











# Kangana Ranaut Stands By Raveena Tandon, Call Incident Absolutely...

Actor-turned-politician Kangana Ranaut has recently extended her support to Raveena Tandon, just a day after the latter faced an unexpected attack on Mumbai Street. Taking to Instagram on Monday, she called the incident 'absolutely alarming.' She also called out the mob attack, saying they should face consequences for their violent behaviour. Later, the Bollywood wrote, 'What happened to Raveena Tandon ji is absolutely alarming; had there been 5-6 more people in the opposite group, she would have been lynched; we condemn such road rage outbursts; those people must be reprimanded. They must not get away with such violent and poisonous behaviour.' What Exactly Happened? Recently, amantaking to social media platform, alleged, that actor



Raveena Tandon's driver has hit his mother. When questioned, the actor assailed his mother. This incident happened, when the man was walking with mother, sister and his niece near actor's house. However, the Bollywood actress in turn confirmed the attack against her on Carter Road, Bandra on Saturday night. Later, during the course of investigation, it was found, that women were

indeed in close proximity to actor's car, but they weren't harmed. Instead, the video showed the group arguing with Raveena and her driver for three women alleged assault. So far, Raveena Tandon hasn't issued a formal statement, but she had shared the statement on her Instagram stories to clear allegations against her. After that, senior Mumbai police officer further cleared the air and revealed during mid-day, "The complainant gave a false complaint in the alleged video. We checked the entire CCTV footage of the society and found that the actress's driver was reversing the car from the road into the society when this family was crossing the same lane. The family stopped the car and told the driver that he should check if people are behind the car before reversing. This

argument started between them. "In addition, the officials also added, that argument soon escalated to abusive language, and to check what has happened, Raveena Tandon arrived at the spot. However, the mob resorted to hurling abuses at her when the actor intervened to protect the driver from them. As a result, Actor along with her family came to Khar police station and lodged written complaints. Subsequently, they submitted letters indicating their decision not to file any complaints. Moreover, the purportedly aggrieved party affirmed that they hold no animosity towards the actor and their family. Concluding his statement, the police official said, 'Nobody was injured in this incident. We checked the CCTV footage, and the car did not hit anyone'.

## Tight Contest Between Smriti Irani and KL Sharma in Amethi; Rahul Gandhi in Wayanad



Union minister Smriti Irani and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi are anticipated to secure their respective Amethi and Wayanad Lok Sabha seats, as per the Today-Axis My India exit polls. However, the race in Amethi is expected to be tight as Smriti Irani contends against Congress candidate KL Sharma, according to the exit poll. The counting of votes for the Lok Sabha polls 2024 is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4. In the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Smriti Irani clinched a significant victory in Amethi, a constituency long considered a bastion of the Gandhi family. She defeated Rahul Gandhi, who had held the seat for 15 years, by a margin of 55,120 votes. In their initial electoral face-off in 2014, Rahul Gandhi emerged victorious against the Bharatiya Janata Party leader. In Wayanad, Rahul Gandhi is positioned strongly to secure another term in the Lok Sabha elections, as predicted by the India Today-Axis My India exit poll. The poll suggests Rahul Gandhi holds an advantage over BJP candidate and state party chief K Surendran, with veteran CPI leader Annie Raja also in the running. This forecast is based on extensive data from 5.8 lakh interviews conducted across all 543 parliamentary constituencies, as reported by India Today. While Rahul Gandhi also contested from the Rae Bareilly Lok Sabha seat, the Congress nominated KL Sharma, a close aide of the Gandhi family, to contest from Amethi against Smriti Irani. During the election campaigns, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra actively countered Prime Minister Narendra Modi's attacks on the Congress, particularly in Amethi and Rae Bareilly. She campaigned across 16 states and one Union territory, addressing large gatherings of workers in Amethi and Rae Bareilly. The Amethi constituency comprises five assembly segments and is a general seat. Voting for the Amethi seat took place in the sixth phase of the Lok Sabha elections 2024 on May 20. During his campaign, Rahul Gandhi pledged equal development for Amethi and Rae Bareilly if the Congress came to power at the Centre. He contested the Lok Sabha polls from Rae Bareilly, replacing his mother Sonia Gandhi.

