

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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GOVT, POLITICAL PARTIES SLAM REHMAN MALIK FOR DEMANDING SECURITY FOR SHAH RUKH KHAN 8

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## TIMES OF INDIA SOCIAL IMPACT AWARDEES A SYMBOL OF HOPE, SAYS PRESIDENT



On the eve of Republic Day, President Pranab Mukherjee had spoken of the need to reset India's moral compass and said "nothing should be allowed to spur cynicism..." Three days later, at a deeply moving ceremony hosted by National Award-winning film-maker Prakash Jha, the President moved seamlessly from his R-Day address while applauding the winners of The Times of India Social Impact

Awards, in association with J P Morgan, as symbols of hope. "It is the work done by exceptional individuals like the awardees...that gives me confidence in India's enduring vitality and her certain trust with destiny," he said on Monday night. "I personally remember many such people from my childhood and the village in which I grew up." His speech was heard in rapt silence by a power-packed audience

that included about 15 Union cabinet ministers and ministers with independent charge, leaders of the Opposition, top bureaucrats, ambassadors, legal luminaries, business magnates and prominent figures from civil society. The President, seen in this picture with all the awardees and Times Group managing director Vineet Jain (to his right), complimented The Times of India for instituting the Awards

which "will help reaffirm India as a caring society". He said that while the media had a role in drawing "attention to what is wrong", it should "make a conscious effort to highlight the positive". "The best way is what TOI has done --- identified those individuals and organizations who silently contribute for the betterment of society." Full Coverage of the Awards ceremony in tomorrow's edition

### NEWS DIGEST

#### Notice to Sharma ridiculous, says lawyer

Senior IPS officer Rahul Sharma's lawyer Mukul Sinha on Tuesday dubbed the Narendra Modi-government's move to issue two show cause notices to senior IPS officer Rahul Sharma as ridiculous and vindictive. Sinha said that the move only portrays the government in a poor light. P 3

#### Adani Ports to divest 100% stake in Abbot Point

Shares of Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd (APSEZ) on Tuesday climbed over 6 per cent after the company said it will divest almost the entire stake in Australia's Abbot Point Coal Terminal to the Adani family. The company on Tuesday posted 12.52 per cent growth in consolidated net profit at Rs 361 crore in the third quarter. P 13

#### Vishwaroopam hits theatres in Karnataka

Karnataka: Kamal Hassan's controversial film Vishwaroopam was finally released in Karnataka on Tuesday after the state police gave an assurance of providing adequate security for the multi-lingual film. P 8

#### Lokpal Bill set to receive Cabinet nod tomorrow

The Cabinet is set to clear the Lokpal Bill on Thursday that concedes the demand of Opposition parties to delink state lokayuktas from the legislation but rejects a key select committee recommendation of the CBI chief being appointed by collegium. P 7

#### MLAs' resignations on hold, BSY loses KJP post

In a double jolt to B S Yeddyurappa, Karnataka assembly speaker on Tuesday put on hold resignations of 12 ruling BJP MLAs loyal to him, even as Karnataka Janata Party's former founder removed the former chief minister from the party's presidency. P 8

#### Kazakhstan plane crash kills 22

A passenger plane crashed in thick fog near Kazakhstan's commercial capital of Almaty on Tuesday, killing all 22 people on board, an emergency services official said. P 11

#### UK asked to explain Diego case

In a blow to the British government, the International Court of Justice in The Hague has asked Britain to explain its decision to acquire the Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean from Mauritius in 1965. P 11

### DON'T MISS

- Oh Lord! give us a breakthrough, P 2
- Tailor shoots ace at Paes-starrer, P 5

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### MARKET WATCH

INDICES	BULLION
SENSEX: 19,991 ▲ 112	GOLD/10 GM: 30,405
NIFTY: 6,050 ▲ 25	SILVER/1 KG: 58,280
TOP GAINERS	EXCHANGE
ADANI PORTS: 146 ▲ 9	\$: 53.78
AXIS BANK: 1,476 ▲ 61	€: 84.58
	SGS: 43.44

### WEATHER

Sunrise: Wednesday: 7:20 am  
 Sunset: Wednesday: 6:26 pm  
 Moonrise: Wednesday: 9:25 pm  
 Moonset: Thursday: 9:02 am

Forecast: Sky will be clear, minimum temperature will be around 13°C  
 Relative humidity: Maximum 42% Minimum 21%

Max 28.8°C (0)  
 Min 12.8°C (0)

