed similar paths, hasn't it? Most of the games, even the 'T20s, have been periods where they've been in the game and then a clumsy mistake like that [around Phil Salt's run-out in the first ODI]. Then spin comes on. Ravindra Jadeja bowls beautifully. The T20s they lost and they lost a lot of those games for spin as well," Hussain said on the Sky Sports podcast.

After witnessing England's recent slump in white-ball cricket, Nasser believes England have drifted



away from the position of dominance they had under Morgan and Trevor Bayliss. The captain-coach combination led England to World Cup glory in 2019.

"So India, obviously white ball in that final in the World Cup in Ahmedabad, they won the T20 World Cup, so they're a formidable white-ball side. And also the depth to Indian cricket. Abhishek Sharma in those T20s - wow, what a player. Shubman Gill comes back in. Virat Kohli doesn't play. Whoever they pick, they are a wonderful side. But England white-ball cricket for quite some time now has been way off where it was under Morgan and Bayliss. So I do think it's a very important few months ahead," he added.

With two ODIs remaining and the series on the line, England would look to find the winning combination in the second match against India on Sunday in Cuttack.

Sam Konstas aims to become all-format player, recalls impersonating English icons

New Delhi

Australia's young prodigy Sam Konstas has set a long-term goal of becoming an all-format player after being overlooked for two Tests against Sri Lanka in the sub-continent.

Konstas, 19, is still new to the challenges, success and hardships that a player goes through in international cricket. The young opener earned his maiden baggy green in front of a sold-out crowd at the MCG in the Boxing Day Test against India.

With a swashbuckling 60(65) in the first innings, Konstas made a strong case for himself to become the next big thing in the future.

After taking his first step in the international circuit, Konstas isn't looking to limit himself to the red-ball format. He wants to explore white-ball cricket and emerge as an all-format player for Australia.

"I want to test myself and become an all-format player one day. Travis Head is a legend of the game, just the way he goes about it is pretty simple, and he takes on the bowlers. I'm very lucky at my age to learn from these guys, and hopefully, I can build on that," Konstas said as quoted from The Sydney Morning Herald.

In his first Test appearance for Australia, Konstas caught the world by surprise with a touch of unorthodox in his stroke play. The world of cricket came to a pause when Konstas flawlessly executed a perfect ramp shot to smoke the ball past the boundary line off Jasprit Bumrah.

The 31-year-old pace spearhead needed a moment to realise that he had conceded the first six in the Test format after more than 4,000 days.



Konstas continued to exhibit a wide array of shots from his arsenal during the final Test in Sydney, which was

enough to convince the selectors to send him to Sri Lanka.

However, after considering and taking all factors into account, Travis Head was promoted from middle to top. The decision worked wonders, with Australia celebrating an emphatic win by an innings and 242 runs in the series opener.

Konstas was sent home before the second Test, but the opportunity to watch and work with the likes of Head and Steve Smith gave him much-needed inputs to improve his game.

"I don't think I'm that good at my sweeps or reverse [sweeps], but that's something to work on when I'm back in Sydney. Uzzie and Marnus are the best at it, and then you see how Steve and Travis approach it differently. So understanding your strengths and trying to stick to it as long as possible," he said.

It is yet to be seen if Konstas will be in talks for Australia's World Test Championship (WTC) final against

South Africa on June 11 at the iconic Lord's. After the final, Australia will shift its focus to the next WTC cycle, which will begin with a tour of the West Indies. Once the series concludes, the hype around the Ashes will start to build up.

Konstas, who used to emulate English pace bowling icons Stuart Broad and James Anderson, is hopeful for an opportunity to feature in the famous rivalry.

"I remember as a kid, we would mimic some of the England bowlers in the backyard Ashes series with my brothers. Stuart Broad a few times and Jimmy Anderson. Hopefully, I get that opportunity to play over there," he said.

"We had a series in England in the under-19s, so we were there for a month, and it was different conditions, swinging with the Dukes ball, so it's invaluable to have that experience. Hopefully, a county team can pick me up," he added.

15 Taliban terrorists arrested in Pak's Punjab province

Lahore: Law enforcement agencies have arrested 15 Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) terrorists in the Punjab province of Pakistan, police said on Saturday.