## Pollsters Predict BJP's Mammoth Win But Its Firebrand Leaders Might Bite The Dust

Several pollsters predicted the fate of political parties across the country after the Lok Sabha election drew to a close on Saturday. Almost every agency predicted the BJP-led NDA's clear victory, with many even claiming that the saffron party might accomplish its ambitious 400+ target. As per the polling agencies, the BJP is set to perform significantly well in West Bengal and Odisha and increase its tally against the mighty TMC and the BJD. Besides, the saffron party is likely to make inroads down south as it may, for the first time, open its account in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Even as the psephologists predicted the BJP's mammoth win, there are certain high-profile seats where the saffron party may bite the dust.

**Basirhat:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) seems to be benefiting significantly in West Bengal. As per the Axis My India's exit poll, the BJP is estimated to win between 31 and 42 seats in the state. Meanwhile, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) could secure between 11 to 14 seats, and the Indian alliance could get 0 to 2 seats. However, despite this, there might be a setback for the BJP in the high-stakes Bashirhat seat as its candidate might face defeat at the hands of the TMC candidate. The attention was shifted to this seat as the BJP candidate from this seat is an alleged Sandeshkhali victim. The Sandeshkhali area falls under the

Bashirhat Lok Sabha seat, and there was considerable controversy over issues of violence against women and land grabbing here. The victim of Sandeshkhali, Rekha Patra, was made a BJP candidate, but the exit poll suggests that she might lose to TMC candidate Haji Nurul Islam.

**Amravati:** Navneet Rana, the Hindutva leader of the BJP from Amravati, might also have to face defeat. According to the School of Politics (SOP) exit poll, Navneet Rana is losing to Congress candidate Balwant Basavant Wankhede. Navneet Rana is BJP's high-profile leader and has perpetually been in the news for her contentious remarks.

**Coimbatore:** Coimbatore is one of the few seats in Tamil Nadu where the saffron party is hoping to win. The BJP had won this seat in 1998 and 1999 in alliance with the AIADMK. In the last four elections, the Left has won Coimbatore three times - 2004, 2009, and 2019. The AIADMK held this seat from 2014 to 2019. This time BJP has fielded state party chief Annamalai from here. Annamalai has held a fervid campaign in favour of the BJP to make its footprints in the south but as per the Axis My India Exit Poll 2024, there are high chances that Annamalai might face defeat here. The exit poll estimates suggest that DMK leader P. Ganapathi Rajkumar would win from Coimbatore.



**Chandigarh:** Being an urban seat, Chandigarh has always been a strong bastion of the BJP. However, the party may this time face a major setback here. As per pollsters, Congress veteran leader Manish Tiwari seems to be gaining ground in Chandigarh. BJP has fielded Sanjay Tandon from here in the electoral battle. Prior to this, BJP leader Kirron Kher had won this seat on the BJP ticket.

**Hyderabad:** In Hyderabad this time, BJP had intensified the contest by fielding its firebrand Hindutva leader Madhavi Latha. However, the Hyderabad seat is considered a stronghold of AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi, and once again, the exit polls have predicted his victory. Disclaimer: Exit polls are mere predictions based on surveys conducted on small sample sizes and do not indicate accurate poll results. Jagran English did not commission an independent exit poll, had no access to raw data, and could not verify the methodology and results of the separate exit polls.

## Sonia Gandhi Asked About Exit Polls, Her Expectations. What She Said

The INDIA Opposition bloc is hopeful that the results of the 2024 Lok Sabha election will be "completely opposite" to exit poll predictions that have predicted another big victory for the BJP-led NDA, senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi told news agency PTI. Asked what are her expectations for tomorrow, the Congress parliamentary party chairperson replied, "We have to wait, just wait and see. We are very hopeful that our results are completely the Opposite of what the exit polls are saying." Mrs Gandhi today visited the DMK office in Delhi to pay tributes to former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, the late M Karunanidhi, on his 100th birth anniversary. Other leaders of the INDIA bloc, including CPI general secretary D Raja, CPM general secretary Sitaram Yechury and Samajwadi



Party's Ram Gopal Yadav also attended the event. Senior DMK leaders TR Baalu and Tiruchi Siva accompanied them. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, too, visited the DMK's office to pay his tributes. "It's my pleasure to be here with my colleagues from the DMK on the very auspicious occasion of the 100th anniversary of Dr Kalaignar Karunanidhi. I had the good fortune of meeting him on many

occasions, listening to what he had to say, and benefiting from his words of wisdom and advice. I feel fortunate to have met him. My best wishes to all of you on this celebratory day," Mrs Gandhi said on the occasion. Votes polled in the seven-phase Lok Sabha election will be counted tomorrow. While the exit polls have predicted that the Narendra Modi-led BJP is set for another term, the INDIA bloc has claimed that it will win over 295 seats and form the government. Asked about the exit poll projections, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi yesterday termed it Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "fantasy poll" and reiterated that the INDIA Opposition bloc will get over 295 seats -- comfortably past the majority mark of 272 in the 543-member Lok Sabha.

