

TRIPURA ELECTION 2023 LIVE UPDATES: THE RULING BJP AND ITS ALLIANCE PARTNER IPFT ARE UP AGAINST THE LEFT-CONGRESS ALLIANCE AND TIPRA MOTHA IN A TRIANGULAR CONTEST.

TRIPURA ASSEMBLY ELECTION LIVE UPDATES: ENTHUSIASM PALPABLE AMONG VOTERS- POLL OFFICER; FORMER CM MANIK SARKAR VOTES

The polling for the Tripura Assembly election is underway amid tight security. Arch rivals, Congress and CPI-M have joined hands to dislodge the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from power in the northeastern state. In this triangular contest, the ruling BJP and its alliance partner Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) are pitted against the Left-Congress alliance and TIPRA Motha, the newest regional party in the state. The BJP is contesting on 55 seats and its ally on six seats as both parties have fielded their candidates from the Ampinagar constituency. The Left - which includes the CPM, Forward Bloc, Communist Party of India (CPI) and Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP) - is contesting on 47 seats while Congress on 13 seats. The TIPRA Motha, headed by royal scion Pradyot Kishore Debbarma, is contesting on 42 seats. The counting of votes will be done on March 2.



Former Tripura chief minister Manik Sarkar has alleged attack on polling agents of the Left and that they were thrown out of polling booths in Dhanpur. He also alleged violence at Udaipur in Gomati district. Sarkar earlier voted in Agartala. Tripura chief minister Manik Saha cast his vote in Agartala on Thursday as polling began for 60 assembly seats in Tripura. Saha, the BJP candidate from Town Bordowali constituency, cast his vote in Maharani Tulsibati Girls HS school in the state capital. Tripura chief electoral officer Gitte Kirankumar Dinakarrao said the polling process was peaceful in the first two hours. The CEO also noted that "enthusiasm was palpable among the voters", especially women. "This indicates polls are being held in a free and fair manner," he said. According to the latest data shared by the Election Commission, West Tripura saw 14.56 per cent voting till 9 am

KAREENA KAPOOR PAYS TRIBUTE AFTER HOLLYWOOD ACTOR RAQUEL WELCH DIES AT 82

Hollywood actor Raquel Welch, known for her roles in A Fantastic Voyage and One Million Years BC, has died at the age of 82. Kareena Kapoor took to her Instagram Stories to remember her. Actor Kareena Kapoor paid her tribute to Hollywood actor Raquel Welch, who died on Wednesday after a brief illness, as confirmed by her agent. Raquel was a big screen star of the 1960s and '70s, who rose to fame with movies including Fantastic Voyage, One Million Years BC, and Myra Breckinridge. She was 82.

LOST MOVIE REVIEW: YAMI GAUTAM FILM IS NICELY ATMOSPHERIC BUT ULTIMATELY DISSATISFYING

The plot's focus on Yami Gautam's Vidhi reduces the other characters into satellites who revolve around her. The only one who lifts off the screen is Pankaj Kapur, playing her twinkly-eyed, wise grandpa. A young man who does 'nukkad naatak' on Kolkata's teeming streets, goes missing one fine day. His sister and mother are bereft, because no one, least of all the police, seems interested in searching for him. A journalist with a fine nose for sniffing out trouble is on his trail, asking tough questions, making some powerful people uncomfortable: Aniruddha Roy's Choudhary's 'Lost' begins with a great deal of promise. But as it goes along, it becomes more the story of Vidhi (Yami Gautam) an intrepid reporter, rebellious daughter, loving granddaughter, than about Ishan (Tushar Pandey), the theatre activist, in a rocky relationship with the ambitious Anika (Pia Bajpiee), and his trajectory. The person who is 'lost', on whose story the film's title is based, takes a back-seat, and it is the film that gets lost.



WOMEN'S WORLD CUP: DEEPTI SHARMA, RICHA GHOSH GET INDIA PAST WEST INDIES FOR THEIR SECOND SUCCESSIVE WIN

W Indies slump to 15th straight loss, eighth successive against India. With four needed to win, Richa Ghosh lined up for a pull. With Shamilia Connell's delivery not short enough for the shot, she just whacked it to the deep square-leg fence before ending up with her left leg in the air, a follow-up pose that would have made many in the Caribbean proud. For the second consecutive match, the India wicketkeeper played a gem of an innings, once again remaining unbeaten as her reputation as a finisher only grew, and with that the team's confidence. To be fair, the result was on expected lines.

SOLDIER DIES DAYS AFTER ATTACK BY MOB LED BY DMK COUNCILLOR IN TAMIL NADU

THE DMK COUNCILLOR AND EIGHT OTHERS THRASHED THE SOLDIER, PRABHU, AFTER AN ARGUMENT OVER WASHING CLOTHES IN A PUBLIC TANK

A 29-year-old soldier was killed after he was allegedly attacked by a DMK councillor in Tamil Nadu's Krishnagiri district. The soldier, Prabhu, served in Jammu and Kashmir. The police said there was an argument between the soldier and the DMK councillor, Chinnaasamy, over washing clothes at a public tank. The soldier's brother, Prabhakaran, was also injured in the attack, the police said.