"The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of Punjab province conducted 143 intelligence-based operations (IBOs) in the province during the last week and arrested 15 terrorists of TTP including a dangerous militant from North Waziristan," a CTD spokesperson said in a statement.

"In Lahore, CTD successfully apprehended a highly dangerous terrorist of TTP. The suspect hails from North Waziristan, and wanted to target important government buildings in the city," it said.

The CTD recovered a significant cache of explosive materials, including one IED bomb, six detonators, and 18 feet of safety fuse wire and banned literature from them.

"The detained terrorists were plotting attacks at multiple locations to create chaos and fear among the public in Punjab," he said.

The suspects have been shifted to an undisclosed location for further investigation.

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Imran Khan's party observes 'Black Day', several leaders arrested

Several Pakistani leaders of jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) were arrested as the party on Saturday held rallies to mark February 8 as the 'Black Day' against the alleged rigging of general elections last year.

The PTI has planned its main rally in Swabi, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, where the party is in power. It has also asked its workers and supporters to protest across the country.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur said the 'Black Day' was being marked in protest against the "historic theft of the people's mandate".

Black Day will be observed every year. Gandapur said the party will hold a rally in Swabi on February 8, Gandapur said, calling PTI supporters and workers to protest in every city in Pakistan.

"Record your protest wherever you are," Gandapur said. "The government's alleged involvement in last year's November 26 and May 9, 2023, events, Gandapur claimed the ruling party was afraid to form a judicial commission to investigate these matters.

The government has responded by imposing Section 144 in Islamabad and other areas,



which bans all political assemblies, gatherings, sit-ins, rallies, and other activities "to maintain law and order." Section 144 has also been imposed across Punjab. A Home Department spokesperson said the decision was taken to maintain law and order and protect human lives and property.

He maintained that "public processions and sit-ins can be soft targets for terrorists".

The spokesperson said the decision to impose Section 144 was taken on the recommendation of the Cabinet Committee on Law and Order and the Provincial Intelligence Committee.

In Multan, PTI leaders Meher Bano Qureshi, Zahid Bahar Hashmi, and Dalir Meher were detained by

police at Pull Chatta for violating Section 144. Over 10 PTI workers were also arrested for attempting to hold a rally in the area, Geo News reported.

Meanwhile, in Muzaffarabad, several PTI workers were detained for attempting to protest at Azadi Chowk. Some of them however managed to flee when security forces cracked down on the demonstrators.

PTI leader Khawaja Farooq escaped police custody when he was placed in a worker's car instead of a police vehicle.

Chinese authorities on Saturday initiated emergency response efforts following a landslide in southwest China's Sichuan Province.

The Ministry of Emergency Management has launched a Level-III emergency geological disaster response, while China's national commission for disaster prevention, reduction and relief has activated a Level-IV national disaster relief emergency response.

The landslide occurred at about 11:50 a.m. in Jiping Village, Junlian County in the city of Yibin, burying 10 houses and leaving over 30 people unaccounted for.

Following the landslide, ministry officials led a working group to the scene to guide rescue operations, after directing local authorities to assess the situation promptly, mobilize professional rescue resources and equipment, and enhance on-site monitoring and control to ensure the safety of rescue efforts.

The ministry has mobilized more than 400 personnel, 100 vehicles and 75 sets of equipment to undertake on-site rescue operations.

China has a four-level emergency disaster relief response system, with Level IV being the lowest level and Level I the highest.

China launches emergency response after landslide strikes Sichuan



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Iran's top leader meets Hamas leaders in Tehran

Tehran: Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei met with acting Hamas leader Khalil al-Hayya and two other leaders of the Palestinian group in Tehran on Saturday, Iranian state TV reported.

"You defeated the Zionist regime [Israel], which was in fact America's defeat," Khamenei, whose country supports Hamas in its war with Israel, told the Palestinian delegation. "You did not



Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur said the 'Black Day' was being marked in protest against the "historic theft of the people's mandate".

allow them to achieve any of their goals." Iranian TV said the Palestinian leaders were in Tehran to congratulate Khamenei on the anniversary of the 1979

Iranian revolution. They expressed gratitude for Iran's continued support.

