

Meet Anita Anand, Canada's New Foreign Minister With Indian Origin

Indian-origin leader Anita Anand has become the new Foreign Minister in Canada at a time when Ottawa's relationship with the US and India has been strained. Prime Minister Mark Carney announced a significant Cabinet overhaul on Tuesday, appointing Indian-origin leader Anita Anand as Canada's new Foreign Minister. The reshuffle comes as Carney solidifies his newly re-elected Liberal government, following his victory last month and his earlier succession of Justin Trudeau as Prime Minister. Anand had earlier served as Defence Minister, and she has now replaced Melanie Joly as the Foreign Minister. The latter has now been given the Industry portfolio. However, François-Philippe Champagne has been retained his position as Finance Minister, and Dominic LeBlanc continues as Minister of US Trade amid ongoing trade

tensions between Canada and the United States. Carney, a former central banker for both Canada and the UK, rose to power by pledging to counter US President Donald Trump's aggressive policies toward Canada while maintaining a measured, economic-focused leadership style. In the new Cabinet, 10 ministers have been dropped including Defence Minister Bill Blair. David McGuinty has been given Public Safety to Defence, while while ex-Goldman Sachs Canada CEO Tim Hodges takes over as Natural Resources Minister—a role aligned with Carney's vision of transforming Canada into an energy "superpower" through large-scale infrastructure projects. Notably, former journalist Evan Solomon joins as the inaugural Minister of Artificial Intelligence, reflecting the government's focus on emerging technologies. The Cabinet main-

tains gender parity, with women holding half the positions—a continuity from Trudeau's administration. Public Services and Procurement Minister (overseeing COVID-19 vaccine procurement) Defence Minister (2021–2023), managing Canada's military aid to Ukraine and addressing misconduct in the Armed Forces Transport and Internal Trade Minister (2024) She was born on May 20, 1967, in Kentville, Nova Scotia to Indian immigrant doctors—her mother (Saroj) from Punjab and father (SV Anand) from Tamil Nadu. Her family moved to Canada in the 1960s. Her two siblings are Gita and Sonia. Anand earned degrees from Oxford, Dalhousie, and the University of Toronto before building a distinguished career in law and public service. She and her husband, lawyer John Knowlton, reside in Oakville with their four children.

Amid Rising Threats, EAM Jaishankar Gets Security Boost, Bulletproof Car Approved



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is set to receive a security upgrade following a request from the Ministry of External Affairs due to escalating tensions between India and Pakistan along the Line of Control. A bulletproof car is expected to be added to his security detail. According to multiple media reports, the Delhi Police has asked the Union Home Ministry to carry out a threat assessment. As part of the upgrade, the police are likely to

increase the number of spotters stationed outside the minister's residence and office, assign an escort car, and issue a new call sign for him. Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora recently convened a meeting with senior officers to discuss security for VIPs who have publicly criticized Pakistan, particularly on social media, following India's strikes on terror camps in Pakistan. Jaishankar currently receives Z-category security cover from the CRPF, which includes six armed personnel for mobile security and an additional 10 officers for residence protection. He had previously been provided with Z-plus cover. In addition to Jaishankar, the Delhi

Police is also reviewing the security arrangements for Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, according to reports. Z-plus security is the highest level of protection available, second only to the SPG cover. It consists of 55 personnel, including CRPF commandos, who provide round-the-clock protection. If necessary, National Security Guard (NSG) commandos are also deployed based on intelligence assessments. This level of security includes a bulletproof vehicle and 24/7 escort service in three shifts. Currently, around 200 individuals, including Union Home Minister Amit Shah and prominent Congress leaders like Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, are covered under the CRPF's VIP security program. Several high-profile celebrities also receive protection from the force.

