

INDIA



Actress embroiled in beef controversy

An Indian actress and election candidate for the country's ruling party has been forced to defend herself after social media users accused her of eating beef.

Eating beef is contentious in India, where cows are considered sacred by Hindus.

Kangana Ranaut (*above*), 37, a Bollywood star who is standing as a Bharatiya Janata Party candidate in the northern Himachal Pradesh state, condemned the claims.

She said on X: "I don't consume beef or any other kind of red meat, it is shameful that completely baseless rumours are being spread about me."