

## A New Chapter for the Gandhi Legacy

After nearly three decades of political involvement, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, the granddaughter of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, is set to contest her first Lok Sabha election from the picturesque constituency of Wayanad in Kerala. This constituency, previously represented by her brother Rahul Gandhi, has been a stronghold for the Congress Party. Rahul Gandhi won the seat with significant margins in both the 2019 and 2024 general elections. Although he contested from two constituencies in both elections, he retained Wayanad and Rae Bareilly, their family's traditional seat.

Sonia Gandhi, citing health reasons, chose not to contest in the recent elections and was instead elected to the Rajya Sabha. With Rahul Gandhi now focusing on Rae Bareilly, the Congress Party decided that Priyanka Gandhi would contest from Wayanad. This decision was announced by Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, who emphasized the deep connection the Gandhi family has with Rae Bareilly, a relationship spanning over a century.

The decision for Rahul Gandhi to retain Rae Bareilly and vacate Wayanad for Priyanka was not an easy one. Rahul acknowledged his strong bonds with voters in both constituencies but respected the party's decision to balance the emotional ties of both regions. As a result, Priyanka Gandhi will now step into the electoral fray from Wayanad, potentially bringing three members of the Gandhi family into Parliament simultaneously if she wins.

Wayanad, known for its lush landscapes and elephant population, gained national attention when Rahul Gandhi contested from there in 2019 alongside his traditional seat, Amethi. Despite losing Amethi, he won Wayanad by a significant margin. In 2024, he repeated this strategy and won both Wayanad and Rae Bareilly. However, the seat's demographics and the political landscape have evolved, with a mix of Hindu, Christian, and Muslim voters making it a dynamic constituency.

Kerala's political scene is divided among the Left Democratic Front (LDF), led by left parties, the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF), and the BJP-led NDA. While the UDF, which includes the All India Muslim League and Kerala Congress, traditionally battles the LDF in Wayanad, the BJP has been striving to increase its foothold in Kerala, achieving a notable milestone by securing over 100,000 votes in the 2024 elections.

Priyanka Gandhi, active in politics for three decades, is now taking a more direct role by contesting in Wayanad. This Lok Sabha constituency includes parts of Wayanad, Malappuram, and Kozhikode districts, with diverse religious demographics. Her entry into electoral politics is expected to bring renewed energy to the Congress campaign.

Robert Vadra, Priyanka Gandhi's husband, expressed his excitement about her candidacy, noting that her entry into Parliament would mark a significant moment for their family. He emphasized the collective decision by the family and the party to field Priyanka from Wayanad. He also addressed the BJP's criticism of dynastic politics, highlighting similar practices within the BJP and dismissing their accusations.

With the prospect of Priyanka Gandhi contesting from Wayanad, political analysts predict a strong performance, given the Congress Party's historical success in the region. Her potential win would not only reinforce the Gandhi family's influence in Indian politics but also bring a fresh perspective to Parliament. As the nation watches, Priyanka Gandhi's journey from a seasoned political organizer to a parliamentary candidate marks a new chapter for the Congress Party and the Gandhi legacy. The upcoming by-election in Wayanad will be closely followed, with many anticipating her debut speech in Parliament, which, according to Robert Vadra, will be a momentous occasion.

As Indira Gandhi once earned the title of Durga from former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, will Priyanka Gandhi emerge as the new embodiment of strength and leadership in Parliament? Only time will tell if she will make a significant impact and carry forward the legacy of her grandmother with the same vigor and dedication.

## Priya Mallik and Amrapali Dubey Beautifully Recreate "Naginiya"

The iconic Purbi song "Naginiya" by Bhojpuri Purbi Samrat Mahendra Misir has been splendidly recreated. This new rendition, sung by the versatile Priya Mallik, has effectively conveyed the sorrow of separation, resonating deeply with the audience. The song garnered over four lakh views on the T-Series channel within just three hours of its release, showcasing its immediate impact.

The music video, created by Pankaj Narayan who also contributed additional lyrics, features a grand and poignant portrayal of the original song. Choreographer Apoorva Bajaj has expertly captured the essence of separation, making the video feel genuinely emotional rather than a mere project. Priya Mallik, sharing the screen with Amrapali Dubey for the first time, has captivated viewers with her expressive performance.

Sonu Srivastava, T-Series Music Project Manager, emphasized the meticulous effort put into ensuring the highest quality for this project. Recreating a song that has been cherished for nearly 80-90 years posed a significant challenge, prompting T-Series to contract Apoorva Bajaj specifically for this endeavor. The video, shot in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, has been praised for its remarkable execution.

The recreated "Naginiya" was directed by music director L.K. Laxmikant and produced by Sonu Pandey, with Pankaj Narayan as the creator of the video album. Released on T-Series' "Hum Bhojpuri" channel, the song stands as a testament to the timeless appeal and emotional depth of Bhojpuri music.



## These Measures Can Reduce the Overcrowding in Indian Prisons

Almost two years ago, the President of India raised the issue of the dire condition of a large number of undertrial prisoners in jails. However, despite the issue being highlighted, very little action seems to have been taken. According to recent data from the NCRB website, the number of undertrial prisoners increased by 1.7% from 4,27,165 in 2021 to 4,34,302 in 2022. As a result, Indian prisons are forced to house inmates at 131% occupancy rate, far exceeding their capacity. By 2022, about 73% of all prison inmates in the country were undertrial prisoners. So, is there no way to reduce

the number of these prisoners?

If the average daily expense for one prisoner is 100 rupees, then it costs 3000 rupees per month and 36,000 rupees per year for each undertrial prisoner. In this context, appointing special judges, conducting speedy trials, increasing the number of lawyers for a limited group of prisoners, and setting up special courts with new judges could potentially resolve many cases quickly and at a lower cost than the millions spent on prisoners annually, thus controlling the overcrowding in prisons.

The reality is that every year, some undertrial prisoners



ers are released on bail, but

the number of new prisoners entering the jails exceeds those

being released. For cases pending for more than two or three years, special courts can be arranged. Additionally, prisoners unable to arrange bail or those involved in minor offenses could be released through special bonds or other means.

The committee formed by the Supreme Court had suggested similar measures, but no action has been taken on these recommendations yet.

It is also essential to consider that many undertrial prisoners are poor and resource-deprived, often arrested disproportionately. Many of these prisoners hesitate to seek bail due to financial constraints or

fear of social stigma. Identifying such prisoners separately to ensure timely resolution of their cases is crucial.

We must remember that prison is not safe for many inmates who are there due to circumstances rather than criminal intent. Moreover, actions taken by jail authorities against prisoners are not considered crimes, which allows for negligence, leading to many unfortunate incidents within prisons.

By implementing these measures, we can significantly reduce the overcrowding in Indian prisons and provide a fair and efficient justice system for undertrial prisoners.

## 'Maharaj' Film Sparks Controversy: Sanjay Bhatt Calls for a Ban

Sanjay Bhatt, founder and owner of Anand Pragya TV OTT and a prominent spiritual speaker of the Vaishnav tradition, has called for a ban on the film "Maharaj," produced by Yash Raj Films in collaboration with Netflix. Bhatt asserts that the film is an attack on the Vaishnav sect and Sanatan Dharma, and should not be broadcasted.

In the Indian film industry, some individuals appear to deliberately court controversy, seemingly believing that it is the only way to achieve fame. They exploit Hindu sentiments

under the guise of freedom of expression and cinematic liberty to present controversial content and make money. This time, Yash Raj Productions, in association with Netflix, has created a film called "Maharaj" that allegedly distorts facts and maligns the revered Vaishnav sect. The film is set to launch Aamir Khan's son, Junaid.

Aamir Khan has previously faced controversies with his films like "PK" and "Three Idiots," which were criticized for their portrayal of Hindu society. Despite this, he has

never made a documentary highlighting issues within the Muslim community. This perceived bias has led followers of the Vaishnav sect to file a petition in the Gujarat High Court, seeking to stop the streaming of "Maharaj." The court has issued a notice to Yash Raj Films and Netflix, ordering an immediate halt to the film's streaming, which was scheduled to begin today.

The filmmakers claim that "Maharaj" is inspired by a book, but Bhatt argues that the book itself is a conspiracy against Hinduism. The film's

script is based on a 1962 court case where an English judge, allegedly biased, ruled against Sanatani values. The case involved Yadunath Ji Brijnath Ji Maharaj, who was falsely accused of sexual misconduct by a so-called social reformer and journalist, Karsandas Mulji. Despite public support for Maharaj, the judge ruled in favor of Mulji.

Sanjay Bhatt, also known as Rajiv Lochan Maharaj Shri within the Vaishnav tradition, has close ties with the Vallabh Kul lineage. He emphasizes the historical bonds between

the Bhatt Tailing Goswami family and the Vallabh Kulin families. Bhatt contends that the sudden decision to release the film on Netflix without prior notice reflects a malicious intent against Sanatan Dharma. He draws parallels to historical attacks on Sanatan by Mughal rulers and British colonialists, asserting that such efforts to defame Hindu culture will not succeed.

Bhatt concludes by stating that just as Sanatan Dharma withstood assaults from Mughals and British colonizers, it will also prevail against



these modern attempts to tarnish its image through misleading cinematic narratives.

## Mango Festival at Radisson Blu Palace Resort and Spa

Udaipur: Radisson Blu Palace Resort and Spa, Udaipur, celebrated Father's Day this year with an innovative and flavorful twist through the Mango Festival. Held on June 16th, 2024, at the resort's Wok By the Lake, the event paid tribute to the superhero fathers, aiming to celebrate their unwavering warrior spirit while offering a delightful culinary experience featuring the season's star ingredient, mango.



The vibrant décor, soulful music, and festive ambience transformed the restaurant into a lively fiesta. The culinary arrangements for the event were led by Chef Manish Sharma, Executive Chef at Radisson Blu Palace Resort & Spa, Udaipur. The event was attended by the resort's guests and local influencers, along with their fathers. The highlight of the Mango Festival was a lavish spread featuring over 15 dishes prepared with mango. The talented team, led by Chef Manish Sharma, curated a menu showcasing a fusion of recipes, colors, flavors, and variety, demonstrating the versatility of mango and the exceptional culinary skills of the team.

Somesh Agarwal, MD and Chairman of Radisson Blu Palace Resort and Spa, Udaipur, said, "This year, we wanted to celebrate Father's Day in a rather unconventional manner. Hosting the Mango Festival was our way of honoring the unparalleled support and dedication of all the fathers out there who have prioritized their families and have been a pillar of strength for them. The happy, content, and fulfilled life we lead today is an outcome of their sacrifices and boundless love for us. Hence, the festival was our attempt to celebrate fatherhood uniquely while savoring the delectable taste of mangoes in a variety of dishes and flavors and creating an unforgettable experience for our guests."

With its strategic location, picturesque views, palatial amenities, and passion for culinary excellence, Radisson Blu Palace Resort and Spa is at the forefront of organizing festivals and hosting events to celebrate special occasions. The resort is known for its top-notch hospitality and commitment to fostering a sense of community. The Mango Festival is another strong example of the hotel's dedicated approach to curating unique experiences through innovative events that bring together people from all walks of life to cherish special moments and create lasting memories.

## Munjya: An Unexpected CGI Star Winning Hearts All Over as Lord Shiva in Rajkumar R Pandey's Film "Mahima Bholenath Ki"

Maddock Films' CGI star Munjya has arrived and is winning hearts all over the country! As an unprecedented achievement, this horror-comedy featuring the CGI protagonist Munjya has created a sensation at the box office after its theatrical release. Starring Abhay Verma, Sharvari, and Mona Singh, the film is receiving immense love from audiences across the nation.

In a star-driven industry, Munjya has lived up to expectations, delivering the biggest surprise of the year by earning 4.21 crores on its opening day. Defying the rule book, Munjya has proven that an engaging story, brilliantly showcased with exceptional CGI, can astonish audiences. Munjya's spectacular debut has cast a spell on viewers nationwide.

Presented by Dinesh Vijan, directed by Aditya Sarpotdar, and produced by Dinesh Vijan and Amar Kaushik, Maddock Films' production 'Munjya' is currently making waves in theaters.



Aditya Mohan, a prominent actor in the Bhojpuri film industry known for his versatility, has landed a significant role in the film "Mahima Bholenath Ki." Directed and produced by Rajkumar R Pandey, the film features Aditya portraying Lord Shiva. Unlike typical chroma screen productions, this movie offers a more authentic experience, currently being filmed in Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh.

Aditya Mohan expressed his desire for a meaningful portrayal of Lord Shiva, which he found in this project. He emphasized his commitment to authenticity, similar to his previous role as Krishna, which he has performed over 30 times. Aditya's involvement in theater continues, with his play "Nanibai Ka Mayra" nearing its silver jubilee and a new play, "Sudama Ne Odhi Re Chunari," in rehearsals.

The film "Mahima Bholenath Ki" also stars Rajan Soni, Richa Dixit, Anara Gupta, Shyamli Srivastava, and others, with cinematography by Vijay Pandey.

Aryan Babu Shoots "Papa Ke Pyar Mai Ke Dular" in Lucknow

Bhojpuri child artist Aryan Babu is gaining recognition for his impressive talent. He is cur-

## Urban Square Mall Announces Grand Opening of Lemon Tree Hotel

Udaipur: Urban Square Mall, Rajasthan's premier retail and entertainment destination, has announced the grand opening of the Lemon Tree Hotel. This property is known as Keys Lite by Lemon Tree. Lemon Tree Hotels has leased the property at Urban Square Mall, which was previously known as Urban Suites.

Keys Lite by Lemon Tree Hotels, located at Urban Square Mall, Udaipur, features 68 meticulously designed rooms, a restaurant, and other amenities. The partnership between Lemon Tree and Bhumika Group reinforces their commitment to providing an exceptional experience in Rajasthan. Located on the 7th and 8th floors, these spacious 350-square-foot apartments offer breathtaking views of Udaipur's natural landscape, along with the convenience of a world-class shopping destination. This franchise agreement is valid for 15 years, and the rebranded property opened on June 13, 2024.

Uddhav Poddar, Managing Director of Bhumika Group, stated, "This is indeed a significant day for Udaipur and Urban Square Mall. Known as the City of Lakes, Udaipur is not only a major tourist destination in India but also a key business hub. The inauguration of Keys Lite by Lemon Tree at Urban Square will yield exceptional results."

Strategically located in the Gaurav Path area of Sukher, Urban Square Mall spans 1 million square feet. It is a retail destination offering shopping, dining, and entertainment options.



## 77 Lakh Ujjwala Connections Issued in Rajasthan

Jaipur: Alok Kumar Panda, the State-Level Coordinator for the Oil Industry and Executive Director & State Head of IndianOil, announced that Rajasthan has issued 77 lakh Ujjwala connections, bringing the total LPG connections in the state to 1.82 crore. Emphasizing safety, Panda urged customers to ensure proper cylinder delivery checks and highlighted the importance of basic safety inspections. Oil companies are conducting free safety checks, addressing issues like cylinder positioning, stove placement, and safety hose conditions. An e-KYC verification campaign is also underway, with 84 lakh of the 1.82 crore customers verified.

Currently filming "Papa Ke Pyar Mai Ke Dular" in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, Aryan is known for his serious approach to both acting and singing, making him a rising star in the Bhojpuri film industry. In "Papa Ke Pyar Mai Ke Dular," Aryan plays a challenging and memorable role. The film, which stars Arvind Akela Kallu and Raksha Gupta, emphasizes the importance of good parenting and the impact it has on children's futures. Aryan praised his co-stars for their support and the positive atmosphere on set. The movie is directed by Gaurav Patel Guddu and produced by Mahesh Singh, with a script by Surendra Mishra and Vivek Mishra. The cast also includes Shruti Rao and other talented actors. The team is working diligently to complete the project and bring it to audiences soon.

## SportsBaazi Records 100% Revenue Increase

SportsBaazi, India's premier sports gaming platform, reported a 100% revenue increase during IPL 2024 and a 1.5x surge in engagement in the first week of the T20 World Cup. Average time spent on the platform rose from 11 to 26 minutes. Virat Kohli, Jasprit Bumrah, Travis Head, and Sunil Narine were the most picked players in the fantasy gaming category. Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, and Delhi had the most active users. Co-Founder and CEO Saurabh Chopra highlighted the platform's commitment to innovative, skill-based

gaming formats. SportsBaazi also introduced a Sports Gaming Champion leaderboard, enhancing the competitive experience. The platform continues to promote responsible gaming and a vibrant sports community.

## Manoj Joshi Appointed Member of Rajasthan Industrial Problem Resolution Committee

Udaipur: Manoj Joshi, District President of Laghu Udyog Bharati Udaipur, has been appointed as a member of the Rajasthan Industrial Problem Resolution Committee. The committee was formed during a meeting of the Rajasthan State Unit of Laghu Udyog Bharati held in Bhilwara.

Mahendra Khurana from Jaipur was appointed as the convener of the committee. Alongside Manoj Joshi, who is also the publicity in-charge for Chittorgarh region, three other members were nominated: Suresh Bishnoi from Jodhpur, Pawan Jhalani from Jaipur, and Govindram Mittal from Kota. Additionally, the permanent ex-officio members of the committee will include the state president, general secretary, and the presidents and general secretaries of the three divisions.

This announcement was made by the State President of Laghu Udyog Bharati, Shantilal Balad, and State General Secretary, Yogendra Kumar Sharma.