India To Keep Indus Waters Treaty Suspended Until Pakistan Ends Cross-Border Terrorism: MEA

India has stated unequivocally that unless Pakistan ceases its support for cross-border terrorism, the Indus Waters Treaty will remain suspended. Pakistan's actions regarding terror operations against India will be the only determinant of any future engagement on the pact, according to a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The suspension coincides with increased tensions after the terror assault in Pahalgam and India's forceful Operation Sindoora response. India has asserted that while it remains committed to its legal and diplomatic responsibilities, the treaty cannot function normally under the threat of persistent terrorism. The MEA emphasized that peace and cooperation are only possible when there is a complete and



verifiable halt to cross-border terror operations emanating from Pakistani soil. According to a Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) resolution on April 23, India has chosen to maintain the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty until Pakistan formally withdraws its support for cross-border terrorism. Climate change, demographic changes, and technology improvements have changed the dynamics and created new realities on the

ground, stressed MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal. Jaiswal noted that although the preamble of the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty stated that it was signed with brotherhood and goodwill, Pakistan has consistently betrayed these ideals by aiding cross-border terrorism. India has made a major diplomatic move

by formally suspending the pact, a historic deal mediated by the World Bank. As part of India's larger diplomatic efforts against Pakistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had previously said that "water and blood can't flow together" in reference to the treaty's suspension. "Terror and trade cannot go together, water and blood cannot flow together," he continued, highlighting India's unwavering position against Pakistan's backing of terrorism.

Rupee Rallies Amid Trade Pact and Economic Resilience



On Tuesday, the Indian rupee showcased a notable rally, starting the trading session at 84.65 against the US dollar, a substantial increase of 75 paise from its last closing at 85.38 per dollar. This improvement came amidst anticipation of the trading range for the day lying between 84.50 and 85.25, as forecasted by market experts. The strengthening of the dollar was further supported by a significant trade agreement reached between the US and China, which encompasses the US reducing tariffs on Chinese products from 145% to 30% for a period of 90 days. Concurrently, China has agreed to lower tariffs on American goods from 125% to 10% for the same duration. This bilateral pact also includes the establishment of a mechanism for ongoing discussions on economic and trade relations between the two nations. Analysts predict that any new developments in geopolitical affairs could play a crucial role in determining the future trajectory of the Indian rupee. Over the fiscal year 2025, the rupee experienced fluctuations, trading between 83.10 and 87.6 against the US dollar. Following the US election outcomes, the currency initially faced depreciation, losing 2.4% in value over the year, largely due to continuous foreign portfolio investor (FPI) outflows and the strength of the US dollar. However, despite these adversities, the rupee managed to maintain relative stability in comparison to other global currencies. This resilience is attributed to India's robust government finances, a shrinking current account deficit, enhanced liquidity conditions, and moderating oil prices, as outlined in the NSE's 'Market Pulse Report' for April. Towards the fiscal year's close, a weakening of the US dollar and a resurgence of FPI inflows into Indian debt markets allowed the rupee to recuperate, gaining 2.4% in March 2025. The rupee's average annual volatility was recorded at 2.7% for FY25, making it one of the least volatile among major emerging market currencies. This is a testament to India's solid external financial position and effective foreign exchange management strategies. The report further elaborates, "However, the rupee remained overvalued, with the 40-currency trade weighted REER rising to 105.3, although both REER and NEER moderated gradually from H1FY25, indicating an easing of overvaluation. The one-year forward premium for the rupee continued to moderate, reflecting changing premium dynamics and India's macroeconomic resilience." In conclusion, the Indian rupee demonstrated a notable performance, influenced by international trade dynamics and domestic economic factors. Its ability to remain stable amid global currency fluctuations underscores the effectiveness of India's economic policies and forex management practices.

Miss World Competition: Indian winners list and details are here



With Hyderabad turning into the global hub for the ongoing Miss World 2025 pageant, it's a good moment to look back at India's powerful legacy in this competition. While this year's winner is yet to be announced, India has already made history six times at Miss World, and each win carries its own story of beauty, intelligence, and ambition. It began with Rita Faria in 1966, the first Asian and the first medical doctor to ever win the title. Nearly three decades later, Aishwarya Rai claimed the crown in 1994 and quickly became an international icon. Diana Hayden followed in 1997, and Yukta Mukhi in 1999. In 2000, Priyanka Chopra followed, catapulting her into international fame. Manushi Chhillar, a medical student who became a pageant queen in 2017, was the most recent Indian winner. Judges were delighted by her composure and social activities. In the history of Indian pageants, the year 2000 is still unrivaled. In that one year, Indian women achieved a historic clean sweep on three international stages: Priyanka Chopra won Miss World, Lara Dutta won Miss Universe, and Dia Mirza won Miss Asia Pacific. With six Miss World titles between them, India and the UK are now on equal footing. The only country ahead is Venezuela. The globe is keeping a close eye on the 2025 edition; will India add a seventh to its list? Hyderabad may experience yet another glorious moment.