# After INDIA bloc, BJP delegation meets Election Commission, puts four demands

Hours after a delegation of I.N.D.I.A bloc met the full bench of the Election Commission on Sunday, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) delegation also reached the office of the poll body. The delegation led by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, including Union Minister Piyush Goyal, Sanjay Mayukh and Om Pathak met with the EC. After the meeting, Piyush Goyal addressed the media and alleged that they had to call upon ECI, as repeated attempts are being made by the Congress and I.N.D.I.A bloc to undermine the integrity of India's robust electoral process. Goyal said, " We had to call upon ECI today, in light of the repeated attempts by a section of the political parties led by the Indian National Congress and their INDI alliance partners and certain motivated civil society groups and NGOs who are trying their level best to under-

mine the integrity of India's electoral process. Their efforts against India's robust electoral process are a direct attack on our democratic institutions..."Goyal also accused Congress of attacking Indian democratic system. He said that elections are becoming completely transparent and better. Opposition is targeting strong leaders and India's growing development. Union Minister said that if the judgment comes in their favor then they say Satyamev Jayate otherwise they raise questions.

### Four demands put by BJP delegation

He went on and said that the delegation had urged the poll body to take four important steps. As per Goyal, the four demands include: Every official engaged in the counting process should be fully conversant with the minutest

details of the prescribed process and should follow all EC protocols diligently. To ensure the safety and security of the electoral process during the counting and announcement of results. To take cognisance of the systematic attempts to undermine the electoral process and take strict action against those responsible. Issue a public statement affirming the integrity of the electoral process and warning against any attempt to disrupt the democratic process. Notably, the polling in all the 543 parliamentary constituencies has ended on June 1. The counting of the votes will take place on Tuesday (June 4). Subsequently, the nation will get its new central government. Meanwhile, the exit polls suggest that PM Moid-led NDA is likely to form the third consecutive government in the 18th Lok Sabha.

# Rahul Gandhi's exit poll scepticism contradicts previous support, says Axis My India CMD

New Delhi, June 2 Pradeep Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Axis My India, countered Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's rejection of the exit polls, comparing it to the metaphorical expression "sour grapes". Speaking exclusively to IANS on Sunday, Gupta asserted that Rahul Gandhi has the right to interpret the exit polls as he sees fit. The esteemed pollster pointed out that the Congress leader had previously expressed satisfaction when Axis My India Exit Polls had forecast victories for his party in Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, and Telangana. Responding to the exit poll projections suggesting another landslide victory for the BJP in the Lok Sabha elections, Rahul Gandhi earlier referred to the late singer Sidhu Moose Wala's song "295" song, suggesting that the INDIA bloc would eventually attain its goal of 295 seats. He aimed to discredit the exit polls, labelling them a "Modi media poll"

and "fantasy poll". Asked about any presence of a wave of support for Rahul Gandhi during the elections or if Congress candidates were winning based on local dynamics, Gupta highlighted that Rahul Gandhi and the Congress had campaigned under the INDIA bloc banner. Similarly, regional parties contested elections independently in various states such as Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Bihar, and Jharkhand. Gupta observed that Rahul Gandhi didn't possess the visibility of a prominent brand. He further noted that even in Congress-governed states like Karnataka, Telangana, and Himachal Pradesh, people didn't primarily vote for the party because of Rahul Gandhi. According to Gupta, the Congress sought votes in these states by emphasising facilities and systems, which resonated with the voters. Regarding the impact of the freebies, particularly Rahul Gandhi's "Khata Khat" promise," Gupta



emphasised that such slogans only resonate when there is substantial content and product behind them. He explained that effective marketing relies on a tangible product or offering. He also underlined the interdependence of packaging and marketing, noting that marketing alone is ineffective without a quality product. Notably, Axis My India's Exit Poll forecast 361-401 seats for the BJP-led NDA out of a total of 543 seats in the Lok Sabha polls. Additionally, the agency predicted 131 to 166 seats for the INDIA bloc.