Times Classifieds | P 6

## Home, auto loans to get cheaper as RBI cuts rates

### But Banks May Not Change Deposit Rates

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Amount (In ₹)	Repayment period (In Years)	Reduction in EMI (In ₹)
20 lakh	15	312
50 lakh	15	782
1 crore	15	1,565
20 lakh	20	339
50 lakh	20	848
1 crore	20	1,696

Note: It is assumed that rate has been cut from 11% to 10.75%

Mumbai: Rates on home and auto loans are set to get cheaper even as banks remain tentative about cutting deposit rates following a 25 basis points reduction in key rates by Reserve Bank of India. However, this might be as good as it gets for borrowers, with RBI governor D Subbarao warning that inflation and the current account deficit will have to fall beyond expectations for further rate cuts.

Royal Bank of Scotland on Tuesday became the first to reduce lending rates following the RBI announcement. RBS cut its base rate by 75 basis points to 9%. Top lenders including State Bank of India, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and Bank of India too indicated that they would re-

duce lending rates. Home loans leader HDFC said it would reduce rates as soon as its borrowing costs come down, which is expected to happen in three to four weeks. In a positive development for retail customers, long term deposit rates are expected to hold. In fact, two days ahead of the policy, ICICI Bank and Axis Bank had increased interest rates on deposits on some maturity slabs. Currently, the spread between interest rate on home loans

### Time to look at long-tenure FDs

With RBI signaling softening of the high interest regime in its policy review on Tuesday, it's now time for retail investors to look at investing their funds in high-yielding debt and fixed deposits with a lock-in of three years or more. A cross-section of financial planners and advisers that TOI spoke to said that investors should now look at long-term debt investments, especially bonds which enjoy a tax free status. However, they also cautioned that an investor should not go in for a course correction now if he/she has already planned investments with the long term in mind. "Retail investors who don't come under the income-tax bracket should put their money into bank fixed deposits (FDs) of three years or more," said Raghvendra Nath, MD, Ladderup Wealth Management.

and long-term deposits has narrowed to less than one percentage point. In the third quarter review of the RBI's monetary policy, Subbarao announced a 25 basis points reduction in the Cash Reserve Ratio to 4% and a matching cut in the repo rate to 7.75%. The cash reserve ratio refers to the portion of deposits that banks are required to maintain with RBI without earning any interest while the repo rate is the rate at which RBI lends overnight funds to banks. The twin measures together will provide banks with headroom to reduce their base rate by at least 25 basis points. The base rate is a benchmark rate announced by banks based on their cost of funds. Interest on all floating rate loans, including home and some auto loans, are benchmarked to the base rate. Any reduction in the base rate will bring down cost of borrowing for all customers whose loans are set on a floating rate. P 13, 14

### Nirbhaya trial to stay within Delhi, says SC

Dhananjay Mahapatra | TNN

New Delhi: A Delhi fast-track court will continue to hear the Nirbhaya gang rape case as the Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed a petition by an accused who had sought shifting of the trial outside Delhi on the ground that the surcharged atmosphere here was not conducive for a fair trial.

Accused Mukesh's plea, filed through advocate M L Sharma, was dismissed on a technical glitch, which arose after another lawyer V K Anand dramatically appeared a week ago before a bench headed by Chief Justice Altamas Kabir and questioned Sharma's authorization to seek shifting of trial.

With Anand claiming to be Mukesh's counsel and Sharma waving his advocate-on-record's vakalatnama from the same accused, the SC sought a report from the sessions judge presiding over the fast-track court holding trial in the Nirbhaya case.

On Tuesday, Sharma produced a fresh vakalatnama from the accused in his favour, but the trial judge's report clinched the issue in favour of Anand. P 7

## Railways serves 'rat biryani' to Guj pilgrims

Prashant Dayal | TNN

Ahmedabad: A revolting dish of 'rat biryani' - that's what a staunch vegetarian family from Valsad was served from the pantry of the Sarvodaya Express while they were returning home after a pilgrimage to Vaishno Devi.

Teacher Nilesh Patel, 38, and his wife Veena had ordered three vegetarian biryanis - one to be shared by their two sons. When their son Monik, 7, dug a spoon in the dish, something heavy obstructed him. Patel helped him out and along with the rice, came a large rat which had been cooked in the biryani.

Some 300 pilgrims from Ahmedabad were on the train of which around 150 had ordered the biryani. "The experience was horrifying," Patel said. "We have pledged never to have food from the railway pantry again." When news of 'rat biryani' being served spread in the train, angry passengers confronted the staff. At the New Delhi railway station, a waiter tried to throw out the remaining biryani, but the move backfired as passengers foiled his attempt. They recorded this effort as an attempt "destroy evidence" on their cellphone cameras. When the protests got angrier, railway police rushed in to contain the situation. Rohit Upadhyay, a resident of Ahmedabad and a retired income tax officer who was on the train, said, "Even the cops seemed repulsed by our experience." Patel's statement was recorded given assurance that action would be taken against those responsible. "Pantry manager gave us a written apology and agreed to take responsibility," said Patel.

## Shiv Sena backs Sushma as NDA's PM candidate

TNN & AGENCIES

Mumbai/Ahmedabad: Shiv Sena on Tuesday voiced its support for leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Sushma Swaraj as NDA's prime ministerial candidate, a day after senior BJP leader Yashwant Sinha backed Gujarat chief minister Narendra Modi for it.

On a day when the momentum for Modi picked up with former Union ministers Ram Jethmalani and C P Thakur endorsing Yashwant Sinha's case for projection of the Gujarat CM, the Sena strongly pitched for Swaraj.

"We feel Sushma Swaraj is the suitable candidate for the PM's post," Sanjay Raut, MP, Sena spokesman, told reporters here.

Late Shiv Sena chief Bal Thackeray had also pitched for Swaraj as BJP-led

NDA's prime ministerial candidate, he said.

Sena had recently slammed Modi, the BJP's Hindutva poster-boy, for allowing the Pakistan cricket team to play a match at Rajkot.

An editorial in the Sena mouthpiece 'Saamana' had said that while the Gujarat government had turned away a 22-member Pakistani delegation, which had come down to participate in the 'Vibrant Gujarat' summit, due to India's strained relations with that country, "a fortnight ago, the entire Pakistani cricket team was playing in Rajkot".

"If Modi government had sent the Pakistani cricketers back in a similar manner, there would have been another feather of patriotism in Gujarat's cap. Maharashtra and Gujarat must join hands to fight the battle against the Pakistanis," said the editorial in the newspaper, which has Sena president Uddhav Thackeray as the editor. P 7

### Philips exits home entertainment biz

Amsterdam: Philips Electronics is selling its audio and video business to Japan's Funai Electric Co in a deal that almost completes its exit from consumer electronics to focus on more profitable home appliances and healthcare. The Dutch company was familiar in Europe and Asia, thanks to its high-quality goods such as TV sets, cassettes and CD players. REUTERS | P 14

### Etihad set to pick up 24% stake in Jet

New Delhi: Exactly 17 years after he had to buy back a 40% stake in Jet Airways from Gulf carriers when FDI was disallowed, Naresh Goyal is set to become the first beneficiary now that FDI has been opened up again. TNN | P 13

## TOI adds readers, widens lead

### Bigger Than Next 3 Rivals Combined

The Times of India not only remains India's most widely read English newspaper with a readership that's more than the combined readership of two of its closest competitors, it continues to grow at a robust pace, according to the Indian Readership Survey (IRS) for the third quarter of 2012. The survey found that TOI had added 10,000 new readers to take its average issue readership to 76.5 lakh against 37.9 lakh for the Hindustan Times and 22.6 lakh for the Hindu. The newspaper has grown by retaining its leadership of key markets and by closing the gap with the leader or taking over the lead in others.

WELL AHEAD		AHMEDABAD	
The Times of India	76.5	Times of India	1,28,000
Hindustan Times	37.9	Ahmedabad Mirror	61,000
The Hindu	22.6	DNA	23,000
The Telegraph	12.5	The Indian Express	1,000
Deccan Chronicle	10.5		

All-India figures in lakh Source: IRS 2012 Q3

In Mumbai, TOI remains more than twice as large as the nearest competitor with a readership of 16.2 lakh compared to HT's 8 lakh. In fact, TOI's group publication Mumbai Mirror is now just 3,000 behind HT. In the national capital, TOI has yet again gained market share. In Bangalore, TOI's readership of 5.4 lakh is almost thrice as large as second-placed Deccan Herald's 1.9 lakh while Bangalore Mirror has gained 5,000 readers to be a close third at 1.7 lakh. In Ahmedabad, TOI's 1.3 lakh readers and Ahmedabad Mirror's 61,000 give them leadership by a long distance ahead of DNA's 23,000. In Pune too, TOI's dominance continues with a readership of 2 lakh against DNA's 58,000. Meanwhile an impressive 11% gain in readership for Pune Mirror means it is a close third with 51,000 readers. P 7

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