Indians Lead UK Visa Allocations in 2024



India's thirst for international travel, particularly for academic and professional reasons, is undeniably high. This is further evidenced by recent figures concerning the United Kingdom's visa allocations, which place Indian citizens at the forefront of visa recipients. In 2024, Indians were awarded a significant portion of the UK's work and student visas, highlighting the country's ongoing preference for the UK as a destination for education and employment. In the realm of work visas, the UK issued a total of 369,419 visas in 2024, with Indians securing 81,463 of these. This accounts for an impressive 22% of all work visas, underscoring the substantial presence of Indian professionals in the UK. Following India, Pakistan and Nigeria were significant recipients as well, but with considerably smaller shares of 9% and 7%, respectively.

Indian Students Lead in UK Visa Allocations

The trend was similarly observed in the issuance of student visas. A whopping 419,313 student visas were issued by the UK in 2024, with Indian students claiming 92,355 of these. This means that nearly a quarter, precisely 23%, of all student visas went to Indians. This statistic not only reaffirms the preference of Indian students for UK educational institutions but also highlights the UK as a leading destination for international students from India. The data presented paints a clear picture of India's leading role in the UK's foreign visa allocations. With both work and student visas, Indian nationals are availing themselves of opportunities in the UK more than any other non-EU nationals. This trend not only reflects the strong educational and professional ties between India and the UK but also points towards the growing globalization of the Indian workforce and student body. In conclusion, the latest statistics on UK visa issuance vividly illustrate India's dominant position in the realm of international travel for education and employment. With Indian nationals receiving the highest share of both work and student visas, the figures underscore the strong connection between the two nations and the continued allure of the UK as a prime destination for Indian students and professionals.

India Fires Back At Trump Tariffs: What Next?



It is already known that the United States president Donald Trump has been imposing irrational taxation slabs, and tariffs on foreign countries. He continued on the same path while imposing additional tariffs on the metal products belonging to India as well. However, India is in no mood to go down to the pressure that is being asserted by the United States president, and the same can be understood from the latest retaliation efforts. According to the latest reports, India has informed the World Trade Organization (WTO) of its plan to impose retaliatory tariffs on U.S. goods, responding to renewed American import duties on Indian steel and aluminium. The United States reintroduced 25% tariffs on these metals in March 2025, echoing a similar move made in 2018 under former President Donald Trump. India claims that these tariffs affect around \$7.6 billion worth of its exports. In its WTO submission, India stated it would suspend trade concessions on selected U.S. products to recover equivalent losses. This step aims to maintain trade balance and protect Indian economic interests, asserting that the U.S. actions violate global trade norms. The decision marks a notable shift, especially after the 2023 agreement where both countries resolved six WTO disputes and India dropped retaliatory duties on 28 U.S. products like almonds and apples. The reimposition of American tariffs has now forced India to reconsider its trade strategy. Had conveniently imposed heavy tariffs on India and Prime Minister Modi rightly reflected back at the same with his retaliatory tariffs and it has to be seen where this trade war will end up. What is for certain here is that India is not ready to go down to the pressure that is being put on them by the United States.

