



"I AM A COMMON MAN," SAYS RAHUL GANDHI AS HE ARRIVES IN US' SAN FRANCISCO

PATNA:CONGRESS DARPAN

San Francisco: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi arrived here on Tuesday for a three—city US tour during which he will interact with the Indian expatriates and meet American lawmakers.

He was received at the airport by Indian Overseas Congress chairperson Sam Pitroda and other members of the IOC. Rahul Gandhi had to wait for two hours at the airport for the immigration clearance, party sources said. While he was waiting in the queue, several people who were travelling with him in the same flight clicked selfies with him.

When people asked him why he was standing in the queue, Rahul Gandhi replied, "I am a common man. I like it. I am no longer an MP." Starting with San Francisco where he is scheduled to interact with students at the prestigious Stanford University, Rahul Gandhi will address a press conference and have meetings with lawmakers and think tanks in Washington DC.

The 52—year—old Congress leader is also likely to address Indian Americans and interact with Wall Street executives and university stu-



dents during his week—long tour of the USA. He is slated to conclude his trip with a public gathering in New York on June 4. The interaction would take place at the Javits Center in New York.

Last week, Indian Overseas Congress chairperson Sam Pitroda said Rahul Gandhi's visit is aimed at promoting shared values and a vision of "real democracy".

"The purpose of his (Gandhi's) trip is to connect, interact and begin a new con-

versation with various individuals, institutions and media, including the Indian diaspora that is growing in numbers in the United States and abroad to promote the shared values and vision of the real democracy with a focus on freedom, inclusion, sustainability, justice, peace and opportunities world over," Sam Pitroda said in a statement.

Rahul Gandhi received a new ordinary passport on Sunday, two days after a Delhi court gave its clearance. The

former Congress president, who had applied for an ordinary passport after surrendering the old diplomatic passport issued to him when he was a member of parliament, is set to travel to San Francisco in the United States on Monday evening on a three—city tour.

Rahul Gandhi was disqualified as an MP in March following his conviction and two—year sentence by a Gujarat court in a defamation case over his Modi surname remark.



Shri Rahul Gandhi Interacts with activists, academics and civil society at University of California, Santa Cruz. Shri. Rahul Gandhi Ji speaks about the diverse culture and traditions of India. Shri. Rahul Gandhi Ji speaks about the issue of diversity of language in India. Rahul Gandhi Ji talks about women's empowerment & Congress's commitment to bring the Women's, Reservation Bill





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क्रम सं.	तारीख	प्रमंडल	
1	03 से 05 जून	पटना प्रमंडल	जिला- पटना, भोजपुर, कैमूर, बक्सर, रोहतास, नालंदा
2	06 से 08 जून	मगध प्रमंडल	जिला- गया, अरवल, नवादा, औरंगाबाद, जहानाबाद
3	09 से 11 जून	तिरहुत प्रमंडल	जिला- मुजफ्फरपुर, पूर्वी चंपारण, पश्चिमी चंपारण, शिवहर, सीतामढ़ी, वैशाली
4	12 से 14 जून	मुंगेर प्रमंडल	जिला- मुंगेर, जमुई, शेखपुरा, खगड़िया, लखीसराय, बेगूसराय
5	15 से 17 जून	भागलपुर प्रमंडल	जिला- भागलपुर, बांका
6	18 से 20 जून	दरभंगा प्रमंडल	जिला- दरभंगा, मधुबनी, समस्तीपुर
7	21 से 23 जून	पूर्णिया प्रमंडल	जिला- पूर्णिया, अररिया, किशनगंज, कटिहार
8	24 से 26 जून	कोसी प्रमंडल	जिला- सुपौल, मधेपुरा, सहरसा
9	01 से 03 जुलाई	सारण प्रमंडल	जिला- सारण, सीवान, गोपालगंज




डॉ. संजय कुमार मुख्य संगठक
बिहार प्रदेश कांग्रेस सेवादल
सदाकत आश्रम पटना-10



"If called upon, I will also immerse my medals with our female wrestlers." : Vijender Singh , Olympian.

Honorable Justice of Karnataka High Court Shri B today at Banquet Hall of Vidhana Soudha. Veerappa was given farewell.



