

Trump denies adult star affair allegation



Trump and Stormy Daniels

WASHINGTON (TIP): US President Donald Trump has denied accusations by a porn star that he had sexual encounters with her; the White House said on Thursday, March 8, a day after she sued him to invalidate a deal that prevented her from discussing the alleged relationship. Stephanie Clifford, who is known as Stormy Daniels in the adult film industry, filed a lawsuit in a California State court on Tuesday.

"The President has denied the allegations against him and again this case has already been won in arbitration," the White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders told reporters at her daily news conference.

The former adult film actress has sued Donald Trump, claiming that his lawyer forced her to sign a statement in 2016 to stop her from going public about her alleged relationship with the then Republican-presidential candidate. Stephanie Clifford filed a lawsuit in a California State court. The lawsuit alleges that she was paid \$130,000 by Michael Cohen, Trump's personal lawyer, to not to go public with her alleged sexual encounters with Trump when he was the then presidential candidate.

Amazon removes Lord Ganesha stockings after Hindu protest

NEVADA (TIP): World's largest online retailer Amazon.com withdrew stockings carrying image of Hindu deity Lord Ganesha from its website within two days after upset Hindus protested, calling it "highly inappropriate".

Three stockings carrying images of Lord Ganesha, which were selling at Amazon.com from \$9.69 to \$16.30, do not show up anymore.

Hindu statesman Rajan Zed, who spearheaded the protest urging for immediate withdrawal of these objectionable products, in a statement in Nevada, thanked Amazon.com for understanding the concerns of Hindu community which thought image of Lord Ganesha on such a product was highly insensitive.

Zed, who is President of Universal Society of Hinduism, however, pointed out that a formal apology from Amazon.com President Jeffrey P. Bezos to the upset Hindu community was still due, as this was not the first time for the company to offer such products which were deemed offensive by Hindu devotees.

Rajan Zed suggested that Amazon.com and other companies should send their senior executives for training in religious and cultural sensitivity so that they had an understanding of the feelings of customers and communities when introducing new products or launching advertising campaigns.

Zed had said that Lord Ganesha was highly



revered in Hinduism and was meant to be worshipped in temples or home shrines and not to cover your feet and legs or touch with your feet and legs. Inappropriate usage of Hindu deities or symbols or concepts for commercial or other agenda was not okay as it hurt the faithful.

Hinduism was the oldest and third largest religion of the world with about 1.1 billion adherents and a rich philosophical thought and it should not be taken frivolously. Symbols of any faith, larger or smaller, should not be mishandled, Rajan Zed had indicated.

Zed had stated that such trivialization of Lord Ganesha was disturbing to the Hindus world over. Hindus were for free artistic expression and speech as much as anybody else if not more. But faith was something sacred and attempts at trivializing it hurt the followers, Zed added.

Hindus have protested and contacted Amazon.com many times in the past over what they felt was trivialization of Hindu deities on various products sold on its website and had been mostly successful in persuading the company to remove those.

In Hinduism, Lord Ganesha is worshipped as god of wisdom and remover of obstacles and is invoked before the beginning of any major undertaking. There are about three million Hindus in USA.

Amazon.com, Inc., a Fortune 500 company founded in 1994, and headquartered in Seattle, claims to offer earth's biggest selection.

United States Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi urges Chicagoans to vote for Illinois primary election

CHICAGO, IL(TIP): A Press Conference for media was held on behalf of United States Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi, at Mysore Woodlands on 2548 W. Devon Ave. Chicago, IL. At this press conference Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi covered a wide range of significant topics including his legislative accomplishments, future legislation agenda and other relevant current topics.

Democratic Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi of Illinois has urged suburban Chicago residents to vote for Illinois primary election.

"Indian-Americans and all suburban Chicago residents must register to vote to allow their voices to be heard," he said and added, "As I have said many times, if you don't have a seat at the table, then you are on the menu. Registering to vote and voting ensures that your voice is heard, and you have a proverbial seat at the table when important decisions are made affecting you."

Volunteers and friends of Krishnamoorthi helped register voters at the Itasca temple last week. The efforts at the event will be replicated by him elsewhere to help increase the number of registered voters in the Indian-American community.

Fund Raising Efforts

Meanwhile, Raja Krishnamoorthi continued his incredible fundraising success by bringing in more than \$650,000 in the 4th quarter of 2017.

The first-term Member of Congress from the 8th District of Illinois that includes Chicago's west and northwest suburbs has more than \$3.31 million cash on hand to begin



997United States Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi with media at Press Conference

his re-election campaign as of the end of the fourth fundraising quarter that ended December 31.

"My constituents sent me to Washington to work every day on growing and strengthening the middle class, and that's what we've done," Krishnamoorthi said. "These resources will help us amplify that message to continue our important work in Congress. Krishnamoorthi and Republican Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson of Pennsylvania are the two lead sponsors of bipartisan legislation that passed the House of Representatives unanimously to improve career and technical education, as

well as to help give Americans the skills they need to compete for in-demand jobs.

The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 2353) reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act and is the first major overhaul of the program since 2006.

"As President Trump said in his State of the Union speech, career and technical education is going to be a critical part of our country's economy, and this legislation will help strengthen and modernize it," Krishnamoorthi said. "The bill works to close the skills gap by pairing businesses and



United States Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi

educators together to establish training programs to prepare students for in-demand careers." The son of immigrants, Krishnamoorthi was elected to Congress in November 2016 with nearly 60 percent of the vote against his Republican opponent.

(Photographs and Press release by Asian Media USA)