Later, the argument escalated into a full attack with more men joining the DMK councillor in thrashing the two brothers on February 8. Prabhu was admitted to a hospital, where he died last night. Six men were arrested on February 9. Three more including the DMK councillor were arrested today.

The mob used logs to attack the soldier, the police said. BJP state Chief Annamalai said, "There is no safety for an army person in his own hometown. People are watching the indifferent Chief Minister who holds the Home portfolio."

US STATE DEPARTMENT IGNORES PAKISTANI JOURNALIST'S QUESTION ON INCOME TAX SURVEY ON BBC

Price stated that India is the world's largest democracy, and also a vibrant one. "We look to everything that ties us together, and we look to reinforce all of those elements that tie us together."

The US State Department on Tuesday (local time) overlooked a Pakistani journalist's question on the survey at BBC offices in Delhi and Mumbai by Indian tax authorities.

When ARY's reporter in Washington Jahanzaib Ali asked about "any thoughts and concern" over the survey, US State Department spokesperson Ned Price said, "We are aware of the search of BBC offices in Delhi by Indian tax authorities." The reporter further questioned to get the US State Department's reaction but Ned Price refused to wade into the controversy or comment on the matter. Notably, Pakistani journalist Ali, cited the BBC documentary on the 2002 Gujarat riots and said he "regretted" that no US official had criticized it,

while the US State Department highlighted the close relationship between the two countries, especially over shared values. "What I will say broadly is that there are a number of elements that undergird the global strategic partnership that we have with our Indian partners. There are close political ties, there are economic ties, and there are exceptionally deep people-to-people ties between the United States and India. But one of those additional elements are the values that we share, the values that are common to American democracy and to Indian democracy," Price said during regular press briefing.

V-P JAGDEEP DHANKHAR: DOCTORED NARRATIVES SEEK TO RUN INDIA DOWN, NEED BOLD COUNTER

The remarks came even as Income Tax authorities continued their "survey" of the offices of BBC in New Delhi and Mumbai for a second day on Wednesday.

CAUTIONING against what he called "doctored narratives," that seek to "run down" India's growth story, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar said here Wednesday that "dumping of information" was another way of "invasion".

"We have to boldly neutralise it (the invasion)," Dhankhar said in an interaction with group of Indian Information Service (IIS) probationers at his residence on Wednesday. He called on them to become "real protectors of democracy and nationalism."

Dhankhar's remarks come even as Income Tax authorities continued their "survey" of the offices of BBC in New Delhi and Mumbai for a second day on Wednesday. Officials have alleged that the news organisation didn't comply with transfer pricing norms and "diverted" profit. The BBC has said it is "fully co-operating" with the probe.



ADANI DEALS TO ACQUIRE DB POWER EXPIRES



Billionaire Gautam Adani-Adani Power's planned ₹7,017-crore acquisition of thermal power assets of DB Power Ltd has collapsed as the deadline to complete the transaction expired. The agreement to acquire the company was announced in August 2022.

"We wish to inform that the long stop date under the memorandum of understanding dated August 18, 2022, has expired," Adani Power said in an exchange filing on Wednesday, without providing any information about the extension of dates or agreement renegotiation.

MUMBAI: FOUR, INCLUDING TWO LAWYERS, CHEAT OVER 150 OF RS 3.75 CR

MBVV police bust racket where gang targeted customers found on websites dealing with real estate, lured them with cheap properties seized by banks

A gang of four, two of whom are lawyers, has been busted for allegedly cheating more than 150 people across Mumbai, Thane and Palghar of Rs 3.75 crore by promising them flats seized by banks at low cost. Their racket was busted by the MBVV police on Tuesday, and the gang members were apprehended.

According to the police, the gang operated luxurious offices in various locations and with different names, and hired fresh graduate students to work as telecallers. They procured details of prospective buyers from websites that deal with buying and selling real estate. The telecallers lured buyers by offering cheap properties.

The last office opened by the gang was named 'Bidders Winners' and was located in Virar. One of the buyers trapped by the gang was Piyushkumar Diwan, 58. The gang members identified themselves as Praveen Nanavre, Nitin Sharma, Rahul Bhat, and Alayda Shah and charged Diwan Rs 80 lakh for a flat seized by the bank. They closed the office and disappeared after taking the money. Diwan filed a complaint in this regard at Arnala police station on March 28, 2022.

MBVV's Arnala police, Crime Branch Unit III under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Avinash Ambure and Unit III's Senior Inspector Pramod Badhak worked on the case.

Questioning of the accused revealed that they also fleeced people in Mumbai and Thane districts using the same modus operandi. Their offices in Thane and Azad Maidan were named 'Land Loader' and 'Patil Digital' respectively.

Just like their companies, the gang also maintained different names. Rahul Bhat's original name is Parvez Dastagir Shaikh, and his other aliases include Peter Sikwera and Asif Sayyed. The 31-year-old is a Mira Road resident.