# Will Uddhav Thackeray Return To NDA?

Hinting at the possibility of a surprising turn of events, Maharashtra MLA Ravi Rana, triggered a major political row just two days before the results announcement the Lok Sabha elections 2024. The controversy erupted after Rana claimed that Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray will likely join hands with the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance, after the latter attains third consecutive victory. The results for the seven-phased Lok Sabha polls is slated to be announced on June 4. Various exit polls released on June 1 projected NDA's victory, third time in a row, dashing the hopes of the I.N.D.I.A bloc once again. However, the opposition alliance leaders have come out to question the credibility of the exit polls, with some calling them an "orchestrated plan" and with others "rejecting" them completely. In an interview with CNN-News 18, Maharashtra MLA Ravi Rana claimed that the former Maharashtra Chief Minister is "set to join PM Modi's government within 20 days after the swearing-in ceremony of the NDA." Stressing that



his predictions are accurate, Rana stated that he "knows this time as well, I will be right", adding that he had also predicted the exit of Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar from Shiv Sena and NCP, respectively, and it turned out to be true. "The Prime Minister had said that a window is always open for Uddhav Thackeray as he is Balasaheb Thackeray's son. I am sure that Uddhav will use this window to come back to BJP," the MLA claimed. Will Uddhav Thackeray Become Part Of Modi Government 3.0? In a political twist, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had signalled Uddhav Thackeray to join NDA during an interview. Besides this, PM

Modi during a political rally in Maharashtra's Nandurbar took a dig at Sharad Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray, advising them to "join our Ajit dada (Pawar) and Shinde ji to fulfill your dreams respectfully instead of dying in Congress." Uddhav Thackeray is a part of the opposition-led I.N.D.I.A bloc has been seen standing in unity with it against the NDA. In the interview, PM Modi was asked if he considered former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray as the rightful heir to Balasaheb Thackeray. To this he replied: "I can never forget the love and affection of Balasaheb Thackeray towards me." The PM stated that he will always be grateful to Balasaheb Thackeray and can never speak against him. He also added that he'll be the first one to help Uddhav Thackeray if lands in trouble. However, Uddhav Thackeray had responded to PM Modi's remark saying, "Even if the doors are open, do whatever you want. I will not come to you. And there will be no need to come back to you because you will not be there (in power)."

# Chequered history with incorrect predictions

Antique Stock Broking said exit poll results expecting the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) to surpass its 2019 tally is in line with its expectations, saying the key highlight of the election, if exit poll expectations come true, may be NDA making significant inroads in eastern and southern states of India while maintaining its dominance in Hindi speaking heartland. Antique said exit polls have a chequered history with incorrect predictions in 2004, 2009 general election as well as in the recent 2023 state assembly elections of Chhattisgarh and Karnataka. In few other instances, it noted, exit polls underestimated the NDA margin of victory in 2014 and 2019 general election and 2023 Madhya Pradesh state election. "One possible reason has been 'non-response bias' emerging with rising women electorate, who has been voting in favour of NDA at a national level, as per our interaction with few political experts," it said. Exit polls published by various agencies suggest that NDA party is likely to get re-elected for the third time with an even bigger mandate (362-385 seats). As per the exit poll, NDA is able to maintain its seat count in its key Hindi speaking belt and significantly gain inroads in eastern and southern states like Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Telangana, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. It said empirical analysis on 2019 voter turnout change and 2014 winning margin suggest that voter turnout drop in seats won with high winning margin has lower chance of losing the seat as compared to those in seats won with low winning margin. "Our analysis of 2024 voter turnout and 2019 winning margin also suggest that Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) seems to have an edge. We believe if BJP comes to power with absolute majority, policy and reform continuity may help in private capex revival. Our model portfolio remains aligned towards domestic cyclical themes," the brokerage said.

# Bangladeshi smugglers brutally attack BSF jawan who tried to stop them from illegally entering India



On Sunday (2nd June), infiltrators from Bangladesh attempted to kidnap a Border Security Force (BSF) jawan after he tried to stop them from illegally entering India. The incident took place at the Indo-Bangladesh fence gate No. 196 at Kalamchera in Tripura. As per reports, the accused crossed the international border to smuggle sugar. When they were confronted by BSF constable Bhole, the infiltrators snatched his weapon and radio set. They also abused him verbally and made vulgar gestures towards him. The infiltrators then assaulted the BSF jawan with iron rods and bamboo sticks before trying to abduct him to Bangladesh. While speaking about the matter, a BSF official informed, "Constable Bhole managed to escape however he was assaulted with bamboo sticks and iron rod due to which he sustained grievous injuries." Following the incident, a commandant-level meeting was held by the BSF with the Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB). The weapon of the injured BSF jawan and his radio set were returned by the BGB during the said meeting.