The delegation, which also included Mohammad Darwish, head of Hamas' leadership council, and top Hamas official Nizar Awadallah, presented Khamenei a report on the current situation in Gaza and the West Bank, and "the victories and successes that were achieved".

"We come to meet with you today with pride," the TV quoted al-Hayya as telling Khamenei.

Khamenei said U.S. threats against Iran "have no effect on the mindset of our nation," the Iranian media said.

Iran has been displaying its military prowess of late. However, it's prolonged muted responses to Israeli aggressive actions have cast a shadow on its possible military might after years of sanctions against it.

BUSINESS

FM Says Fiscal & Monetary Measures Boost Consumption

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said fiscal and monetary measures announced recently will help boost consumption and promote private investment.

The Budget presented by the Finance Minister on February 1 proposed a slew of measures including income tax cuts for the middle class. Individuals earning up to Rs 2.75 lakh in a year will not have to pay any taxes, benefiting 1 crore taxpayers.

On the monetary side, the Reserve Bank on Friday slashed the policy rate by 25 basis points, the first rate cut in five years to support growth.

"After the Budget, the few inputs I've had from some business leaders is that the orders for fast-moving consumer goods for April-June are already getting booked, and the industry is clearly seeing signs of a possible recovery of consumption," she said

at a media interaction after addressing the Board of the RBI in the customary post-budget meeting.

As a result, she said, many of them are looking at reviewing their capacity utilisation itself, which means you can safely see that the triggers for a consumption-driven cycle are clearly being felt by those who have to make investment decisions.

"So, I see this as a positive sign and with yesterday's decision of the RBI, together things can move in alignment and the required traction we made in this course," she said.

She also said both the government and the Reserve Bank of India will continue to work in a well-coordinated fashion to prop up growth and contain inflation.

Fiscal and monetary policy are working in tandem and there has been good coordination between the government and the RBI, she added

New Income Tax Bill to be Introduced in LS: FM

New Delhi: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday said she is likely to introduce the new income tax bill, which will replace the six-decade-old I-T Act, in the Lok Sabha in the coming week.

After introduction in the Upper House, the bill will be sent to a parliamentary standing committee for scrutiny.

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the bill on Friday.

"Yesterday, the Cabinet cleared the New Income Tax proposal. I hope to have it introduced in the Lok Sabha in the coming week. Post that it will go to a committee," Sitharaman said at a media briefing after addressing the post-Budget customary meeting with the central board of directors of the

Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

The bill will again go to the Cabinet after the parliamentary committee gives its recommendations on it. After Cabinet approval, it will again be introduced in Parliament.

"I still have three critical stages to pass through," Sitharaman said to the query regarding rollout of the new income tax law.

Sitharaman had first announced a comprehensive review of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 in the July 2024 Budget.

The CBDT had set up an internal committee to oversee the review



and make the Act concise, clear, and easy to understand, which will reduce disputes, litigations, and provide greater tax certainty to taxpayers.

Also, 22 specialised sub-committees have been established to review the various aspects of the Income Tax

Act.

To another question, the Finance Minister said the last week's Budget announcement on customs duty rationalisation is a work that has been on since the last two years.

"So we had rationalised some even two years ago. We also set certain norms saying evergreening is not going to happen on anti-dumping duties, which had played a big role in giving some kind of a protection for India's own manufacturing capabilities," she said.

Sitharaman further said with every such expiry date getting closer, the government will review it thoroughly, and only in exceptional cases duties will be extended, but most often they should be concluded so that the protection does not become a perpetual protection.

He further said that RBI took on board the current rupee-dollar rate while working out growth and inflation projections for the next financial year.

Replying to a question, Finance Minister Sitharaman said the Union Cabinet has cleared the new income tax proposal and she hopes to have it introduced in the Lok Sabha in the coming week.

Thereafter it will be sent to a parliamentary standing committee.

PM Modi to address Industry Titans at Global Business Summit

New Delhi: A flagship initiative of The Times Group, ET Now Global Business Summit has earned its place as Asia's premier thought leadership platform, where the most influential voices come together to drive change. This year's theme, Evolve, Emerge, Expand, reflects the monumental shifts redefining the global economic and industrial landscape. With Prime Minister Narendra Modi once again gracing the summit, his visionary insights will offer a

roadmap for navigating these dynamic changes and unlocking new avenues for growth and innovation. In its 9th edition, The Times Group ET Now Global Business Summit continues its legacy of fostering transformative dialogues at Taj Place, New Delhi.

