

## **'Ban Muslim' remark benefits Donald Trump, leads popularity charts at 39%**

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**Washington:** Leading Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump's popularity rating has soared to a new height as he gained 11 points in the last one month to have his popularity at 39%.

The 69-year-old New York-based real estate tycoon gained 11% after his comment on temporary banning entry of all Muslims into the US.

His nearest Republican rival Ted Cruz is at 18%, who is followed by Marco Rubio with 11% and Ben Carson at 9%.

The Fox News which conducted the national poll said all interviews for the new poll were done since December 15 Republican presidential debate in Las Vegas.

Trump leads in another national poll released by Public Policy Polling.

According to it, Trump has support of 34% Republican voters. He is followed by Cruz with 18%, Rubio (13%) and Jeb Bush 7%.

As per RealClearPolitics.com which maintains an average of all major national polls, Trump's popularity rating is 33.8% which keeps him on top ahead of all Republican presidential candidates.

He is followed by Cruz with 16.6%, Rubio (12.4%), Carson (11%) and Bush (4.2%).

- PTI