Trump Towers II Sells Out on Launch Day in Gurugram

In a remarkable display of luxury real estate demand, Gurugram witnessed the entire stock of the second Trump Towers project being snapped up on its debut day. This venture, a collaboration between developers Smartworld and Tribeca, saw all 298 of its units claimed, bringing in a staggering ₹3,250 crore in sales. This event underscores the considerable allure of high-end residences in the area, as buyers eagerly secured homes priced from ₹8 crore to ₹15 crore. The project, featuring two majestic 51-storey towers, not only highlights Gurugram's appeal as a destination for deluxe living but also sets a new benchmark in the luxury real estate sector. With penthouses in the development, collectively



worth ₹125 crore, also finding buyers immediately, the city's status as a premier location for upscale housing is further reinforced. This development follows the success of the first Trump-branded residential project in North India, Trump Towers Delhi NCR, which too is

located in Gurugram and was launched in 2018. The sell-out of Trump Towers Delhi NCR, expected to hand over keys to owners later this month, had already set high expectations. This latest achievement with the second Trump Towers project not only meets but surpasses those expectations, demonstrating an unwavering interest in premium living spaces within the region. The twin-tower scheme thus not only marks a significant milestone for Gurugram's luxury real estate market but also solidifies its position as a leading hub for high-end residential projects in North India.

lective success, adding, "As I revisit those cherished experiences, I especially recall the crucial role I played in securing a memorable victory for Hyderabad against Mumbai." His contributions were not just about individual glory but also about propelling his team to victory, highlighting his team spirit and commitment to collective success. Throughout his cricketing career, Kaushik appeared in 15 first-class matches and 12 List-A games, until he shifted gears to politics in 2018. His transition from sports to serving as an MLA in Telangana showcases a remarkable journey of dedication and service in two very different fields. In summary, Padi Kaushik Reddy's transition from cricket to politics illustrates a multifaceted career, marked by significant achievements in both arenas. From bowling out one of cricket's finest to shaping the political landscape of Telangana, Kaushik's journey is a testament to his versatile talent and passion for both cricket and public service.

From Wickets to the Assembly: Kaushik Reddy's Dual Journey



Once a formidable force on the cricket field, Huzurabad BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy has a rich history that intertwines sports and politics. Before stepping into the political arena of Telangana in 2018, Kaushik made waves in the cricketing world, representing Hyderabad in first-class cricket and even participating in the Indian Cricket League (ICL). His journey from cricket pitches to political platforms reveals a man of diverse talents and passions. A notable highlight of Kaushik's cricket career was his performance in a Ranji Trophy match against Mumbai, where he claimed the wicket of the now Indian cricket

team captain, Rohit Sharma. Kaushik reminisced about this pivotal moment, sharing a newspaper clipping with the headline "Kaushik Strikes – Rohit Sharma Out". In that match, he showcased his bowling prowess, taking four wickets and giving away only 48 runs. Reflecting on his cricketing days, Kaushik expressed his enduring love for the game, stating, "Cricket has always been a deep passion of mine, and recently I came across some old newspaper clippings that stirred up a wave of nostalgia. One memory that stood out was the unforgettable moment when I dismissed the current Indian captain, Rohit Sharma. Moments like these are truly golden." This sentiment underscores the significant impact cricket has had on his life, marking moments of triumph that remain close to his heart. Moreover, Kaushik's recollection of his sporting achievements goes beyond just personal accolades. He emphasized the col-

Most Unexpected! Trump Wants Dinner With India, Pakistan PMs

The President of United States of America, Donald Trump has this reputation of being one of the most entertaining global politicians in the world. The kind of political commentary and projections that he makes usually grab the attention of the world very easily. Trump has done something like this again now, as he commented about the bilateral relationship between India and Pakistan, and had a very interesting theory about the same. Trump commented that India and Pakistan had a very serious conflict and it was United States, which intervened and settled the issue. "Considering the kind of conflict that



these two countries with nuclear powers had, millions of people could have died from it." Trump commented that the situation is under control now and further confirmed that the Prime Minister of India and Pakistan are in an understanding now. Not

stopping there, Trump commented that he would like to have the Prime Minister of the two countries for a dinner sometime and would like to have a discussion on the series of events that unfolded. While India is blatantly saying that they are placed to bother about the trade discussions with the Pakistani representatives, it must be noted that Trump wants to have them both for a dinner sometime. This is the kind of attention, grabbing comments that make one of the most entertaining leaders across the globe.