At the 2024 edition of the summit, Prime Minister Modi delivered a compelling keynote, promising a transformative economic trajectory for India. He assured the nation's rise as a global economic powerhouse, highlighting



a strong growth rate, a declining fiscal deficit, and India's positive reception at Davos. He envisioned India becoming the world's third-largest economy, backed by a bold 30-year roadmap

fuelled by super-skills. Today, as committed, that vision is being realized—India's economy continues to grow at an impressive pace, fiscal discipline remains a priority, and the country is

solidifying its position as a global leader in innovation, manufacturing, and digital transformation.

As the architect of India's economic and global resurgence, Prime Minister Modi will deliver a keynote that will provide critical insights into India's expanding global footprint, sustainable economic progress, and the role of collaboration in an interconnected world. As the architect of India's economic resurgence, his words will not only reflect on the country's

remarkable journey but also offer a vision for the future—one that businesses and investors will keenly watch. At a time when industries are redefining their trajectories, PM Modi's presence will set the stage for bold ideas, visionary dialogues, and strategies for a future-ready economy. The summit isn't just about conversations—it's about actionable insights, meaningful collaborations, and game-changing perspectives that will shape the next decade.

The 9th Edition of

The Times Group's ET Now Global Business Summit, themed Evolve, Emerge, Expand, continues its legacy as a premier platform for exploring transformative shifts redefining the global economic and industrial landscape. Bringing together global CEOs, policymakers, and visionary thought leaders, the summit goes beyond discussions—it cultivates actionable insights, fosters impactful collaborations, and sparks game-changing perspectives that will shape the next decade.

RBI not worried about rupee fluctuation: Governor



New Delhi: Reserve Bank Governor Sanjay Malhotra on Saturday said that the market forces will decide the value of rupee with respect to the US dollar and the central bank is not worried about day-to-day movement of the currency value.

Addressing the media after the meeting of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with the Reserve Bank board, Malhotra said that the central bank focuses on the value of the rupee in the medium to long term.

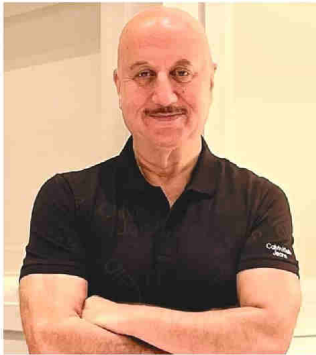
On the impact of the rupee against the US dollar on price rise, the Governor said 5 per cent depreciation impacts domestic inflation to the extent of 30-35 bps.

He further said that RBI took on board the current rupee-dollar rate while working out growth and inflation projections for the next financial year.

Replying to a question, Finance Minister Sitharaman said the Union Cabinet has cleared the new income tax proposal and she hopes to have it introduced in the Lok Sabha in the coming week.

Thereafter it will be sent to a parliamentary standing committee.

For Advt Contact:
9818-799941



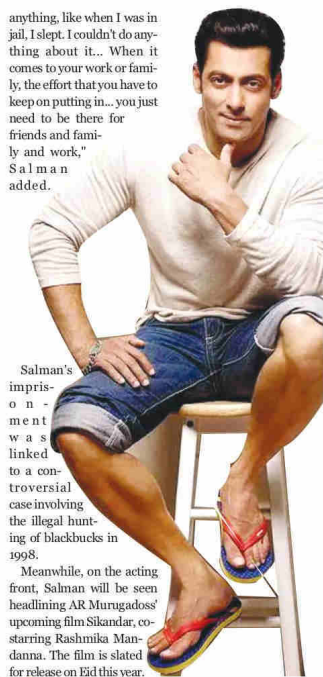
Anupam Kher walks down memory lane as 'Daddy' clocks 36 years