DK Shivakumar 7h 0 An important meeting was held in Vidhana Soudha regarding the 5 important guarantees achiever — obstacles and guidelines announced by Congress.



"BJP Can Be Defeated If...": Rahul Gandhi In US

PATNA:CONGRESS DARPAN

Santa Clara, US: The ruling BJP can be defeated if the Opposition is "aligned properly" and the Congress party is working towards it and it is "coming along very nicely", Rahul Gandhi has told Indian Americans in the US, citing his party's emphatic victory in the recent assembly elections in Karnataka. Responding to questions from the moderator and the audiences at an event at the Silicon Valley Campus of the University of California in Santa Cruz on Tuesday, Mr Gandhi said he can clearly see "vulnerabilities" in the BJP.

"As a political entrepreneur, I can clearly see vulnerabilities in the BJP... The BJP can be defeated if the Opposition is aligned properly," he said.

"If you look at the Karnataka elections, the general sense is that the Congress Party fought the BJP and defeated the BJP. But what is not well understood is the mechanics that we used," he said.

The Congress party used a completely different approach to fighting an election and building a narrative, Mr Gandhi said, adding that elements of what happened in Karnataka came out of the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'.

In the May 10 elections to the 224-member Karnataka Assembly, the Congress won 135 seats, while incumbent BJP and the former prime minister H D Deve Gowda-led Janata Dal (Secular) got 66 and 19, respectively.

Mr Gandhi said in the Karnataka elections, the BJP spent 10 times more money than the Congress party.

He said the country needed an alternative vision to defeat the ruling Bharatiya Janata



Party (BJP), in addition to having a united Opposition in the 2024 general elections. "On the matter of opposition unity, we are working towards it and it is coming along very nicely. But I think in order to defeat the BJP, you need more than just opposition unity. Just opposition unity, in my opinion, is not going to be enough to do the job. I think you need an alternative vision to the BJP," he said. "Part of Bharat Jodo Yatra was the first step in proposing such a vision. It's the vision that all opposition parties are aligned with. No opposition party would disagree with the idea of the Bharat Jodo Yatra," he said. Bharat Jodo Yatra (Unite India March) was a Mr Gandhi-led mass movement aimed at uniting India. The yatra began on September 7 from Kanyakumari, passed through 12 states and culminated in Jammu and Kashmir on January 31. During the course of the yatra, Mr Gandhi, 52, addressed 12 public meetings, over 100 corner meetings and 13 press conferences. He had over 275 planned walking interactions and more than

100 sitting interactions. "So, I think bringing the opposition together is important, but also aligning the opposition and making the people of India understand that there is not just a group of opposition parties that have combined but a proposed way forward for the country. And we're working on those things," Mr Gandhi said.

The ex-Wayanad MP said it is the president of the Congress party who will decide the prime ministerial candidate. "We believe that everybody in India, regardless of who they are, whichever part of the society they come from, they should have a voice that voice should be respected, to be listened to be appreciated. And I think that voice is an asset," he said. In his address, Mr Gandhi also took a dig at the ruling BJP government and alleged that it is "threatening" the people and "misusing" the country's agencies. "The BJP is threatening people and misusing government agencies. The Bharat Jodo Yatra started because all the instruments that we needed to connect with the people were controlled by the BJP—

RSS," he claimed. "We were also finding that in some way, it had become quite difficult to act politically. And that's why we decided to walk from the southernmost tip of India to Srinagar," he said. Mr Gandhi said the yatra carried the spirit of affection, respect and humility. "If one studies history, it can be seen that all spiritual leaders — including Guru Nanak Dev ji, Guru Basavanna ji, Narayana Guru ji — united the nation in a similar way," he said. Mr Gandhi said India is not what is being shown in the media which likes to promote a political narrative that is far from reality, asserting that there is a "huge distortion". "It was very clear to me in the Yatra that it's in the media's interest to project these things, it helps the BJP. So, don't think that everything you see in the media is the truth," he said.

"India is not what the media shows. The media likes to show a particular narrative. It likes to promote a political narrative that is actually not what is going on in India," he said.