Mumbai Veteran actor Anupam Kher recently walked down memory lane as his film 'Daddy' completed 36 years. Released in 1989, the film was a turning point in Kher's career and also earned him his first National Award. Directed by Mahesh Bhatt, 'Daddy' revolved around the emotional story of an alcoholic father trying to redeem himself for his daughter! Thank you #MaheshBhatt for your love and brilliance! And my friend and ghazal maestro @talatazofficial made this song timeless! Jai Hof," he wrote. "Daddy" tells the story of a young woman raised by her grandparents, who unexpectedly reconnects with her estranged father. Despite warnings about his alcoholism, she hopes to change him and bring him back into her life. The film's emotional depth and strong performances made it a classic. Both Anupam and Pooja gave some of their best performances in the film. Daddy earned Anupam his first National Award, while it marked Pooja's Bollywood debut. Anupam Kher was last seen in the Kangana Ranaut directorial "Emergency", which focused on the Emergency imposed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi from 1975 to 1977, and its aftermath.

Kher, on Saturday, took to his Instagram account to share his thoughts on the film's 36th anniversary, thanking Mahesh Bhatt for his direction and also praising Pooja Bhatt, who made her acting debut in the film.

"I couldn't do...": Salman Khan opens up about time when he was in prison

Mumbai Bollywood superstar Salman Khan recently sat down with his nephew Arhaan Khan and shared his personal and professional experiences on the Arhaan's podcast 'Dumb Biryani'. During his first-ever podcast appearance, Salman reflected on his journey. One of the excerpts of the conversation that caught everyone's attention is when the 'Dabangg' star briefly opened up about the time when he was in prison. While discussing the importance of hard work and discipline, the actor emphasised that making excuses, such as needing sleep, only acts as an obstacle in achieving success. He said, "I am tired." No, get up. No matter how tired you are. I don't get sleep. You'll sleep. Do something, you'll automatically go to sleep. So I don't understand these things... I sleep for an hour and a half or two hours and then someday, once in a month, I sleep for seven hours." "Somedays I'll get a five-minute break between shots so I'll sleep on the chair. In places where I cannot do



anything, like when I was in jail, I slept. I couldn't do anything about it... When it comes to your work or family, the effort that you have to keep on putting in... you just need to be there for your friends and family and work," Salman added.

Salman's imprisonment was linked to a controversial case involving the illegal hunting of blackbucks in 1998. Meanwhile, on the acting front, Salman will be seen headlining AR Murugadoss' upcoming film Sikandar, co-starring Rashmika Mandanna. The film is slated for release on Eid this year.



Daler Mehndi, Badshah, Neha Kakkar to perform in Gurugram this month, deets inside



Gurugram Renowned singers such as Daler Mehndi, Neha Kakkar, Badshah and Gippy Grewal are all set to come to Gurugram to enthrall the Delhi-NCR crowd with their music talent. They will perform at Bollywood Music Project 2025 (BMP) on February 21st and 22nd at the Backyard Sports Club. This year's festival, themed 'All The Hits, All The Feels', aims to celebrate "the rich cultural tapestry and universal appeal of Indian music, showcasing its diverse styles and nuanced soundscapes." Excited about the gig, Badshah in a press note shared, "Bollywood music is constantly evolving, pushing boundaries and embracing new sounds, and the YES BANK Bollywood Music Project 2025 reflects



that perfectly. It's a remarkable platform that cuts across geographies and generations and I'm thrilled to be a part of this celebration that pays homage to Bollywood music, and to connect with the incredible fans in Gurugram who have always supported my journey." Neha Kakkar added, "...Bollywood Music Project 2025 isn't just about the music; it's about the energy, the connection, the feeling that only live Bollywood music can create. I'm bringing all my hits, and I'm so thrilled to share this incredible night with the amazing fans in Gurugram—are you guys ready to rock n roll?" According to Gippy Grewal, the particular event "perfectly captures the incredible diversity of sounds and styles of Bollywood music." "I'm thrilled to be a part of this celebration and look forward to sharing my unique sound with the audience in Gurugram," he shared.

Disney+ Hotstar drops trailer of Oops! Ab Kya? releasing on 20th February

Chandigarh Forget boring February blues—Disney+ Hotstar is here to turn your month upside down with a roller-coaster of comedy and chaos! Hold on to your funny bones because the trailer for Oops! Ab Kya? is finally here! This quirky comedy takes a wild, unexpected turn when a young woman's perfectly planned life goes haywire after an accidental artificial insemination—with her ex-crush's sperm, no less! Packed with laughter, awkward moments, and heartfelt emotions, the show promises to be the perfect mix of romance and chaos. Tune in to Disney+ Hotstar on 20th February, 2025 and prepare for a wild, hilarious ride filled with love, laughter, and some very unexpected twists. Starring Shweta Basu Prasad, Ashim Gulati, Jaaved Jaaferi, Sonali Kulkarni, Abhay Mahajan, Aparna Mehta, and Amy Aela, Oops! Ab Kya? is directed by Prem Mistry & Debata Mandal and produced by Dice Media. The trailer gives a peek into the hi-



larious and heartwarming drama that unfolds across three generations of women as they navigate love, tradition, and modernity—with a side of pure madness! Shweta Basu Prasad said, "The moment I read the script of Oops! Ab Kya?, I knew this was going to be one crazy ride! My character's life goes from perfectly organized to utterly chaotic in seconds, and it's all shown with such humor and heart. The trailer only scratches the surface of how wild this journey is. It's a story of love, laughter, and finding yourself amid all the madness. I know audiences will have even more fun watching it. So mark your calendars and join us for some unforgettable chaos!" Ashim Gulati said, "Being part of Oops! Ab Kya? was like stepping into a world where every unexpected moment leads to a bigger laugh. My character gets thrown into an absolutely bizarre situation, and watching him navigate it is both hilarious and heartwarming. The trailer gives you a taste of the madness, but the full show is packed with even more twists, humor, and, surprisingly, a lot of heart. Get ready to laugh, cry, and maybe even question how you'd handle a situation like this!"

Trailer of Nawazuddin Siddiqui's 'I'm Not An Actor' unveiled



Mumbai Actor Nawazuddin Siddiqui's next film is titled 'I'm Not An Actor'. Piquing audiences' interest, the makers on Saturday unveiled the movie's trailer, which showcases "two actors engaging in a gripping audition via video chat, with Nawazuddin delivering a performance that keeps viewers hooked." "An ode to the art and craft of acting. But also, to the life of an actor. The frustrations, the complexities, the vulnerability, living in the moment, improvising with life itself and over time, the inner harshness and anger. But also the capacity to love in a boundless and unlimited manner and the ability to use art for catharsis."

Teaser of Vijay Deverakonda's VD12 to have Ranbir Kapoor connection



Mumbai Actor Vijay Deverakonda's action drama 'VD12' will soon hit the theatres. While not much has been revealed about the film yet, has learnt that the teaser of the project will feature Bollywood star Ranbir Kapoor's voice-over. "Vijay Deverakonda who is gearing up for his much anticipated VD12 releasing this year. But what's exciting is that Ranbir Kapoor has given the voice-over for the VD12 teaser which was recorded in Mumbai yesterday," as per a source close to Vijay. The makers will release the teaser on February 12. This highly anticipated film is set to be released on March 28, 2025. It is written and directed by Gowtam Tinnamuri.

Luxe Fashion Takes to the Street: Blenders Pride Fashion Tour Glamour Guide

Chandigarh Get ready to turn heads with the ultimate luxury streetwear look for the iconic Blenders Pride Fashion Tour! This guide is all about blending high-end sophistication with the raw, edgy appeal of streetwear to create a statement ensemble that's both bold and refined. From picking iconic designer pieces to layering them with relaxed, urban essentials, here's how to strike the perfect balance of elegance and attitude. Whether it's playing with textures, accessorizing with finesse, or nailing the right footwear, every element will help you own the spotlight at 'The One and Only' world where fashion is just the beginning. Understanding the Aesthetic-Kanika Goyal's designs are known for their bold geometry, contemporary silhouettes, and the perfect fusion of streetwear with luxury elements. Your outfit should reflect this design philosophy while maintaining your personal style. Base Layer Essentials: Starting Strong-Start with a graphic tee featuring bold geometric patterns, made from soft, premium cotton with subtle metallic accents for a striking yet refined statement. Alternatively, choose an oversized black or white tee and add geometric designs using iron-on patches for a similar effect. Statement Outerwear: