

The INDIAN PANORAMA



EVER TRUTHFUL

1 Indian American Weekly: Since 2006

VOL 13 ISSUE 16 • NEW YORK / DALLAS • APRIL 19 - 25, 2019 • ENQUIRIES: 646-247-9458

www.theindianpanorama.news

N KOREA DEMANDS
POMPEO'S REMOVAL
FROM NUCLEAR TALKS



N Korea thinks talks could go wrong whenever Pompeo pokes his nose in.

SEOUL (TIP): North Korea said on Thursday, April 18, it no longer wanted to deal with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and said he should be replaced in talks by someone more mature, hours after it announced its first weapons test since nuclear talks broke down. The North's official KCNA news agency quoted senior foreign ministry

contd on Page 32

Sea of Colors at Times Square as Sikh Community Celebrates Turban Day

Turban Day intended to educate people about the Sikh identity



Deputy Consul General of India in New York Shatrughna Sinha (right) was tied a blue turban. He is seen greeting a Sikh organizer. Also seen (in the middle) is PTI Special Correspondent Yoshita Singh

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): The iconic Times square appeared to be a sea of colors as members of the Sikh community tied turbans to thousands of New Yorkers

contd on Page 3



OMNI MORTGAGE CORP.
Residential | Commercial | SBA Loans

Andy Singh

516-441-7000

16 E. Old Country Road
Hicksville, NY 11801

E-mail: herman@omnimortgage.com



Herman Singh
718-441-7000
118-18 101 Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419

Registered Mortgage Broker - NYS Dept of Financial Services
Loans arranged thru 3rd party providers



Herman Singh

718-441-7000

118-18 101 Avenue
Richmond Hill, NY 11419



Anupam (Anu) Jain

A Licensed Realtor

A Trusted and Successful Name
For all your Real Estate Needs

Because time is of the essence & you deserve the best

RealtyConnectUSA



175 Crossways Park Drive W Woodbury, NY 11797

Mueller probe found 'no evidence' of collusion between Trump campaign, Russia: AG Barr

'GAME OVER', TWEETS TRUMP; DEMOCRATS ACCUSE BARR OF 'DELIBERATELY DISTORTING' THE MUELLER REPORT

WASHINGTON (TIP): Russia tried to interfere in the 2016 US presidential polls, according to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's probe which did not find any evidence that members of the Trump campaign "conspired or coordinated" with Moscow, Attorney General William Barr said on Thursday, April 18.

The special counsel's report states that his "investigation did not establish that members of the Trump Campaign conspired or coordinated with the Russian government in its election interference activities," Barr told reporters at a crowded news conference here.

contd on Page 32



William Barr at the press conference, April 18. To his left is Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein

Regional Films at the Core of New York Indian Film Festival 2019

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): The 19th edition of New York Indian Film Festival (NYIFF) will showcase the depth and breadth of India through a selection of regional movies, which is holding center stage for the first time at North America's longest-running and most prestigious Indian Film Festival.



Ambassador Sandeep Chakraborty hailed IAAC for focusing on regional films and added: "The strong regional contents are very important. Unfortunately, the image abroad is Bollywood all the time. But India in Cinema is more than Bollywood".

Nineteen regional films will be shown including seven Bengali movies as a special focus on Bengali cinema, Indo-American Arts Council (IAAC), the organizer of the festival announced during a curtain raiser at the Indian Consulate in New York April 18.

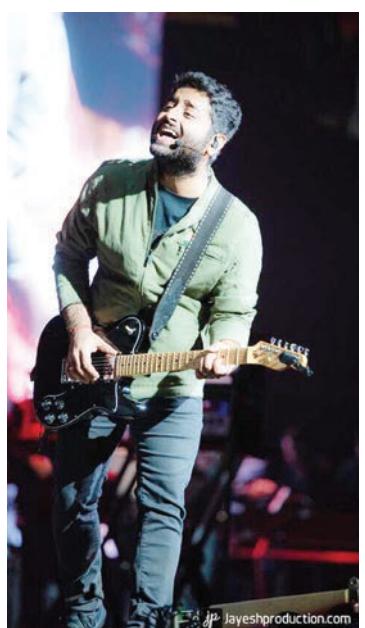
contd on Page 3

ARIJIT SINGH DAZZLES RECORD CROWD OF FANS IN THOUSANDS AT PRUDENTIAL CENTER, NJ

NEWARK, NJ (TIP): New Jersey saw a record audience in recent times when Arijit Singh performed on April 13th at the Prudential Center here.

Promoters Sunil Hali and Kulbhushen Chopra under the banner of Sakaar Entertainment with a marketing campaign in last three months left no stone unturned to ensure a "Sold Out" show. Arijit Singh fever had started to grip

contd on Page 3



Arijit Singh cast a magic spell with his mellifluous melodies

ASIA SOCIETY NAMES DISCOVER, BUZZFEED, AND KPMG AS BEST EMPLOYERS FOR ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS IN 2019

Discover Financial Services, Inc. Named as the "Overall Best Employer."



NEW YORK (TIP): Asia Society has named Discover Financial Services, Inc. as the "Overall Best Employer" for their efforts in promoting and developing Asian Pacific American (APA) talent, with recognition for "distinguished performance" given to the leading independent digital media company BuzzFeed and professional services firm KPMG LLP.

Asia Society will present the awards to all the winning employers on May 15 in New York City at the 2019 Best Companies for Asian Pacific Americans Awards Ceremony and Dinner, held in conjunction with Asia Society's 2019 Diversity & Marketing Leadership Summit. Previously known as the Diversity Leadership Forum (DLF), the Summit has expanded to a two-day conference that looks at unleashing innovation and capturing market opportunities through powering Asian talent, consumers, and investors in the US and Asia.

Read Full Story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Gift of Life USA organizes Gala for the benefit of specially-abled individuals



NEW YORK (TIP): Gift of Life USA is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization founded by Paresh & Flora Parekh, with the aim to help the specially-abled and nurture acceptance and empathy, bridging the gap across the various communities that form our society. Apart from combatting social stigma by raising awareness about different disorders, the true strength of Gift of Life USA lies in the funding and support it gives to individuals with these various physical and mental disorders. The organization functions with generous donations from the community and is operated by

volunteers. Gift of Life USA appeals donors to come, see, believe and support these true abilities and beyond. Donations and additional information can be found on website www.giftoflifeus.org.

With the mission of accumulating resources in support and benefit of specially-abled individuals, the organization conducts various programs and activities, namely, "Save a Child" Support, "We are Special" Talent & Skill Recognition, "Health & Education," "Awareness", "College Scholarships for Differently-Abled" and "Service Dog Support Program". Past initiatives have



included a special focus in the areas of advocacy, health and education.

The organization recently celebrated its Annual Fundraising gala this past weekend at the Huntington Hilton with young talented emcees Harshil Parekh & Freya Savla. The Gala serves as a unique platform to support these specially-abled individuals - attendees get the opportunity to meet the beneficiaries they will be supporting and see for themselves the beautiful talents these individuals bring to the world. An amazing flow of special needs talent at Gift of life USA Special Needs Gala 2019 benefited the special

needs community with inspiring Cerebral Palsy Speakers, Special needs FREE StyleDancers & performers, autistic musician and special needs band. Celebrity Cerebral Palsy Model Autumn Kinkade and Ms. Wheel Chair Ketrina Hazell mesmerized the audience with their accomplishments beyond abilities. The Indian American community is whole heartedly appealed to embrace and share the organization's vision of acceptance and compassion of the differently abled.

(Based on a press release issued by Flora Parekh)

A Passionate Marathoner Ramanjit Singh Oberoi from India Participated in just held Boston Marathon

At 60, eyes 90 Km Run in South Africa



Ramanjit at Boston Marathon, April 15

NEW YORK (TIP): For all those who have known him, or even only met him, the most striking thing about Ramanjit Singh Oberoi is his unbounded energy and youthful enthusiasm to try anything new. He exudes optimism backed by the belief that everything is achievable, if only one is single-minded in one's pursuit of it.

In no other passion of his are these qualities more noticeable than in his love for running. Finding inspiration in the APS environment, which he joined in 2009, after stints in various large banks, he participated in his very first Half-Marathon in 2014, at the wonderful age of 55 years!

And, already, in just four years, Ramanjit has notched up an enviable track record of some sensational successes in marathons.

The sheer numbers are awe-inspiring. In four years, he has participated in 28 half marathons of 21 kms each, some of them in rather challenging conditions - along the steps of Khumbalgarh Fort (2nd only to The Great wall of China), in the rarified atmosphere of Ladakh, in the hills of Shimla, etc.

He has run three full marathons of 42 kms each, in Mumbai, Delhi & Jaipur, with his best timing being 3 hours and 42 minutes, considered a laudable achievement by any runner.

If this wasn't enough, he participated in two Ultras, which are longer than full marathons. The first one was of 50 kms in Aravali Hills, involving running uphill and downhill! And, just three days later, bypassing all well-meaning advice, he successfully ran the Mumbai Ultra, a 5 AM to 5 PM, 12-hour run, covering a

distance of a distance of 100 kms! And another 50 kms Ultra in tough conditions of Thar Desert.

His running journey is peppered with unusual runs, like a trek to the Everest Base Camp in May 2018. While ordinarily this is supposed to take 14-15 days, Ramanjit completed the entire trek in nine days. And, then there was the Duathlon Event in Ludhiana, comprising of a 5 km run, followed by 42 kms of cycling, followed again by a run of another 5 kms.

This love for running marathons is nothing short of a passion, and Ramanjit has seldom missed any opportunity, no matter how distant, how difficult it may have been to pursue it. His record speaks for itself.

The latest, he ran and completed his Boston Marathon April 15th, 2019. It was a great race with 30,000 runners which included large number of women runners.

Ramanjit has set his eye now on the Ultra Comrades in South Africa, a 90 kms run. There is obviously no stopping this 60-year-old young man!

Go on, go forth, young man.

Ramanjit can be reached at ramanjit1960@gmail.com

Gaiety marks the Bihar Jharkhand Association of North America (BJANA) Holi

EDISON, NJ (TIP): The Bihar Jharkhand Association of North America (BJANA) celebrated its annual Holi event on Sunday, April 14th. The event was attended by almost 500 guests, at the Royal Albert Palace here.

The day included an entertaining cultural program, with dance performances and singing from adults and children in the community. Notable performances included a medley of classic Bhojpuri songs, sung by men in the BJANA community, and a flash mob featuring BJANA members.

BJANA president Vinay Singh, Vice

President Dr. Avinash Gupta and his committee felicitated the community leaders Ramesh Patel (FIA-Chairman), Dr. H.R. Shah (CEO TV ASIA), S.K. Sinha and Ranjit Varma. Chief Guest Consul General Sandeep Chakraborty, Deputy Consul General Shatrukhna Sinha, Revenue Secretary and CEO (UIDAI) Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey, Kamlesh Mehta (CEO South Asian Times) and Gold Medalist Boxer Vikas Yadav enjoyed the event.

The guests in their speeches commended BJANA for its role in promoting Indian culture in the United States.

contd on Page 21



Consul General of India in New York Sandeep Chakraborty congratulated the BJANA members for their effort at preserving and promoting their culture and extended Holi greetings. Seen, among others, is Deputy Consul General Shatrukhna Sinha (to Ambassador Chakraborty's left) who hails from Bihar

Sea of Colors at Times Square as Sikh Community Celebrates Turban Day



A view of visitors with turbans on the occasion

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

and tourists in an annual fixture aimed at spreading awareness about the Sikh identity.

Sikh organization "The Sikhs of New York" organized the annual Turban Day

on Saturday in association with the Consulate General of India in New York. This year's Turban Day also marked the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev and the festival of Baisakhi.

contd on Page 32

Regional Films at the Core of New York Indian Film Festival 2019

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

In his brief welcome address, India's Consul General in New York Ambassador Sandeep Chakraborty said that this year the consulate got more involved with the festival and credited IAAC for their effort. He hailed IAAC for focusing on regional films. "The strong

regional contents are very important. Unfortunately the image abroad is Bollywood all the time. But India in Cinema is more than Bollywood. It is regional films, documentary films. I believe that India is in its regions, India is not one culture - it's an amalgamation of cultures. Indian cinema is not only Bollywood. Some of the finest cinemas are being made outside Bollywood", he said.

Next, Vice Chairman of IAAC Rakesh Kaul gave a quick introduction of the organization that supports all the artistic disciplines in classical, fusion, folk and innovative forms influenced by the arts of India. IAAC Board Member Rajeev Kaul announced Celebrity Chef Vikas Khanna, who was in attendance,

contd on Page 21



A view of the gathering

Arijit Singh Dazzles Record Crowd of Fans in Thousands at Prudential Center, NJ



The packed auditorium. Organizers claimed presence of 12000 fans at the concert

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

audience in the state of New Jersey and neighboring states such as New York, Connecticut, Delaware and Eastern Pennsylvania since January when the show was announced. An unparalleled media and grass roots campaign was launched that covered the five states and included all newspapers, radio stations, cinema, and television channels. The 1st time marketing tactics of hosting a series of "Arijit Singh Special" karaoke

competitions was received well by local singers and fans. "We wanted to make the journey in the last leg as musical, and karaoke with local artists who sang Arijit Singh songs to win a "meet and greet" with their favorite singer based on public voting for two best singers was ideal" said Sunil Hali. The duo is a family and ensured that the heart throb of millions, Arijit Singh was presented in the best manner at the biggest venue in New Jersey.

contd on Page 32

Dahiya's Law Offices LLC



We specialize in helping individuals, families and business get out of debt, tax issues and foreclosure issues

We also deal with immigration and federal litigation impacting your status, rights and privileges

Phone: 212-766-8000 Cell: 646-420-9000

Email: karam@legalpundit.com

75 Maiden Lane Suite 506, New York, NY 10038

INDIAN AMERICAN RUTGERS HONORS STUDENT WINS TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP



Aasha Shaik has become Rutgers' 11th recipient of the Truman Scholarship

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ (TIP): Indian American Aasha Shaik, a junior in Rutgers University-New Brunswick's Honors College and Douglass Residential College, has become Rutgers' 11th recipient of the Truman Scholarship - an award that supports future leaders in public service. Aasha is majoring in political science and Middle Eastern studies in the School of Arts and Sciences. She plans to pursue joint law and Master of Public Policy degrees, and work as a trial attorney in the areas of civil and/or human rights.

As a first-year student, Shaik volunteered with The Petey Greene Program, which trains graduate and undergraduate students to serve as volunteer academic tutors in juvenile and adult correctional facilities. She helped incarcerated women finish their high school education through the program.

She also volunteered with Working Group on Girls, a United Nations-affiliated coalition dedicated to promoting girls' rights worldwide, and in 2017 participated in the Microsoft Civic Tech Fellowship, seeking ways to use technology for the public good.

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, created by Congress in 1975 in memory of the 33rd president, administers the scholarship that supports college juniors who embody the future of public service. (*Source - Rutgers Today*)

Indian American Author Receives Malka Penn Award for Human Rights in Children's Literature



Veera Hiranandani was honored with Malka Penn Award for Human Rights in Children's Literature for her novel 'The Night Diary'

NEW YORK (TIP): Indian American author Veera Hiranandani was honored with Malka Penn Award for Human Rights in Children's Literature for her novel 'The Night Diary' on Tuesday, April 9 at Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center in Connecticut.

(Read full story on www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American Rohit Verma Named Provost at Vietnam's Vin University

ITHACA, NY (TIP): Rohit Verma, dean of external relations at the Cornell SC Johnson College of Business, has been named founding provost of Vin University in Hanoi, Vietnam. His three-year appointment is effective July 1.

Verma is also Singapore Tourism Board Distinguished Professor in Asian Hospitality Management at the School of Hotel Administration (SHA), and Professor in Operations, Technology and Information Management area.

He has published over 75 articles in prestigious academic journals and has also written numerous reports for the industry audience. He regularly presents his research, participates in invited panel discussions, and delivers keynote addresses at major industry and academic conferences around the world. He is co-author of the Operations and Supply Chain Management for the 21st Century textbook, and co-editor of Cornell School of Hotel Administration



Rohit Verma is dean of external relations at Cornell SC Johnson College of Business

on Hospitality: Cutting Edge Thinking and Practice, a professional reference book that includes works of several of his colleagues at Cornell.

Verma has received several research

and teaching awards, including "Lifetime Achievement Award" from Production and Operations Management Society's College of Service Operations; several "Industry Relevance" awards from Cornell Center for Hospitality Research; "Masters' Core Class Teaching Award" from Cornell School of Hotel Administration; "Skinner Award For Early Career Research Accomplishments" from Production and Operations Management Society; "Spirit of Inquiry Award", the highest honor for scholarly activities within DePaul University; and Professional Service Award from the David Eccles School of Business, University of Utah. His research articles have received "Jack Meredith Best Paper Award" from Journal of Operations Management and "The Most Influential Service Operations Paper Award" from Production and Operations Management journal.

Indian American Professor Ram Mohan Receives Second Fulbright Award



This is Mohan's second Fulbright Award, which is a rare achievement

CHICAGO(TIP): Illinois Wendell and Loretta Hess Professor of Chemistry Ram Mohan has been named a recipient of the United States' Fulbright-Nehru Award to India, in support of his work to promote green chemistry at Indian undergraduate colleges and universities.

Overseen by the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the Fulbright Award honors individuals at the top of their fields, including dozens of Nobel Laureates, Pulitzer Prize winners, MacArthur Fellows and Presidential Medal of Freedom recipients. The program was founded to strengthen international relations by sending recipients abroad to work as cultural ambassadors in educational, economic, scientific and various other fields.

This is Mohan's second Fulbright

Award, which is a rare achievement. In 2012, Mohan received his first Fulbright-Nehru Award, which enabled him to introduce green chemistry at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) in Mohali, India.

Mohan will spend the spring of 2020 as a Fulbright-Nehru Teacher Scholar, teaching the principles of green chemistry - the design of chemical products and processes that reduce or eliminate the generation of hazardous substances - to undergraduate and graduate students at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. In addition to offering a green chemistry course at IIT Delhi, he will visit numerous undergraduate colleges to give lectures on green chemistry. He will also help these small college incorporate green chemistry experiments into their curriculum.

INDIAN AMERICAN PROFESSOR RECEIVES ONE OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS IN COMPUTING



Gupta currently serves as founding director of the Halcul Data Science Institute at UC San Diego

SAN DIEGO, CA (TIP): Rajesh Gupta, a professor of computer science and engineering at University of California San Diego, has been awarded the IEEE Computer Society 2019 W. Wallace McDowell Award for his seminal contributions in design and implementation of microelectronic systems-on-chip and cyberphysical systems. The award puts Gupta in illustrious company. Previous winners include Gordon Moore, who co-founded Intel; Seymour Cray, who developed early super computers; Tim Berners-Lee, who helped invent the World Wide Web; and other academic and industry leaders. Gupta currently serves as founding director of the Halcul Data Science Institute at UC San Diego. His research is in embedded and cyber-physical systems with a focus on sensor data organization and its use in optimization and analytics. He has led several large scale projects including NSF Expeditions on Variability and DARPA projects under Data Intensive Systems (DIS) and Circuit Realization at Faster Timescales (CRAFT) programs.



516-827-7600
www.NewAgeNY.com

Serving Buyers and Sellers for over 20 years!

Our associates are ready to
help you find your dream home!



8 Valerie Avenue
Jericho, NY 11753



442 N. Central Drive
N. Massapequa, NY 11758



37 Mineola Avenue
Hicksville, NY 11801



Balbir Singh
516-513-9535



Daulat Radhu Bathija
917-861-9008



Paramjit K. Singh
516-996-4447



Veronica Lobo
718-314-1774



Jay Walia
917-238-5335



Joshy Abraham
516-662-4908



Pranay Patel
516-643-8249



H. S. Toor
516-448-8722



Niti Shah
516-931-3290



Govind Tiwari
917-732-3980



Isfund Akram
516-830-5518



Ripujit Kaur
516-817-0296

*Simplicity, Honesty
& Great Service
is what we are all about!*



K. M. Singh (Kenny)
516-359-3649

254 South Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

Shemaroo launches streaming service in the US with Bollywood and regional language content

HOBOKEN, N.J.(TIP): Shemaroo Entertainment Limited (Shemaroo), one of India's leading integrated media content houses, enters the US market with the launch of its over-the-top (OTT) video streaming service, ShemarooMe, in the US. Building on its vast content library and expertise gained over the past 57 years and in more than 30 countries, ShemarooMe will give Indian American audiences on-the-go access to the company's exclusive portfolio of Bollywood, regional language, devotional and children's content.

Shemaroo originally unveiled the streaming service in India earlier this year, leveraging the country's online video market valued at over \$700 million. However, Indian American viewership has equally driven the demand for culturally niche, cross generational video content abroad. As the second largest group within the Asian American population that has the highest household income as well, Indian American audiences will remain a sizeable growth opportunity for digital entertainment companies. (*Read full story on www.theindianpanorama.news*)

Saregama Carvaan Premium Launch: Consumer Wins

NOW WITH 130+ STATIONS. MOBILE APP TO CHOOSE SONGS. AM RADIO. NEW MESH DESIGN. CREATING YOUR OWN PLAYLIST.

NEW YORK (TIP): After the unprecedented success of its flagship product Carvaan, Saregama's global first, portable digital audio player with in-built stereo speakers and 5000 evergreen Hindi songs inside, the company has now released its new Premium Variant in time for the festival season. All the new features of Carvaan Premium are based on consumer feedback collected over the last few months. The most notable addition is a companion App (iOS and Android) that allows users to choose the song they want to hear or create their own playlist on Carvaan's premium variant. This fulfills one of the long-standing consumer demands of choosing the songs they want to listen.

The other big consumer feedback was to have stations based on heroes and heroines on which the song was picturized. Carvaan's premium variant now offers 50+ new stations dedicated to artistes like Dilip Kumar, Amitabh Bachchan, Sharmila Tagore, Rishi Kapoor etc. This is in addition to the existing 80+ stations dedicated to the singers, lyricists and music composers. Like in the flagship Carvaan, each of the stations can be selected by

turning a jog-dial. So literally, with a simple turn of a knob, one can switch from Kishore Kumar classics, to Raj Kapoor's evergreen hits to Mumtaz's pulsating dance numbers. Carvaan Premium's music collection also includes the entire Ameen Sayani's Geetmala countdown collection spanning 50 years.

Carvaan Premium now has an additional benefit of AM Radio besides FM Radio. This is based on feedback received from our consumers staying in non-FM cities who want Carvaan to double up as a home radio. In addition to the USB drive feature, Carvaan Premium comes with Aux-In port allowing one to plug in their portable music devices or laptops or mobile phones giving them the independence to hear all their favorite songs wherever they are stored. Carvaan Premium works on a rechargeable battery that lasts up to 5 hours. The product is backed by an all India service network, providing 1-year doorstep warranty support.

Vikram Mehra, managing director of Saregama India says, "We believe that consumer knows the best. Over the last 12 months of Carvaan, we have collected

feedback from hundreds of customers. This has been the basis of Carvaan's Premium variant. We believe Carvaan and its premium variant will be the hottest gifts this Diwali."

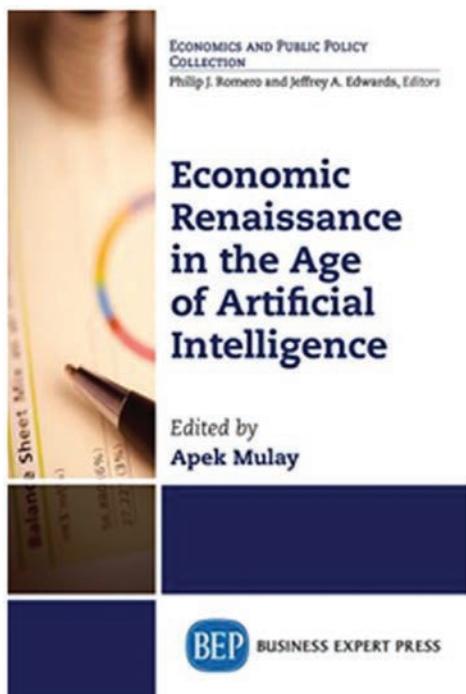
Carvaan Premium available in a Royal blue color at a price point of \$119.99. The existing base variant of Carvaan continues to be available in the market at \$109.99.

ABOUT SAREGAMA INDIA: Formerly known as The Gramophone Company of India Ltd, Saregama owns the largest music archives in India, one of the biggest in the world. The ownership of nearly 50 per cent of all the music ever recorded in India also makes Saregama the most authoritative repository of the country's musical heritage. Saregama has now expanded into other branches of entertainment - it is involved in publishing, television software and digital content. It also runs studio facilities in Dum Dum, Kolkata making it one of the best end-to-end entertainment houses in the country.

For more information, please contact: Jai Prateek Singh at +1 859 490 0156 or email: [\(jai.prateek@rp-sg.in\)](mailto:jai.prateek@rp-sg.in)
(Press Release)

BOOK REVIEW

Review of "Economic Renaissance in the Age of Artificial Intelligence"



environment, the law, psychology and above all spirituality.

Once again Apek Mulay establishes his claim as an original thinker and a prolific writer. In 2018, he wrote about 'New Macroeconomics,' which was a remarkable analysis of global poverty and the economy. This year, in 2019, he has come out with a motley collection of essays that offer penetrating insights in diverse areas. An article from Satinder Paul Singh sets the stage for analyzing the impact of what is known as the internet of things (IoT) on the economy. This is followed by a piece from Srinivas Adiki on how the invention of Artificial Intelligence (AI) will shape the future. How the upcoming blockchain technology interacts with the global economy is examined next. These financial technologies are relatively new and are likely to revolutionize the financial services as described by Shrikant Shete.

The book next turns to the environment. In 'Monsters of our own Making', Michael McAllum gives us a glimpse of how poor planning of various cities has ravaged the environment and what should be done to counter that destruction in the future. Roar Bjornes, on the other hand, suggests that pollution is so bad that green technologies alone cannot save the

environment. We all have to develop an environmental-friendly awareness to do the job. Will AI bring about a collaborative or predatory ecosystem has been explored by Stephen Willis? These three papers are superb; they offer a deft analysis of current environmental problems and what needs to be done.

At this point, the book turns to an entirely different area that makes a case for universal income. The idea that many experts advocate today is that everyone should be provided a Universal Basic Income (UBI) to fulfill their minimum needs. While the idea is basically sound, Matt Oppenheim correctly points out that we should make sure that UBI does not create a culture of dependence if the recipients of the UBI simply "hang out" and do nothing useful.

As AI becomes common place in the future, the global constitutions will have to change to ensure that progress of AI does not harm human well-being. This idea is ably examined by Craig Runde.

Science and Spirituality are normally considered to be poles apart. Steven Richheimer neatly destroys this misconception in his essay, "The New Age of Science and Spirituality." Next Dr. Shambhushivananda, further elaborates on this idea. Shambhushivananda has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Pennsylvania but has become an

Avadhuta (or a monk) to pursue a higher calling. He is amply qualified to write on "Meditation and Consciousness." His essay is remarkable as it establishes a link among mind, matter and consciousness.

Finally, the book turns to purely economic issues and policies. First, Navin Doshi examines the global economy and pinpoints the basic reason for the world's economic malaise. He complains that the planet saves while America spends, and this is the fundamental problem behind several global imbalances. Second, Apek Mulay, also the editor of this book, offers some original economic ideas with an innovative business model in the era of Artificial Intelligence to solve the problem of poverty around the world. He also examines the Law of Social Cycle which suggests that we are now in the age of acquisitors in which acquisitementality rules society. This law suggests that only a revolution can now end this age and bring about a new era of compassion and prosperity in which poverty disappears in America.

All in all, this book of essays is worth reading for its varied contributions envisioning Mr. Mulay's vision about how Progressive Utilization Theory can solve the most pressing economic issues faced by mankind.

RAVI BATRA
There is nothing artificial in Apek Mulay's new book 'Economic Renaissance in the Age of Artificial Intelligence.' Mulay's intelligence is real and it shines forth in this volume, which is actually a collection of essays from experts in various fields. The book sheds light on real problems facing the world in the arena of technology, the

Election news from the campaign Trail: Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala



By George Abraham

There is no doubt that Rahul ji's candidacy in Wayanad has reenergized the party cadre across Kerala, however, that enthusiasm hasn't spilled over to Thiruvananthapuram where Shashi Tharoor is contesting the election for a third term. For reasons that cannot be explained well, the party workers at the ward and booth level have been lackadaisical in taking the party's message to the voters at the ground level. If the party leadership doesn't wake up and deal with the situation with a sense of urgency, we might lose the representation for Kerala by an Internationally acclaimed personality whose victory not only may assure a cabinet-level appointment after the elections, but also provide a powerful voice in the Parliament and across the nation on behalf of pluralism and democracy.

The group rivalry that has been a fixture in the Congress politics in the State, may have a lot to do with the current situation. There are areas in the Constituency, where party workers are notably absent. It has been said that more volunteers are working in Wayanad where Rahul Gandhi is running from, although that is a very safe constituency for the party, than in Thiruvananthapuram. The UDF is slated to win a majority of the seats from Kerala, and yet some of the contests are simply too close to call. Thiruvananthapuram is one of those constituencies where BJP has poured in

Thiruvananthapuram is one of those constituencies where BJP has poured in resources and fielded hundreds of RSS volunteers with a vow to defeat Mr. Tharoor. It appears that removing a great critic of the Modi regime has almost become an obsession in the higher ranks of BJP and they are willing to pay any price towards achieving that goal. That is quite understandable from a political standpoint; however, the question many folks are asking is why some in the Congress leadership in Kerala are acting as silent partners to the opposition agenda?

resources and fielded hundreds of RSS volunteers with a vow to defeat Mr. Tharoor. It appears that removing a great critic of the Modi regime has almost become an obsession in the higher ranks of BJP and they are willing to pay any price towards achieving that goal. That is quite understandable from a political standpoint; however, the question many folks are asking is why some in the Congress leadership in Kerala are acting as silent partners to the opposition agenda?

To begin with, some of them have consciously participated in this charade of spreading rumors that "Tharoor can't win or he is behind" falsehood across the constituency almost making the opposition BJP candidate, Kummanam Rajasekharan, a divisive voice in the State, almost invincible. There is no doubt that this has been a disservice done to the voters by the vested interests and we will only know of the potential



Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor is contesting the election for a third term from Thiruvananthapuram

negative impact when the final tally will be in. Let us face one reality that as many who appear to drape themselves with tri-color during the day might also change to Saffron at night. It is almost frightening to observe that many in the party cadre and some in the leadership are becoming totally devoid of any values and principles of the Nehruvian vision and operating on their own to advance their self-development.

However, one thing is sure, the communalism has arrived with its full force and ugliness to this once peaceful state. BJP is fanning the flames of communalism and bigotry to gain political ground in Kerala that until now largely rejected BJP as an outlier. Although Communist party is running a distant third in the recent polls here, they too have determined to carry on with an active campaign to take away as much vote from the secular front to show their displeasure with the Congress

decision on Wayanad. However, they fail to realize that a BJP victory from the Capital of Kerala, the seat of the LDF government, will prove to be more than a thorn in their backs and they may come to regret it.

The voters in Kerala are smart, thoughtful and deliberate. They also know very well how to distinguish a Vidhan Sabha election from a Parliamentary one. They have witnessed the neglect and disdain shown by the BJP government towards Kerala especially during the great flood. They also have learned about the alleged involvement of RSS proxies who appear to have filed a petition in Supreme Court asking for the entry of women of all ages to the Sabarimala Temple and BJP at the Center and at the State level initially welcomed such a decision. It is Modi's Home Ministry that refused to file any review petition on behalf of the faithful they purportedly defending right now. It is the same ministry that kept reminding the state government to implement the SC decision. It is also the Modi government that has done nothing at the Central level either through a directive or via legislation to remedy the issue. After having done nothing other than to exasperate the situation with their cadre and to create havoc across the state similar to what has happened in Ayodhya, Gujarat, and Muzzafarnagar, they have now become the great guardians of the faithful! Keralites understand the devious game that is being played upon them, and they will give a fitting reply to BJP on April 23rd through the ballot box.

(The author is the Vice-Chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress, USA. He can be reached at gta777@gmail.com)

NY based Lakhinder Vohra appointed executive secretary of Chandigarh United Nations Association

CHANDIGARH (TIP): The Chandigarh United Nations Association (CUNA) announced, April 16, the appointment of New York City-based Mr. Lakhinder Jit Singh Vohra, M.S.J., to the position of executive secretary with immediate effect.

In this position, Mr Vohra will report directly to the Chairman Emeritus, Dr. Harcharan Singh Ranauta, who is the founder of Chandigarh United Nations Association (CUNA) in Chandigarh, India.

Mr Ranauta is a noted philanthropist and international visionary who is the force behind the permanent CUNA projects such as the 550th Birth Centennial Celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev ji and the launch of the first-ever UNITED NATIONS GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY FOR DISABILITY STUDIES AND REHABILITATION.

"We are really excited to bring Mr



Lakhinder Jit Singh Vohra

Vohra back home to India and his hometown of Chandigarh from America after a long gap of 30 years serving

humanitarian causes close to the United Nations Mission in the Midwest and then the East Coast and West Coast of the United States of America," said Mr Ranauta. "I am honored to serve as his mentor and make his return to India a resounding success."

Mr. Vohra was brought on-board to help with various activities in regard to day-to-day operations of CUNA and to provide his expertise in the area of strategy, fundraising, branding and donor relations. Mr Vohra will also be the key liaison with existing local and UN student groups and help build grassroots teams for creating interest and participation on different levels in Northern India.

For interview opportunities with Mr Ranauta or key CUNA leaders, please contact +91 8146800138.

*Read Full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news*

INDIAN ORIGIN MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR SEXUALLY EXPLOITING MINOR IN ORLANDO

ORLANDO, NJ (TIP): U.S. District Judge Carlos E. Mendoza has sentenced Deepak Deshpande (41, Dublin, California) on April 11 to life in federal prison for enticing a minor to engage in sexual conduct, and 30 years' imprisonment for production of child pornography. Deshpande had pleaded guilty on October 29, 2018.

According to court documents and evidence presented during the sentencing hearing, in July 2017, Deshpande contacted a minor in Orlando through an online chat application. At that time, Deshpande posed as a modeling agent and persuaded the minor to send him nude images of herself.

*Read Full story at
www.theindianpanorama.news*

GUEST COMMENT

BJP's tainted pick: Sadhvi Pragya facing trial in Malegaon case

Cocking a snook at the law and the judicial process, the BJP has fielded Malegaon blast case accused Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur from Bhopal against Congress veteran and former Madhya Pradesh CM Digvijay Singh. Out on bail for the past two years, the Hindutva hardliner

was discharged by a court of charges under the Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act (MCOCA) in the 2008 case, but she is still facing trial under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and sections of the IPC pertaining to murder and criminal conspiracy. The saffron party

and Pragya herself allege that she was framed by the then Congress-led UPA government in an attempt to validate its 'Hindu terror' theory.

The BJP has been emboldened by the recent acquittal of Swami Aseemanand and three others in the 2007 Samjhauta Express blast case. The accused had walked free as the National Investigation Agency (NIA) failed to establish their role in the blast that killed 68 people, mostly from Pakistan, on the cross-border train near Panipat. The shoddy probe had prompted the NIA special judge to observe

that a dastardly act of violence remained unpunished for want of 'credible and admissible' evidence. Nevertheless, the verdict provided the BJP with ammunition to accuse the Congress of maligning the entire community by 'propagating a false story of Hindu terror'. Even in the Malegaon case, the NIA filed a charge sheet giving the clean chit to Pragya and three others, saying that it had found no evidence against them and they should be discharged. The NIA court, however, had refused to grant relief to the radical leader.

(Tribune, India)

AS I SEE IT



Harjap Singh Aujla

Financial collapse of Jet Airways has proved most detrimental to aviation in Punjab

As of this moment, Punjab's connection to its most lucrative Amritsar - Birmingham route, which could support two flights a day has been snapped for the foreseeable future and its indirect connection to London Heathrow Airport has also suffered a big blow. Even Punjab's traffic to Toronto in Canada has been seriously inhibited

After the collapse of Kingfisher a few years ago, it is now the turn of Jet Airways to go into liquidation. Air India is also sailing in the same boat, but they have the backing of the financial muscle of the central government. Primarily due to wrong route selection and partly due to undue stress on luxury class of travel, Jet Airways has been slowly losing money and now they have virtually collapsed. Another blunder of Jet Airways was to ignore several non-metro load centers. They wanted to put most of their eggs in their Mumbai and New Delhi baskets.

Mr. Praful Patel, the longtime aviation minister during the UPA Government, had a soft corner for Jet Airways. Realizing the tremendous load of British NRIs, Jet applied for daily slots on the Amritsar - London (Heathrow) route. Praful Patel sanctioned the route and Jet Airways started flying six times a week on the route. Its Amritsar - London route became a profitable operation, mainly on the strength of their economy class clientele. Here a story is worth telling. Air India had 21 weekly slots at London (Heathrow) Airport, out of which Air India was daily operating on just 14 slots from Mumbai and New Delhi. The British authorities served a notice on Air India to either utilize their full quota or lose the 7 unused slots. Considering the immense importance of Heathrow Airport to India, Air India, in a jiffy decided to change its daily route from Amritsar - Birmingham - Toronto to Amritsar - London - Toronto. This temporarily impacted passenger load of Jet Airways on their Amritsar - London Heathrow segment. Without giving a thought to growth of traffic in future, in a hurry, Jet Airways discontinued the Amritsar - London flight all-together. This move proved an imprudent decision in the long run, it affected their credibility.

Etihad Airways had estimated the tremendous load on Abu Dhabi - Amritsar route. Three of their top executives met me in New York in 2012, during an Indian Consulate General function. I requested them to start daily flights between Abu Dhabi and Amritsar. They told me that in spite of their survey of load and consequent desire to fly on this route, they will not be given rights of port of call facility at Amritsar Airport. But in order to circumvent this limitation, they will get port of call rights to Jet Airways from Amritsar to Abu Dhabi and they got Jet all the necessary permissions in a short period. But Jet, for some undisclosed reasons,

did not avail of this privilege and decided to transport Punjabi passengers from Amritsar to New Delhi for transferring them on the New Delhi Abu Dhabi flight. So New Delhi Airport got another slot.

Towards the end of February 2019, citing safety concerns, Turkmenistan Airlines was barred to fly to any European Airport by the European Union. They were operating four times a week on Birmingham - Ashgabat - Amritsar route. The well-wishers of Amritsar Airport like Sameep Singh of the USA, Yogesh Kamra of Amritsar and others requested Jet Airways to start operating on the newly vacated Amritsar - Birmingham route of Turkmenistan. Jet due to their fiscal problems bluntly spurned this request. Air India was also operating thrice a week on New Delhi - Amritsar - Birmingham route, after Pakistan banned Indian flights over her airspace, Air India stopped the Amritsar - Birmingham leg of its highest occupancy New Delhi - Amritsar - Birmingham route. Now there are no flights on this non-stop or one stop ultra high occupancy Amritsar - Birmingham route. Instead of at one time 13 flights per week there is none. This is hurting tourism of Punjab too.

Earlier this year Jet Airways launched a nightly Amritsar - Mumbai - Manchester flight, which has also

fallen a victim to paucity of financial resources. Jet Airways was also operating on the New Delhi - Amsterdam - Toronto route, by carting passengers from Amritsar Airport to New Delhi Airport. Now, due to financial difficulties, that flight has also been cancelled.

There is a ray of hope at the end of the tunnel. Both Indigo and SpiceJet have applied for slots at Birmingham Airport for their non-stop connectivity to Amritsar Airport. Their applications are awaiting a decision by the Birmingham Airport Authorities. Hopefully during or after the coming summer, the new slots will be allotted, and the low budget airlines intercontinental flights will begin. Similarly, the same two low budget Indian aviation companies have applied for slots at Gatwick and Stansted airports of metropolitan London. They think Heathrow Airport is too expensive. Something positive in this matter can be expected in October or November of 2019.

As the things stand today, Jet Airways, by stopping all the international flights has let Punjab down very badly. So far, they have been carting Punjabi passengers from Amritsar to New Delhi for onward transfers to the British and Canadian airports. Due to their financial problems, Jet Airways has lost all its slots at Heathrow London Airport. These slots have been allotted to their financial backers Etihad Airways. Some slots have gone to KLM Airways of Holland too. Since Air Canada is also operating non-stop on Toronto - New Delhi and Vancouver New Delhi routes, they have also put a claim on the New Delhi to Toronto slots of Jet Airways.

As of this moment, Punjab's connection to its most lucrative Amritsar - Birmingham route, which could support two flights a day has been snapped for the foreseeable future and its indirect connection to London Heathrow Airport has also suffered a big blow. Even Punjab's traffic to Toronto in Canada has been seriously inhibited. We are calling upon long haul Canadian budget airlines and their British counterparts to start services from Vancouver, Toronto, Birmingham and London to Amritsar International Airport in India, which is the nearest airport to the Canadian and European cities in entire India.

(The author can be reached at harjapaujla@gmail.com)

DISCLAIMER

U.S. Needs to Shift to More Sustainable Agriculture, As Do All Countries

“Increasingly, there is recognition that societies need to work towards an agriculture that is greener, cleaner, and provides better quality, more nutritious food that not only feeds people but improves their diet. This is not a new idea, rather one that has been ignored in our impatient, on-demand society, as well as one that has had to compete against a food and diet industry valued at 66 billion dollars in the U.S., with all the vested interests that go with it.”

BY JAMES JEFFREY

Water supply has long been a key issue in California. Today it is no less critical, especially given the years of drought that California is experiencing, lending additional impetus to assessing the impact of agriculture on water. The conventional estimate is that 80 percent of the water used in California flows into the state's multi-billion-dollar agricultural sector.

But it goes way beyond water. As in California, agriculture in the United States is dominated by large, specialized crop and animal farms that focus on short-term productivity, often at the cost of creating other environmental problems, as well as public health issues. Increasingly, there is recognition that societies need to work towards an agriculture that is greener, cleaner, and provides better quality, more nutritious food that not only feeds people but improves their diet. This is not a new idea, rather one that has been ignored in our impatient, on-demand society, as well as one that has had to compete against a food and diet industry valued at 66 billion dollars in the U.S., with all the vested interests that go with it.

“It is not necessarily the size of holdings or the level of mechanization and industrialization that is a problem, rather it is the way agriculture is practiced, when this has unintentional impacts on the environment,” Jean-Marc Faurès, a former senior advisor on sustainable agriculture at the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), tells IPS.

“In the past, we have looked at productivity as the sole metrics to measure success in agriculture. Measuring agricultural sustainability forces us to go beyond productivity only



A pair of combines harvesting soybeans in the US. Photo / Courtesy World Resources Institute

and include other dimensions, like the environmental, but also the social dimension.”

To better help people understand where the problem areas are occurring, the Barilla Center for Food and Nutrition Foundation (BCFN), a non-profit research Centre studying the causes and effects on food created by economic, scientific, societal and environmental factors, has produced a food sustainability index profile for the U.S. and another 66 countries. Each country profile focuses on three pillars-food loss and waste, sustainable agriculture, nutritional challenges-each of which is broken into multiple relevant categories that are rated green, yellow or red, to indicate progress: green being good, red being bad.

The U.S. score for sustainable agriculture was average due to the land category having repeatedly low scores across indicators such as the impact on land of animal feed and biofuels, agricultural subsidies and diversification of agricultural systems (the U.S. earned a high score for the food loss and waste pillar, but only performed moderately well in terms of nutritional challenges).

“A major issue in the U.S. is the low proportion of land set aside for organic farming as opposed to the large amount used for bio-fuel and animal feed,” BCFN’s Katarzyna Dembska tells IPS. “The large demand for animal feed is directly linked to the meat supply in the country: the additional 225 grams of meat available per capita per day-compared to the recommended intakes-makes the U.S. availability of meat for consumers among the highest in the world.”

Lack of diversification is another problem in the U.S., and around the world, with people fed from just a very limited basket of crops and animals, Faurès says. This increases the vulnerability of agricultural systems to unexpected events-climatic, pests, or market related-but also means that people eat food that is not diversified and is too rich in carbohydrates and not enough in vitamins.

“It is a paradox in a way that many developing countries show much more diverse production systems than developed countries,” Faurès says. “This is in part due to the imperative need for farmers to diversify sources of income and reduce risks related to shocks.”

He emphasizes, however, that he isn’t recommending turning to be more like those farming models, which have many of their own problems.

“Moving towards more sustainable agriculture takes different shapes according to your starting point,” Faurès says. “In poor, unproductive areas, the focus is on increasing productivity and reducing vulnerability; in more advanced, input-intensive systems, sustainability implies a move towards greener production systems that make better use of the resources that our ecosystems offer and progressively reduce their negative impacts on the environment.”

Food subsidies in the U.S. are often called out for sustaining problems, scoring a red in the food sustainability index profile.

“The bigger issue with subsidies is what they have failed to do, and how they are underachieving in terms of what they could be doing,” Timothy Searchinger, a research scholar at Princeton University and for the World Resources Institute, tells IPS. “Agriculture has been grossly underregulated and under incentivized on the environmental side.”

The result has seen environmental costs incurred and opportunities missed for the likes of improving land use.

“Even though the U.S. is blessed with an abundance of farm-friendly country, it’s still limited,” Ari Phillips, an environmental journalist, tells IPS. “Agricultural land is extremely unaccommodating for wildlife and can lead to nearby chemical contamination issues.”

There are good examples of countries succeeding in cutting back on such environmental consequences, Searchinger says. Costa Rica has made significant progress in reducing deforestation that was occurring as a result of subsidies paid for grazing, while New Zealand has basically gone “cold turkey” on subsidies and as a result improved land use and agriculture. He notes that when considering all this, it should be borne in mind there are different ways of defining progress and hence it should not be forgotten that agriculture has achieved what it set out to do.

“There’s been stunning progress in making food-the advances really have been staggering,” Searchinger says. “Twenty-five years ago, many people in

“It is a paradox in a way that many developing countries show much more diverse production systems than developed countries,” Faurès says. “This is in part due to the imperative need for farmers to diversify sources of income and reduce risks related to shocks.”

China were desperately hungry—that’s been turned around, though with gigantic environmental consequences.”

The implications globally are clear enough to cause grave concerns. The UN has predicted that as soon as 2025, two-thirds of the world’s population could be dealing with water scarcity. Increasingly in the news are stories of water-starved communities around the world—from Houston to Puerto Rico to Cape Town—indicating that our trust in the tap is far less dependable than we assume.

“Drought-prone states like Texas and California were already water stressed before climate change came around,” Phillips says. “Overcoming the combined challenges of population growth and reduced precipitation in a limited amount of time will be tough. Agriculture will have to play a big part in this transition. If it gets bad enough, there could be permanent water rationing.”

Tackling these sorts of problems, and how agriculture influences them, is highly complex due to all the interlinking factors.

“People need to be better educated about the water embedded in the food that they eat and the products that they use,” says Jack Cade with Global Water Intelligence. “We need to adopt new technology and invest properly in our water infrastructure and making our cities more efficient and resilient.”

At the same time, it requires better appreciation of the sorts of hard data provided by the likes of Barilla’s food sustainability index profiles, rather than being swayed by what might look good. Searchinger notes that though people may prefer more traditional farms that appear more in harmony with the surrounding environment, even those types of farms have transformed the environment significantly, while larger, more ugly farms may have less impact environmentally per ton of food produced.

Commentators note that changing the food culture of any country like the U.S.—in its case with 328 million keen and diverse appetites—will require redirecting, reframing and sometimes remaking traditional habits, expectations and the physical environment, as well as what is taken as normal and acceptable in people’s lives. “The first thing is to feed people,” Searchinger says. “But you have to do it with more environmental sensitivity.”

(Source: IPS)

PAK PM APPOINTS NEW FINANCE MINISTRY CHIEF IN MAJOR SHAKE-UP

ISLAMABAD (TIP): Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan made a sweeping cabinet reshuffle on April 18 and appointed Abdul Hafeez Shaikh as de facto finance minister to steer the country through worsening economic turmoil. The changes were made after finance minister Asad Umar resigned.

Pakistan is on the brink of signing up for its 13th International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout since the late 1980s in a bid to stave off a balance of payments crisis.

The former cricketer has come under intense criticism for failing to fulfil his promises that he would steady the ship and bring prosperity to Pakistan.

Khan announced 10 ministerial appointments in a shakeup. Shaikh, who already served as finance minister from 2010-2013 under the opposition Pakistan Peoples Party when it was in power, has been appointed as "Adviser on Finance", but will be heading the finance ministry once again.

Earlier in the day, Umar, announcing that he would step down, said Pakistan would still go into an IMF programme but warned his successor that he faces a tough job ahead. (Reuters)

NEPAL LAUNCHES ITS 1ST SATELLITE FROM US

KATHMANDU (TIP): Nepal on April 18 successfully launched its first satellite into space from the US to gather detailed geographical information of the Himalayan nation, evoking unbridled excitement among the people and scientists. Developed by the Nepalese scientists, NepaliSat-1 satellite was launched at 2:31 am (Nepal time) from Virginia in United States, according to Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST). Two Nepali scientists, Aabhas Maskey and Hariram Shrestha who are currently studying at the Japanese Kyushu Institute of Technology, developed the satellite under the BIRDS project of their institute. Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli congratulated all scientists and institutions involved in the development of the satellite. He said it was a matter of prestige for the country to have its own satellite. — PTI

6.1-MAGNITUDE QUAKE HITS TAIWAN, INJURING 17 PERSONS

TAIPEI (TIP): A 6.1-magnitude earthquake jolted Taiwan on Thursday, the US Geological Survey said, disrupting traffic and injuring 17 persons. In the capital Taipei, highrises swayed while some panicked schoolchildren fled their classrooms in eastern Yilan county, according to reports. (AFP)

Eleven security men among 14 dead in Pak highway shooting

ISLAMABAD/KARACHI (TIP): At least 14 passengers including 11 security personnel were forcibly offloaded from a bus on a highway in Pakistan's Balochistan province and then shot dead by unidentified gunmen on April 18, officials said.

The deceased included nine personnel from Pakistan Navy, one from Pakistan Coast Guard and one from Pakistan Air Force, whereas identities of the remaining three victims were not determined yet, security officials were cited as saying by a news agency.

The incident happened when five buses, travelling between Karachi and Gwadar on the Makran Coastal highway, carrying civilians and the victims were stopped by some 20-25 militants wearing Frontier Corps uniforms to check identity cards of the passengers. After scanning the identities of passengers in one of the buses in Buzi Top area, the militants offloaded 16 of them. Fourteen of them were shot dead, while two passengers — reportedly soldiers of the Pakistan Army — escaped, according to Pakistan media reports.

After reaching a "safe" place, these soldiers informed security forces about the whole incident who rushed to the incident site and recovered 14 bodies, officials added.

Confirming the incident, a Pakistan Navy spokesperson said that several Navy personnel were among those killed.

Proscribed organisation Baloch Raji Ajo Sangar claimed the attack on their unverified Twitter account, saying that their offensives against the security



forces will further intensify, the media said. Provincial Home Minister Mir Zia Langov said a full-scale investigation was launched into the attack and to track down the gunmen. "Such incidents are intolerable and we will not spare the terrorists who carried out this dastardly attack," he said.

Condemning the attack, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan sought a report on the incident and directed the authorities to identify and bring the perpetrators of the attack to justice.

Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal said: "Terrorists are killing innocent people on the agenda of anti-state elements. It is a conspiracy to create hurdles in the development of Balochistan." This is the second incident

involving mass killings in Balochistan this month. On April 12, a terror attack targeting the Hazara community in Quetta left at least 20 dead. — Agencies

Offloaded from bus, gunned down

Around 15 to 20 gunmen stopped five to six buses travelling between Karachi and Gwadar.

They stopped the buses on the Makran Coastal Highway in the Balochistan's Ormara area, checked some three dozen passengers' identity cards and offloaded 16 persons before shooting them dead.

Around 15 to 20 unidentified gunmen wearing uniforms of paramilitary Frontier Corps were involved in the attack carried out early morning at the Buzi Top area

Indonesia President Joko Widodo declares victory in presidential race

JAKARTA (TIP): Indonesian President Joko Widodo declared victory on April 18 in the race to lead the world's third-largest democracy, saying unofficial results showed his ticket had got 54 percent of the popular vote in Wednesday's election.

Earlier, National Police Chief Tito Karnavian said "smooth and safe" polls would not be disrupted by demonstrations, and warned of arrests.

"If there are any illegal or unconstitutional actions that threaten public stability and security, (authorities) will take firm action," he said.

"We won't tolerate it."

"I urge everyone against mass demonstrations, whether it's to celebrate or to express dissatisfaction" at the results, Karnavian added.

This year's campaign was punctuated by bitter mudslinging and a slew of fake news online—much of it directed at the presidential contenders.

Authorities said on Thursday they had seen a spike in false reports and hoaxes,

with some calling for chaos in the streets and for Indonesians to commit violence in response to the results.

However, the capital Jakarta was quiet on Thursday after as many as 190 million voters in the Muslim-majority country cast ballots in the one day poll—which featured a record 245,000 candidates—to elect a new president, parliamentarians and local legislators.

While official results are not due until next month, a series of so-called "quick counts" by pollsters, which are based on samples, showed Widodo between 9-11 percentage points ahead. Quick counts have been reliable indicators in past elections, but Widodo held off declaring victory—while his rival Prabowo Subianto insisted he was the archipelago's next leader. The former general—who has close ties to the Suharto dictatorship, which collapsed in 1998—earlier warned he would challenge the results in court if he lost and stage street protest over allegations of voter fraud. "We will not use illegal tactics because we have won," Subianto said on

Wednesday.

"For those who defended (my rivals), I'm still going to defend you. I'm the President of all Indonesians." The 67-year-old, who has long had his eye on the country's top job, lost to Widodo in 2014 and then mounted an unsuccessful legal challenge to that election.

Online, the retired military man was pilloried by social media users who poked fun at his repudiation of the unofficial results and for kissing the ground as he declared himself president.

"We honestly feel sorry for Prabowo, not because he's lost the election (again) but because he is surrounded by people who made him a zombie who can't differentiate between reality and illusion," said one Twitter user with 1,65,000 followers. National newspapers called for reconciliation, with top-selling Kompas saying "Let's Unite", while Tempo declared it "One More Time" for Widodo.

Financial markets cheered, with the Jakarta composite stock index and rupiah currency both higher. (PTI)

R & R Dental Lab

86-24 Whitney Ave. Elmhurst, NY 11373
Tel. (718) 533-1611; (347) 808-7258
Email: rbarua1953@gmail.com



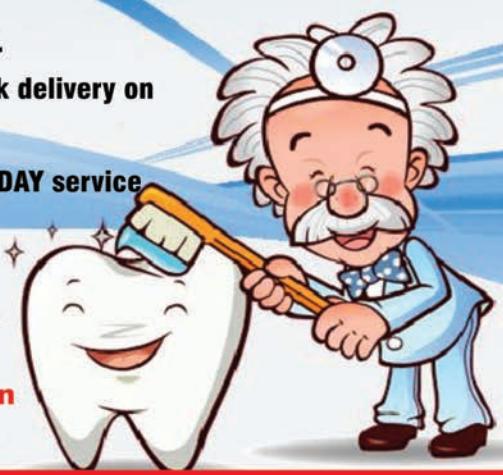
■ We make all kinds of Acrylic, Metal and Flexite Dentures, applying high quality technology by experienced technicians.

■ We repair, reline night guards etc.

■ We do delivery and pick up. Quick delivery on the same day.

■ EMERGENCY new dentures SAME DAY service.

We are in Dentures Work for the last 40 years.
We GUARANTEE full satisfaction



SONU INSURANCE AGENCY INC.

Insurance, Money Transfer, Tax Preparation

Specializing in: → • Auto • Home • Business
• Construction
• Workers Compensation

TAX PREPARES- PERSONAL RETURNS (1040)
MONEY TRANSFER: Send money to India, Pakistan, Bangladesh



MASTER MOHINDER SINGH
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson
Licensed Mortgage Loan Originator
Cell: 646-523-5092

CALL TODAY
OPEN 9 AM to 6 PM

**113-09 101st Avenue (Opposite Gurdwara),
Richmond Hill, NY 11419**
Phone: 718-847-1878/ 1885 Fax: 718-847-1879
Email: sonuinsurance@yahoo.com



Levittown
5BR, 2 Baths
2,800 sq ft, Renovated
\$599,000

Hicksville
2BR, 1 Bath
Short Sale
\$389,000

South Ozone Park
2 family detached
20 x 100 lot size
\$499,900

Westbury (Salisbury)
5BR, 2 Baths
Mother/Daughter
\$479,000

Valley Stream
5BR, 2 Baths
Fully Renovated, Possible Mother/Daughter
\$699,000

Hempstead
3BR, 2 Baths
Short Sale
\$175,000

Elmont
4 BR, 2 Baths
Newly Renovated
\$579,900

Bronx
51 Unit Apartment Building
CAP = 6%
\$9.5 million

FEATURED LISTING:
38 Acres Vacant Land in Budd Lake, NJ
Prime Location with heavy traffic right off of I-80
Ideal opportunity for Hotel/Motel, Gas Station, Retail Stores
\$895,000

Pal Singh Dhillon
Licensed Real Estate Broker
QA Software Engineer, E-Pro Certified
Notary Public

CALL NOW (516) 304-2630 or (516) 830-0352
Email: hprealty1@gmail.com

Jeet Dhillon
Licensed Real Estate Broker
HP Realty Advisors



California Chapter of the Indian Overseas Congress, USA inaugurated on a high note



Sarbjit Singh Maan installed as President of California Chapter of IOC, USA

LOS ANGELES, CA (TIP): A large group of ardent NRI supporters of the Congress Party gathered together here on April 10, 2019 under the leadership of Sarbjit Singh Maan to collaborate and discuss their various common issues but more particularly the ongoing Lok Sabha elections going on in India. Evidently people from Punjab were greatest in number and were in the forefront pushing forward initiatives relative to the subject of the elections.

The occasion marked the inauguration of the California Chapter of the Indian Overseas Congress Party,

USA and the installation of Mr. Sarbjit Singh Maan as the President of the Chapter. Mr. Mohinder Singh Gilzian, President of the Indian Overseas Congress, USA had travelled to California, accompanied by Mr. Phuman Singh, Senior Vice President to install the president and address the meeting.

Mr. Gilzian congratulated the new President and wished him good luck. He stated that India was at the crossroad of history and that people were frustrated with the situation in India. They needed change. The government

had broken promises on big issues affecting the livelihoods of the people. Corruption and unemployment were on the rise on a big scale.

He urged them to join hands and work hard to bring about change in government by voting for the Congress party. Mr. Sarbjit Singh Maan thanked Mr. Mohinder Singh Gilzian for visiting California and for the wise counsel. He also conveyed their compliments to Mr. George Abraham, Vice Chairman, Mr. Harbachan Singh, Secretary General and all other leaders of the Indian Overseas Congress, USA. He assured

Mohinder Singh that they were already working hard, and his visit would now have a great effect in arousing the enthusiasm of the people to work even harder.

Several senior officials of Mr. Maan's Chapter addressed the group and gave reassuring speeches. They understood how crucial the elections were for the people of India so that they can elect the right Government which would be headed by Shri Rahul Gandhi who will bring about improvements in the quality of the lives of the people and the economy of the country.

USCIS Strengthens Guidance for Spousal Petitions Involving Minors

WASHINGTON (TIP): U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) April 12 announced additional guidance (PDF, 222 KB) regarding the adjudication of spousal petitions involving minors, following up on the agency's February update to its policy.

The guidance, published as an update to the USCIS Adjudicator's Field Manual (AFM), instructs officers to conduct an additional interview for certain I-130 spousal petitions involving a minor. Generally, the bona fides of the spousal relationship are assessed in person by USCIS when the alien spouse applies to adjust status, or by the Department of State when the alien spouse applies for an immigrant visa. However, I-130 spousal petitions involving a minor warrant special consideration due to the vulnerabilities associated with marriage involving a minor. As such, USCIS is modifying its policy to require in-person interviews at this earlier stage for certain I-130 petitions involving minor spouses.

"As part of our continued efforts to strengthen guidance for spousal petitions involving minors, we have instructed USCIS officers to conduct an

additional in-person interview earlier in the immigration process for certain petitions that warrant additional scrutiny," said USCIS Director L. Francis Cissna. "While USCIS has taken action to the maximum extent possible to detect and closely examine spousal petitions involving a minor spouse, Congress should address this issue by providing more clarity under the law for USCIS officers."

Interviewing earlier at the I-130 petition stage provides USCIS with an additional opportunity to verify information contained in the petition and assess the bona fides of the claimed spousal relationship. USCIS officers will now conduct interviews for the following I-130 spousal petitions as part of the adjudication of any I-130 spousal petition where:

- The petitioner or the beneficiary is less than 16 years old; or
- The petitioner or the beneficiary is 16 or 17 years old and there are 10 years or more difference between the ages of the spouses.

While there are no statutory age requirements to petition for a spouse or be sponsored as a spousal beneficiary,



**U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services**

USCIS published guidance earlier this year detailing factors that officers should consider when evaluating I-130 spousal petitions involving a minor. USCIS considers whether the age of the beneficiary or petitioner at the time the marriage was celebrated violates the law of the place of celebration. Officers also consider whether the marriage is recognized as valid in the U.S. state where the couple currently resides or will presumably reside and does not violate the state's public policy. In some

U.S. states and in some foreign countries, marriage involving a minor might be permitted under certain circumstances, including where there is parental consent, a judicial order, emancipation of the minor, or pregnancy of the minor.

In addition, per regulation, USCIS may use its discretion to issue a request for evidence (RFE) where appropriate. As with any benefit, the burden is generally on the petitioner to demonstrate the validity of their petition and the bona fides of their spousal relationship.

These AFM updates are part of USCIS' continuing efforts to ensure that our policies and processes remain current and are compliant with existing immigration law. USCIS also created a flagging system that sends an alert in an electronic system at the time of filing if a minor spouse or fiancé is detected. After the initial flag, the petition is sent to a special unit that verifies that the age and relationship listed are correct before the petition is accepted. If the age or classification on the petition is incorrect, the petition will be returned to the petitioner for correction.

Accomplished American Filmmaker to Direct Movie on Tiger Poaching to be filmed in India

LOS ANGELES, CA (TIP):

Accomplished American Filmmaker, Dwight H. Little will Direct Tiger Heart; a Revealing Project centered around Tiger Poaching, to be Filmed in India. He is most known for directing Hollywood blockbusters Marked for Death, Rapid Fire, Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home, Murder at 1600, Halloween 4: The Return of Michael Myers and Anaconda 2; Little has also found success directing highly acclaimed US television series such as 24, Sleepy Hollow, Prison Break, Bones and Nikita.

"The Tiger Heart team engaged me to direct an outstanding romantic/action/adventure. Not only is this project exciting entertainment, it's also an important and meticulously researched exposé of the horrendous poaching of wild tigers. Our goal is to inform and entertain a worldwide audience about the magnificent Bengal Tiger," said Dwight H. Little.

Little was brought on by production house NY Studios and Lotus Entertainment Group. NY Studios traces its roots to 2005 when it was first established by co-founders, Indian filmmakers, Amit Sarin and Vineesha Arora. Amit is also an accomplished actor in Mumbai most known for his role as Kshitij in Balaji Telefilms' series Kkusum



Little was brought on by production house NY Studios, co-founded by Indian filmmakers Amit Sarin and Vineesha Arora

and Star Plus' series, Kyun Ki SaasBhi Kabhi Bahu Thi.

Little will be joining the aforementioned on the project to create a globally relevant story with the intent to raise international awareness for the Bengal Tiger; one of the primary victims of poaching and illegal wildlife trade. The fully funded \$5MM feature film is set to begin filming at the Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve, India in the summer of 2019.

The funding entity, Roaming Rickshaw Films is a Los Angeles-based independent

film and digital studio house, also run by Amit Sarin and Vineesha Arora. They are set to roll an interesting slate of Hollywood projects including films and web series in the forthcoming year; all of which are currently in different stages of production.

"Making a film on socially relevant issues that need immediate awareness and action is the best thing we can do as filmmakers. We forget as humans that we live in God's debt and the least we can do is try to maintain a universal balance between man and nature. I grew up watching the Free Willy franchise, so I couldn't be happier to have Dwight's vision bring our story to life; he understands that human-animal connection very well." Said Vineesha Arora. Written by Hollywood screenwriters Si Dunn and Scott J.T. Frank, Tiger Heart is a universally far reaching tale and is expected to be brought to life by Little's years of experience, intertwined with the Roaming Rickshaw Films spirit for Indian storytelling and vivid cinematography. The filmmakers are looking to globalize and bring attention to the widespread epidemic and multi-billion-dollar illegal wildlife trade industry; the same trade that's wiping out elephants, rhinos and dozens of other endangered species.

[Read full story on
www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news)

Suvidha successfully organized a 5k Run/ Walk to seek community involvement in projects

SACRAMENTO, CA (TIP):

Suvidha International Foundation, a California registered Non-Profit, successfully organized a 5k run/walk on Sat, March 30th, 2019 in California State Capital City - Sacramento. Overseas Volunteers for Better India and OVBI and International Human Values partnered with Suvidha on organizing this run. The school kids, adults and seniors from different ethnicities participated in the event and had a great fun walking or running with over 500 others. Suvidha's representatives, Bhaskar Vempati, Padma Priya Maddi, Avinash Maddi, Vandna Sharm and Vikash Kapadia started the run at 9.00AM with over 500 participants. Bhaskar Vempati spoke at event that Suvidha International foundation aims to improve the quality of life and economic wellbeing of rural communities by creating self-sustainable, model villages in Telugu States and organized 5K run to support the service projects in Telugu States. Bhaskar mentioned that the aim of the run is to provide participants the highlights of Suvidha and its service projects in India and also to make the participants more health conscious. He also mentioned how run makes people happy, helps their heart, maintains their blood pressure, and improves their memory and sharpness and life longevity. The event proceeds support the service projects in Telugu States.



Many participants appreciated Suvidha's 5K run event and requested Suvidha to organize several similar events to support the cause. Suvidha representatives and Rocklin City Council Member, Bill Halldin presented trophies to the winners of the run.

Suvidha empowers the villages in both Telugu States by educating children, providing leadership and vocational trainings for youth and women, instilling holistic health through yoga, meditation and other healthy practices, creating awareness on health and hygiene, providing organic farming training to farmers, and implementing

water conservation projects. Suvidha coordinates with local Mondal Development Officers, Mondal Revenue Officers, district collectors, elected leaders and volunteer organizations in implementing the above-mentioned developmental activities. With the help of state and central governments, Suvidha also takes up their village developmental initiatives and execute them.

Suvidha International Foundation aims to adopt two villages for now, one in Telangana and one in Andhra and empower them in next 5 years and then expand its services to additional villages. Suvidha currently adopted one village in Telangana and plans to adopt another village in Andhra Pradesh State. The search for village in Andhra Pradesh has been going on now and is very close to select a village in few months.

With the help of Back to the Roots, several developmental activities were implemented in adopted village, Astanagurthy in Telangana. The list of works that have already been completed and that are in progress now are presented below and also at [http://suvidhainternational.org/prog](http://suvidhainternational.org/progress)ress. Several pictures of completed beneficiaries and service projects are included at above weblink.

Bhaskar thanked the event sponsors and volunteers who helped Suvidha in organizing the event.

CHICAGO SOUTH ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL TO CELEBRATE 10TH YEAR

CSAFF

CHICAGO (TIP): The red carpet will roll out again for a tenth time, in tribute to South Asian films. The Chicago South Asian Film Festival (CSAFF), celebrating a decade of movie magic, is now accepting submissions. The festival will be held from Sept. 19-22 at the Showplace ICON Theater in downtown Chicago.

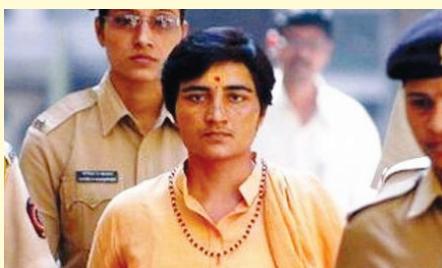
Filmmakers and movie fans shouldn't miss out on being part of this historic experience honoring South Asian films. Here are a few submission details:

- The Festival is accepting films from the following categories: Documentary Feature Film, Documentary Short Film, Fiction Feature Film and Fiction Short Film
- The Festival includes motion pictures from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Tibet. Films from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam have also been showcased.
- Both filmmakers and audiences may submit movie suggestions via the Festival website
- Submitted films will also be considered for the Festival Audience Awards

"It's an amazing anniversary. We can't wait for September and we're so proud to once again showcase the beauty of these films in Chicago," said Jigar Shah, Festival Manager. "Film bridges the gap between cultures and educates the world about life in foreign countries. If you can't fly there, film takes you there. We look forward to seeing this year's submissions."

The Chicago South Asian Film Festival is dedicated to fostering a diverse cinematic experience through South Asian films. The Festival was founded in 2010 and is organized by the Chicago South Asian Arts Council Inc. The Festival is held in late September and includes a stellar selection of films and guests, panel discussions, opportunities for filmmakers and film lovers to connect, musical performances, tributes to major artists and galas. In 2014, the Festival introduced the South Asian Films in America (SAFA) Awards, an Award honoring South Asian Films and Artists exclusively in Chicago. Our audience is the largest growing ethnic group in America, particularly Chicagoland, and the Festival is committed to providing a groundbreaking cinematic experience for filmmakers and moviegoers alike with the warmth and personal touch that is unique to Chicago.

Sadhvi Pragya's nomination evokes opposition outrage



NEW DELHI (TIP): The nomination of Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur - an accused in the 2006 Malegaon blasts case -- as the BJP candidate against Congress's Digvijaya Singh in Bhopal, has raised a storm of criticism in the opposition camp. While a Congress leader has gone to the Election Commission asking the nomination be revoked, others have questioned how the 48-year-old could be well enough to campaign but too ill to stay in jail.

Pragya Thakur has been cleared of charges under the stringent Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act or MCOCA. But she is still an accused under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) for a series of bomb attacks that killed six people and injured around 100 at Maharashtra's Malegaon.

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah has been among the first to raise questions about Pragya Thakur's health, for which a Mumbai court granted her bail in 2017.

"Since the BJP depends on the religion card when it is left with nothing else, they have now given mandate from Bhopal to someone who is not just a terror accused, but is on bail," Mr Abdullah told reporters today. "If her health is not good enough to stay in jail, how can she be fit enough to fight polls?"

Several leaders have openly accused the BJP of attempting aggressive polarisation. Others, like Mehbooba Mufti, have pointed out what they perceive as the BJP's double standards.

Asaduddin Owaisi, the leader of All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen, said, the Prime Minister does not want to fight terrorism. "If you wanted to fight terrorism, if you had class and sincerity, then you would not have made a person with terrorism charges a candidate," he said at a rally in Aurangabad.

Cong's 'Chowkidar chor hai' campaign banned

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Thursday banned the Congress party's ad campaign 'Chowkidar chor hai' in Madhya Pradesh. Madhya Pradesh Joint Chief Electoral Officer Rajesh Kaul on Wednesday sent a letter to Congress chief Rahul Gandhi to halt the party campaign in the state. The officer also issued a notice to all district officers of the state saying the media certification and inspection committee had cancelled the ad certification and it should be banned everywhere.

A few days before the commencement of the 2019 Lok Sabha election, the BJP and their leaders had prefixed the word 'Chowkidar' (security guard) in their names on social media platform Twitter. As per the party, it had decided to use the word 'chowkidar' in reference to those who guard the country against injustice and corruption. The BJP's election campaign was a counter to Rahul Gandhi's 'Chowkidar chor hai' slogan.

Arch-rivals for 24 yrs, Mulayam Singh, Mayawati address joint rally

MAINPURI (TIP): History holds many a skeleton in the closet of the Samajwadi Party-Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) alliance in Uttar Pradesh, but neither is willing to let that get in the way of their efforts to defeat the ruling BJP.

Samajwadi Party founder Mulayam Singh Yadav and BSP chief Mayawati shared a stage at a joint rally of the alliance in Mainpuri on April 19, putting aside grievances of their shared past. Preparations are underway at Christian Field to send out a message to political opponents that the alliance against the BJP in Uttar Pradesh shares a strong bond, news agency PTI quoted a Samajwadi Party worker as saying.

Mulayam Singh Yadav and Mayawati were unable to see eye-to-eye ever since an alliance between their parties came to a sordid end in 1995, when Samajwadi Party workers allegedly attacked a state guest house where the BSP chief was camping with her supporters. The immediate provocation was Mayawati's decision to withdraw from the government and join hands with the BJP.

The acrimony between the two, however, was not so easy to set aside. Mulayam Singh Yadav, who is contesting the Lok Sabha elections from the party bastion of Mainpuri, had stayed away due to "health issues" from three joint rallies held earlier in Deoband, Badaun and Agra.

Besides Mulayam Singh Yadav, both Akhilesh Yadav and Mayawati will address the rally along with Rashtriya Lok Dal chief Ajit Singh. Raj Kumar, the party's Sadar legislator, said Mulayam Singh Yadav will reach the



venue by noon. Around 35,000 people will be provided with food packets on the occasion, he added.

While the BJP often refers to the 1995 guest house incident to describe the tie-up as impractical, Akhilesh Yadav and Mayawati have both asked their respective party workers to set aside their differences and work towards ensuring victory in the state.

However, Mulayam Singh Yadav had delivered a shocker earlier this year when he controversially said in the Lok Sabha that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should emerge victorious in the general elections. While his comments were received with loud cheers by members of the ruling BJP, it left those in his own party scrambling for excuses.

Phase 2: Polling concludes in 11 states, 66% turnout recorded

NEW DELHI (TIP): The phase two of the 17th Lok Sabha election concluded in 11 states and one Union Territory on Thursday, with total voter turnout recorded at 66.21 per cent. Voters in 95 constituencies exercised their franchise in the Phase 2 of the Lok Sabha election.

A total of 38 Lok Sabha seats in Tamil Nadu, 14 in Karnataka, 10 in Maharashtra, eight in Uttar Pradesh, five each in Assam, Bihar and Odisha, 3 each in Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, two in Jammu and Kashmir and one each in Manipur and Puducherry were part of the second phase of voting.

There were reports of violence in West Bengal and Manipur, and EVM malfunctioning in some seats. There were no reports of booth capturing or any other untoward incident regarding law and order has been received so far, news agency PTI quoted Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Satyabrata Sahoo as saying.

"We are happy to announce that voters turned up in large numbers in the second phase of polling and there were no incidents of poll boycott in this phase in most of the states. We would also like to especially thank the large number of poll volunteers who helped people with disabilities to cast their vote," Hindustan Times quoted an Election Commission spokesperson as saying this.

West Bengal witnessed a high voter turnout of 76.42 per cent, followed by Assam and Puducherry with 76.22 per cent and 76.19 voting, respectively.

Tamil Nadu, where election is being held on



all Lok Sabha seats, except Vellore, recorded 66.36 per cent voter turnout. In Maharashtra, voting percentage has remained 61.22 per cent. Other states with over 60 per cent voter turnout include Odisha (58 per cent), Manipur (67.15 per cent), Uttar Pradesh (66.06 per cent), Chhattisgarh (71.40 per cent), Bihar (62.38) and Karnataka 67.67 per cent. Jammu and Kashmir witnessed lowest turnout with only 45 per cent voters exercised their franchise.

Over 1,600 candidates were in the fray for the second round of Lok Sabha elections today.

Polling was held in 1.76 lakh booths, while 15.8 crore voters casted their votes. Of this, 7.8 crore were women voters, while people with disabilities include 8.45 lakh, the EC said.

A total of 423 crorepatis are contesting polls in phase two, and the average assets of all candidates are around Rs 3.9 crore.

The Lok Sabha Elections 2019 are being held across the country in seven phases. The first phase of polls were held on April 11 when 20 states and two UT went for polls. The results will be announced on May 23, 2019.

China gears up for next summit with India despite India's boycott of BRF

BEIJING (TIP): China said on April 19 that it was bracing to hold a Wuhan-style next summit with India this year despite India's reported decision to boycott Beijing's prestigious 2nd Belt and Road Forum to be held here next week to protest its sovereignty concerns over the USD 60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Addressing a media conference here ahead of the Belt and Road Forum (BRF) being held from April 25-27 to showcase China's trillion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi made an impassioned appeal to India to shed its opposition to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as it no way "undermined" basic position on the Kashmir dispute.

Wang said so far 37 heads of state and governments had confirmed their participation in the BRF. Representatives from over 150 countries and 90 international organisations' close to 5000 participants had confirmed their participation.

Leaders of Pakistan and Nepal are among the countries from the neighbourhood who would take part in the BRF meeting being held here from April 25-27.

India has already signalled to boycott the BRF like it did in 2017 to highlight its objections over the CPEC.

The CPEC which has been officially designated as a flagship project of the BRI has become a stumbling block for India to take part in it as the controversial project is being laid through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

India has already protested to China over the CPEC violating its sovereignty and boycotted the first BRF held in 2017.

Indian Ambassador to China Vikram Misri told Chinese state-run Global Times last month that "above all, connectivity initiatives must be pursued in a manner that respects



sovereignty, equality and territorial integrity of nations. No country can participate in an initiative that ignores its core concerns on sovereignty and territorial integrity".

Answering a question whether India's reported decision to boycott the BRF would undermine the new momentum generated by last year's informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping, Wang said the two leaders had a very successful meeting at Wuhan.

"Particularly they have established mutual trust between the leadership and they jointly planned for the future of improvement and strengthening of China-India relations.

"After the Wuhan summit, we see all areas or progress between the two countries and we have bright prospect for this relationship. We are now preparing for the next summit of our leaders," he said without specifying any timeline.

Xi plans to visit India for the second such summit after the general election, currently under way, is over.

Wang said China and India were two major countries, besides being neighbours.

"It is natural for us to have differences. This is only natural. I remember Prime Minister Modi mentioning many times that we cannot escalate our differences into disputes. Indian side wants to put our

differences at proper level," he said.

"I believe this is in the fundamental interest of the people of the two countries and that is what China is happy to see," he said.

"One of our differences is how to look at the BRI. The Indian side has their concerns. We understand that and that is why we have stated clearly on many occasions that the BRI, including the CPEC, is only an economic initiative and it does not target any third country and has nothing to do with the sovereign and territorial disputes left from history between any two countries," he said.

The BRI is a multi-billion-dollar initiative launched by Chinese President Xi Jinping when he came to power in 2013. It aims to link Southeast Asia, Central Asia, the Gulf region, Africa and Europe with a network of land and sea routes.

"India has its basic position on these disputes. Our cooperation will not undermine any party's position on those issues," Wang said, apparently suggesting that it would not alter even Pakistan's position on the disputed status of the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

China for its part has been maintaining that the Kashmir dispute is left over from history and it should be resolved between India and Pakistan.

"Now we are trying to achieve common prosperity through the cooperation under the BRI. Those issues left over from history must be separated from our efforts in this area.

"I think such cooperation will not undermine your basic position on sovereignty and territorial integrity and at the same time provide you with more opportunities of development and help India in your modernisation endeavour. I believe this is a good option and good choice for India," Wang said.

Source: PTI

No Pak soldier or citizen died in Balakot air strike: Swaraj



AHMEDABAD (TIP): External Affairs Minister and BJP leader Sushma Swaraj on Thursday said no Pakistani soldier or citizen died in the air strike carried out by the Indian Air Force across the border in response to the Pulwama terror attack in February.

Addressing women party workers here, she stressed on a 2014-like full majority BJP-led government this time also, saying former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee could not do everything which he wanted to because he was heading a coalition administration.

The IAF had struck a Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorist training camp in Pakistan's Balakot area on February 26, in response to the February 14 Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed.

Swaraj said the air strike was carried out in self-defence.

"When we carried out air strike across the border after the Pulwama terror attack, we had told the international community that we took that step in self-defence only.

"We had told the international community that the armed forces were instructed not to harm any Pakistani citizen or its soldier during the strike," she said.

"The Army was told to target only the terror camps of the Jaish-e-Mohammad, which had taken the responsibility for the Pulwama attack.

"And, our Army did the same without harming any Pakistani citizen or soldier," said Swaraj.

Mallya fails to convince UK court to dismiss Indian banks' attempt to recover dues



LONDON (TIP): Vijay Mallya failed to convince a UK High Court to dismiss an order related to money in one of his London bank accounts, dealing a blow to the embattled liquor tycoon's efforts to prevent a consortium of Indian banks getting access to nearly 260,000 pounds.

In one of the many legal cases being faced by the 63-year-old liquor tycoon in the UK, Master David Cook ruled that an interim debt order in favour of SBI and other banks seeking access to funds in the ICICI UK bank account "should remain in force" but that the application to make it final should be adjourned until after the hearing of Mallya's pending bankruptcy petition.

The funds in the account will meanwhile remain frozen as part of the worldwide freezing order in favour of the Indian banks last year.

Mallya's lawyers had argued for the dismissal of the interim order on a number of grounds, including a claim that it was a "deliberate ploy" to prevent Mallya "reasonable" living expenses.

"I reject the proposition that the application for a TPDO (third party debt order) was a deliberate ploy to thwart Dr Mallya's ability to meet his ordinary

living expenses and reasonable legal expenses which are permitted under the terms of the WWFO (worldwide freezing order)," Master Cook notes in his judgment.

"The relevant context here is that Dr Mallya is in a post judgment scenario where the claimants (Indian banks) are attempting to enforce their judgment and discover the true extent of his assets. I note that Dr Mallya has made no voluntary payment to date... while continuing to incur substantial legal costs in opposing the claimants' efforts to enforce their judgment," he said.

The case revolves around 258,559.79 pounds held in a bank account with the ICICI UK, which is named as a third party in the High Court case.

Mental illness ground to spare convicts from gallows: SC



NEW DELHI (TIP): In a historic verdict, the Supreme Court has given a ray of hope to people on death row who develop "severe mental illness" post-conviction, saying their health condition would now be a "mitigating" factor for appellate courts for sparing them from the gallows.

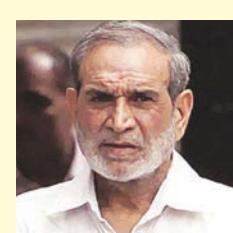
An accused could till now take the plea of "legal insanity" under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) to avoid criminal prosecution and the defence was "made relatable to the moment when the crime is committed".

A three-judge bench headed by Justice N V Ramana spared a condemned prisoner, who has not been identified in the verdict owing to his mental condition.

He was given death penalty in a barbaric rape and murder of two minor cousins in Maharashtra in 1999.

It, however, took note of "barbaric and brutal manner of commission of the crime" and awarded the jail term to the convict for "remainder of his life" with the direction to the government to ensure proper mental health care to him.

Sajjan Kumar assigned Tihar jail job: Gardening



NEW DELHI (TIP): Sikh carnage convict Sajjan Kumar has just been assigned some jail work: gardening.

Lodged in Tihar Central Prison's newest complex at Mandoli, Kumar, 73, will be part of the jail's horticulture gang where convicts are required to do light work, including maintaining the green cover around the largely concrete compounds, plant and water saplings and tend to the available tree cover.

The work was assigned only recently, three months after Sajjan Kumar surrendered following his conviction in a case involving five killings during anti-Sikh riots in Delhi Cantonment on November 1 and 2, 1984. The Delhi High Court on December 17 last awarded life term to Kumar in the matter.

Kumar subsequently surrendered and was jailed starting December 31, 2018. All his attempts to secure bail thereafter have failed, with the apex court agreeing to hear his bail application in August.

Back in Mandoli jail complex, located far away from Tihar prisons complex, Kumar is lodged in ward number 3 with 25 other convicts. Tihar authorities confirmed that Kumar was assigned work after three months of assessing what would suit his profile.

"A convict's jail assignment has to be appropriate to his age and health condition. Sajjan Kumar is 73 and has a back condition. His assignment had to be based on medical advice. He has been attached with the horticulture wing," a top jail source said.

Source: The Tribune

TRIBECA FILM FEST 2019 - PREVIEW

By Mabel Pais

The Tribeca Film Festival, presented by AT&T, brings visionaries and diverse audiences together to celebrate storytelling in all its forms, including film, TV, VR, gaming, music, and online work. With strong roots in independent film, Tribeca is a platform for creative expression and immersive entertainment. The Festival champions emerging and established voices; discovers award-winning filmmakers and creators; curates innovative experiences; and introduces new technology and ideas through premieres, exhibitions, talks, and live performances.

The Festival was founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal, and Craig Hatkoff in 2001 to spur the economic and cultural revitalization of lower Manhattan following the attacks on the World Trade Center. Now in its 18th year, the Festival has evolved into a destination for creativity that reimagines the cinematic experience and explores how art can unite communities. The 18th annual edition will take place April 24 - May 5, 2019. www.tribecafilm.com/festival
Hashtag: #Tribeca2019
Twitter: @Tribeca
Instagram: @tribeca
Facebook: facebook.com/Tribeca

The 18th Edition of the Tribeca Film Festival (TFF) 2019 takes place at several venues in Manhattan, New York city, April 24-May 5, 2019.

The Venues are Beacon Theatre, Regal Cinemas Battery Park, SVA Theatre, Stella Artois Theatre @ BMCC TPAC, The Apollo Theater, The Marriott Bonvoy Boundless™, Theater from Chase, Tribeca Festival Hub, and Village East Cinema.

The films are broadly divided into Narratives, Documentaries, Features, Shorts, TALKS, and SPECIAL EVENTS.

The Film Guide is divided into several categories:

- Alphabetical ● By Day ● By Section ● By Genre
- By Venue ● By Country

The Genres are

- Action ● Animation ● Art ● Biography ● Comedy ● Dance
- Documentary ● Drama ● Environmental ● Experimental
- Fashion ● Food ● Horror ● Journalism ● LGBTQIA ●
- Music ● Mystery ● New York ● Politics ● Romance ● Science Fiction ● Special Events ● Sports ● Technology ● Thriller

The movies, by Section are

- Anniversary Screenings ● Awards Screenings ● Cinema 360
- Community Programs ● Documentary Competition
- Gala ● International Narrative Competition ● Midnight
- Movies Plus ● Shorts ● Shorts Program ● Spotlight Documentary ● Spotlight Narrative ● Storyscapes
- This Used to be New York ● Tribeca Critics' Week ● Tribeca N.O.W. ● Tribeca N.O.W. Programs ● Tribeca TV
- Tribeca Talks ● Tribeca X Award ● US Narrative Competition ● Viewpoints ● Virtual Arcade

OPENING NIGHT: "The Apollo," directed by Roger Ross Williams, written by Cassidy Hartmann, Roger Ross Williams, produced by Lisa Cortes, Jeanne Elfen Festa, Cassidy Hartmann, Nigel Sinclair (USA) - World Premiere.

The Tribeca Film Festival, presented by AT&T, will open its 18th edition with the world premiere of the HBO Documentary Film "The Apollo." Helmed by Academy and Emmy Award-winning director Roger Ross Williams, "The Apollo" chronicles the unique history and contemporary legacy of the New York City landmark, the Apollo Theater.

The film will debut at the iconic theater on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 and later this year on HBO. The feature-length documentary weaves together archival footage, music, comedy and dance performances, and behind-the-scenes verité with the team that makes the theater run. "The Apollo" features interviews with artists including Patti LaBelle, Pharrell Williams, Smokey Robinson, and Jamie Foxx. The documentary is produced by Lisa Cortés, Nigel Sinclair's White Horse Pictures, and Williams.

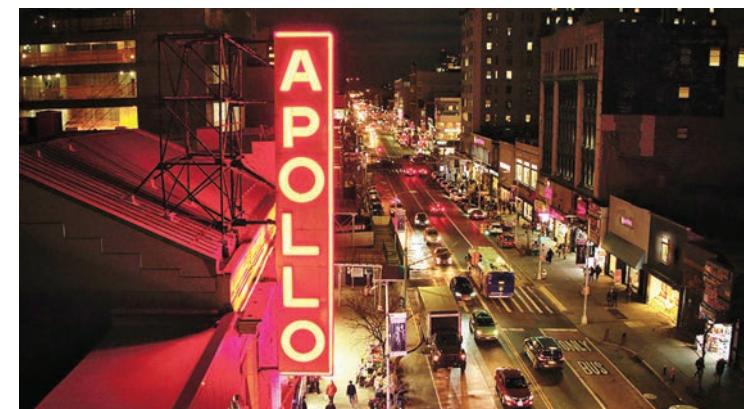
"The Apollo" showcases the broad range of African American achievement that the Apollo Theater represents.

- DATE: Wednesday, April 24 ● TIME: 7:00 PM
- LOCATION: The Apollo Theater

CLOSING NIGHT : "Yesterday," directed by Danny Boyle, screenplay by Richard Curtis, story by Jack Barth and Richard Curtis, produced by Tim Bevan, Eric Fellner, Bernie Bellew, Matthew James Wilkinson, Richard Curtis, Danny Boyle. (UK) - World Premiere. "Yesterday," everyone knew The Beatles. Today, only Jack remembers their songs. He's about to become a very big deal. From Academy Award ®-winning director Danny Boyle ("Slumdog Millionaire," "Trainspotting," "28 Days Later") and Richard Curtis, the Oscar-nominated screenwriter of "Four Weddings and a Funeral," "Love Actually" and "Notting Hill," comes a rock-n-roll comedy about music, dreams, friendship, and the long-and-winding road that leads to the love of your life.

Jack Malik (Himesh Patel), ("BBC's Eastenders") is a struggling singer-songwriter in a tiny English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie (Lily James), ("Mamma Mia!" "Here We Go Again"). Then, after a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed ... and he finds himself with a very complicated problem, indeed.

Performing songs by the greatest band in history to a world that has never heard them, and with a little help from his steel-hearted American agent, Debra (Emmy winner Kate McKinnon), Jack's fame explodes. But as his star rises, he risks losing Ellie - the one person who always believed in him. With the door between his old life and his new closing, Jack will need to get back to where he once belonged and prove that all you need is



Apollo Theater in "Apollo."

Photo / Image.net



Himesh Patel as Jack Malik in "Yesterday."

Photo / Jonathan Prime -(c) Universal Pictures



Lima Das as Nirmal Saikia and Arghadeep Baruah as Sumon Baruah in "Aamis."

Photo / Dolee Talukdar

love. A Universal Pictures release.

- DATE: Saturday, May 4 ● TIME: 6:00 PM
- LOCATION: The Stella Artois Theatre @ TPAC

MOVIES OF SOUTH ASIAN CONNECTION: Movies on South Asian subjects, with South Asian actors or by movie directors of South Asian origin are "Aamis," "Stray Dolls," and "St. Louis Superman."

"Aamis" (Ravelling), in Assamese language with English subtitles, is written and directed by Bhaskar Hazarika and produced by Poonam Deol and Shyam Bora. Co-producers are Anshulika Dubey and Shyam Bora. It is presented in the International Narrative Competition.

"Love is one of the central pillars that hold up the experience of being human," says Bhaskar Hazarika. Yet who or whom you can love is limited by a bewildering range of boundaries - of class, caste, religion, age, institutions, and even nationality and gender. "Aamis" tells the story of two people whom love finds, and yet, with too many boundaries between them for love to find fruition, it degenerates into self-destruction.

"Stray Dolls," is co-written by Sonejuhi Sinha and Charlotte Rabate and directed by Sonejuhi Sinha. Riz is a recent South Asian immigrant who takes a job at a seedy motel in a bid to start over in America. The motel's other employees and guests pull her back into a life she preferred to leave behind. With Geetanjali Thapa, Olivia DeJonge, Robert Aramayo, Cynthia Nixon. This the World Premiere of the film presented in the US Narrative Competition.

"St. Louis Superman," in the Documentary Shorts Competition, directed by Smriti Mundhra, is on Ferguson activist-turned-politician Bruce Franks Jr. who was elected to the overwhelmingly white and Republican Missouri House of Representatives. He must overcome both personal trauma and political obstacles to pass a bill critical for his community.

(More movie previews will be continued next week)

(Mabel Pais writes on the Arts & Entertainment, Social Issues, Spirituality, and Health & Wellness)

EAST WEST OPTICIANS

*Eye Exam
*Contact Lens
*Eye Glass
*Sunglass

Authorized Dealer of Rayban, Prada, G.A., Versace, Flexon & Much More.....

MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED

DAVIS VISION EYECARE REFRAMED MetroPlus HealthPlan EmblemHealth Fidelis Care eye MED UFT WellCare New York State NURSES ASSOCIATION Aetna Affinity Health Plan 1199 SEIU VSP Global BlueCross BlueShield healthfirst UnitedHealthcare spectera EYEWEAR NETWORKS

263-18 Hillside Avenue, Floral Park, N.Y. 11004
Phone: 718-335-6000; 718-533-6664
Phone / fax: 718-457-5988, Phone /Text: 718-514-0025
Order Online: www.eastwestopticians.com
Email: anilguptaus@yahoo.com
Mon to Sat : 12.00 P.M to 7.00 P.M. Sunday with Appt.

Dr. Frederick M. Ruffen Audiologist
Restoring your ear power



CELEBRATE THE SOUNDS OF YOUR LIFE



Behind-the-Ear Receiver-in-Canal In-the-Ear Completely-in-Canal
In-the-Canal Invisible-in-the-Canal

***Hearing Aid Evaluation * Hearing Aid Repair
*Tympanometry * Ear Wax Removal**

- Complete Audiological Evaluations
- Tympanometry and Acoustic Reflex Testing
- Hearing Aid Evaluations
- Advanced Ear Mold Selection Skills
- Swim Plugs, Musician Plugs, etc.
- Wide Selection of Hearing Aids
- Hearing Aid Accessories
- Assistive Listening Devices
- Amplified Telephones
- Complete Hearing Help Care for Hearing Aids
- Quarterly Cleanings and Hearing Aid Checks
- Hearing Aid Repair, Loss/Damage and Loaner Services
- Yearly Evaluations
- Computerized Expert Fitting of Hearing Aids

If you are missing the sounds of your life call to schedule a FREE hearing screening.
TOLL FREE: 1-800-924-7413

LOCATIONS

Nassau University Medical Center 2201 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow, NY 11554 Phone: 516-296-2704 Fax: 516-572-8885	30 Roosevelt Street, Glen Cove, NY 11542 Phone: 516-759-0008 Fax: 516-759-0013	680 Broadway, Massapequa, NY 11758 Phone: 516-541-4353
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------

OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT / WALK INS WELCOME

ATLAS ROLL OFF CORP.

DISPOSAL SITE

OPEN Monday - Friday 6.30 AM to 4.00 PM
Saturday 6.30 AM to 1.30 PM

For construction Debris,
Demolition & Cleanouts



Located at 895 Essex Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208
Just 5 minutes from JFK

Roll Off Container Service
10, 15, 20, 30 & 40 Yards

Serving all the five boroughs of New York Since 1983
NYC BIC LIC #711

Reasonable low rates ** All major credit cards accepted

718-345-6451



Huntington

850 East Jericho Turnpike
Huntington Station, NY 11746
www.nissanofhuntington.com



Ask for Ranjit Singh, 631-439-7052
rsinghnissan@gmail.com



Nora Fatehi celebrates four million followers on Instagram

Nora Fatehi has entered the league of celebrities who boast of an Instagram following of more than 4 Million followers. To celebrate this feat, the dancer-actress posted a dance video of herself paying tribute to her idol Ciara.

The video features Nora Fatehi showing cool RnB hiphop style moves on the superhit song Ride by International pop star Ciara. Along with the video, Nora wrote, "Serving swag and a lil Ciara energy to my 4 million Norianas on insta. Love u guys. Riding the beat with @shaziasamji #oldschoolvibes #ride. Ride by @ciara."

Nora is accompanied by choreographer Shazia Samji in the video. Talking about the video, Nora told an entertainment website, "It's a tribute to Ciara, one of my idols. Growing up, I followed her dance style and way of performing for many years. She is known as one of the best RnB performers especially as a dancer for her style and swag. The song I danced on is called Ride, one of her hits. This video is also for my fans as a celebration for 4 Million Norianas."



KRITI SANON: ACTRESSES SLOWLY GETTING THEIR MONETARY DUE

Pay disparity has been a concern in the Hindi film industry, but things are changing, believes Kriti Sanon. The actress said the situation is getting balanced out, with female actors also getting what they deserve monetarily.

On male actors being paid more than their female counterparts in films, Kriti told a news agency over an e-mail interview, "I've always believed that pay has to be decided on the amount of work that you put in a film and the numbers your films drive at the box office. The situation is slowly but steadily balancing out where female actors are also getting their monetary due. But we still have a long way to go."

Ever since her debut in Bollywood in 2014 with 'Heropanti', Kriti has done her fair share of women-centric films and roles. She said she feels good when films like 'Bareilly Ki Barfi', 'Stree' and 'Raazi' do well.

Does she see a change in the way women characters are perceived in the film industry?

"Most definitely," she replied, adding, "It's the best time for women in cinema and we have the audience to thank for that. They have been accepting of stories around female protagonists that are today drawing in figures on par with top male stars."

But ultimately, it's the content that matters, she said.

"The content has today become the king and the deciding factor, which is great," Kriti said.

The 28-year-old's latest biggest money-spinner was 'Luka Chuppi', a tale about a couple living-in together in Mathura and the complications that follow. The film has managed to cross over Rs 90 crores at the Indian box office.

"The box office numbers are encouraging and I'm grateful to the audience," said the actress.

She believes the audience is now much more accepting of different subjects that would earlier be considered taboos.

Source: IANS



MADHURI DIXIT: I ALWAYS ATTEMPT TO DO RELEVANT WORK

In a career of more than three decades, Madhuri Dixit Nene has managed to rule many hearts. The actress says she is trying to do work that is relevant to the times.

Whether it was her work in 'Tezaab', 'Ram Lakhan', 'Saajan', 'Beta', 'Hum Aapke Hain Koun...' and 'Devdas' or films like 'Dedh Ishqiya', 'Gulaab Gang' and 'Total Dhamaal' - Madhuri has followed her own path.

Talking about her changing image with time, Madhuri said: "I think I always got opportunities to do some cool stuff even in the 1990s when I was young. When my son watches my dance on 'Que sera sera' with Prabhudheva, he says 'You are my cool mom'. I understand where it comes from... It is the relatability, it is the relevance of those works... I am always trying to do work that holds relevance."

"When I did a film like 'Tezaab' (1988), it was an experimental work, a film about a father-daughter's relationship that had never been explored... where the father is using her daughter as a golden goose, so much so that he doesn't want his daughter to get married and fall in love. It was quite unlike the mainstream narratives where the father of any daughter was only concerned about the marriage of their daughters," she said.

Madhuri features in the multi-starrer 'Kalank', alongside Sanjay Dutt, Varun Dhawan, Alia Bhatt, Sonakshi Sinha and Aditya Roy Kapur. The film, directed by Abhishek Verma, is releasing on Wednesday.

On essaying Begum Bahaar in the movie, Madhuri

said: "She is an introvert and emotionally scarred because of the past tragedy of her life... She is silent, yet conveys a lot through her eyes. She is what she is because of the bitter experience of her life."

'Kalank' brings together some of the stars of different generations.

Sharing her experience, the 51-year-old actress said: "I think we were cool in our time, they are happening in the present time, but hey, I am catching up. We had more face-to-face interaction with our co-stars and these fellows are more on social media. The good thing is, I am finding that world (virtual world) quite fascinating... Updating what we are shooting, posting quirky pictures on social media... I enjoy these too!"

"When I did 'Tezaab', this is not how we used to promote films. But these days, we do an extensive media rounds to reach out to our fans regarding our films. These are the changes that have happened and I am easy with it now. I take it as part of our profession."

Does she believe that senior actresses are getting much better characters to play currently than earlier?

"I strongly believe that people like us have to break the stereotype because with popularity and experience, if we are carving a path that shows how women of our age can flourish with substantial characters in films that go beyond the cliched, our next generation will continue it. We have to open up doors for the next generation... Again, it is (I am speaking) not like an activist, but like an artiste," Madhuri said.



Elisabeth Moss to star in 'The Invisible Man' reboot

Elisabeth Moss is officially on board 'The Invisible Man' reboot, based on the classic 1897 sci-fi novel by HG Wells. 'The Handmaid's Tale' star was in early talks for the production, a magazine reported.

This would be Moss' second collaboration after Jordan Peele's recent critically-acclaimed hit, "Us". Leigh Whannell wrote and is directing the film. He will co-produce.

The novel has been adapted for both the big screen and television over the years.

Its most notable adaptation is the 1933 black-and-white film, featuring Claude Rains in the title role. The studio had earlier planned a shared universe based around its classic monster characters and had roped in stars like Johnny Depp, Tom Cruise, Russell Crowe, Javier Bardem and Sofia Boutella for it. The shared universe was dubbed as the Dark Universe.

BLOOM, PERRY WANT A 'SMALL, INTIMATE' WEDDING

Singer Katy Perry, who had an extravagant wedding ceremony in India in 2010 with now ex-husband Russell Brand, is working towards having a "smaller and intimate" wedding with current beau and actor Orlando Bloom.

They are excited about planning their nuptials.

"They are the happiest couple. Just so excited about being engaged and planning a wedding," a source told People magazine of Bloom, 42, and Perry, 34.

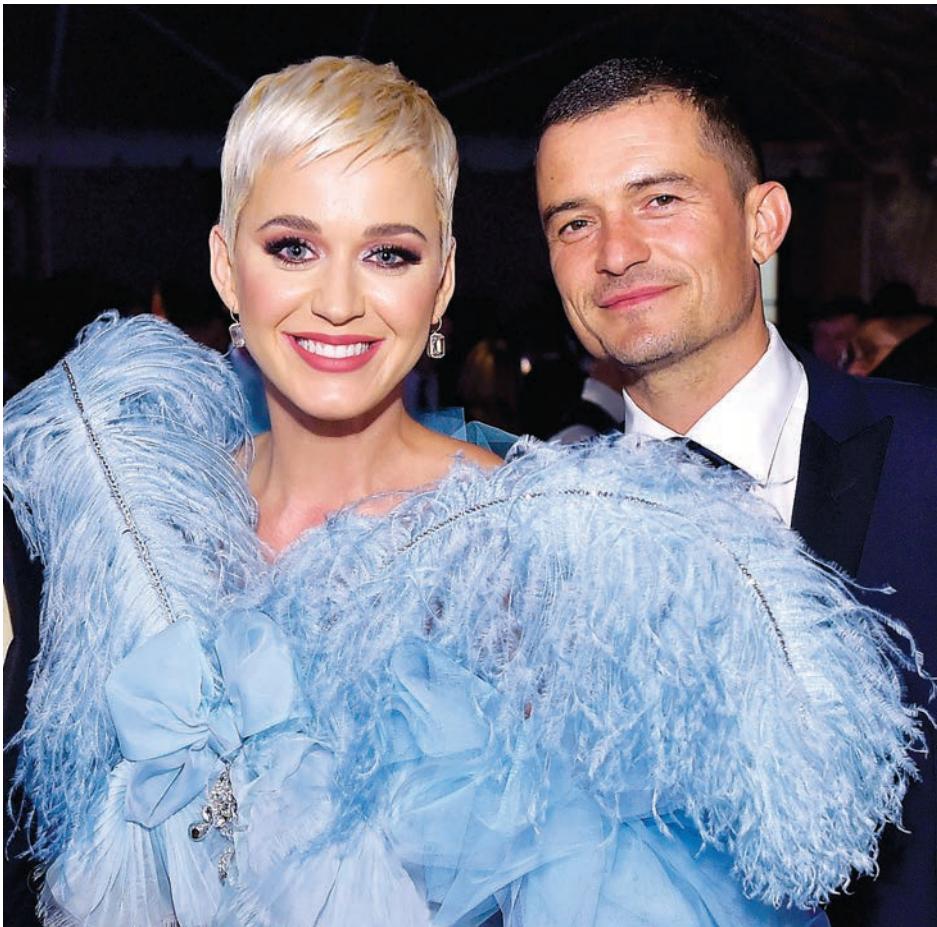
"They are secretive about details, but seem to want something smaller and intimate," the source said, adding: "They look forward to starting a family together as well." For now, the pair have been enjoying Coachella festival, where they went around holding hands.

The pop star wore a black crop top with a pair of flame-print pants and a black jacket, while the actor was dressed in a bright yellow hoodie with a pair of matching shorts. Bloom and Perry became engaged on Valentine's Day of this year, announcing the happy news on Instagram.

Bloom was earlier married to model Miranda Kerr, 35, whom he wed in an intimate ceremony in July 2010 just one month after their engagement was confirmed.

Bloom and Kerr share 8-year-old son Flynn.

Source: IANS



Scarlett Johansson turns heads with daring pantsuit



Trust red carpet events to set new fashion trends. Scarlett Johansson chose to flaunt a black pantsuit with a unique twist for a recent 'Avengers: Endgame' gala evening.

The actress hit the 'Avengers: Endgame' UK Fan Event, here earlier this week, wearing a black ensemble, a business-chic suit on the right and a daring bustier on the left.

Essentially, it was a half-and-half combination of a one-sleeved blazer with a cutout bustier for an asymmetrical take on

the no shirt trend on red carpets.

Johansson wore black trousers and heels to complete her look, further accentuated by a bold scarlet lip colour and a slicked-back updo.

She was later joined by co-stars Paul Rudd and Chris Hemsworth at the event.

The team of 'Avengers: Endgame' has been aggressively promoting the forthcoming film, the 22nd film of the Marvel Cinematic Universe. The superhero film will be released on April 26.

Source: IANS



BRAD PITT, ANGELINA JOLIE NOW OFFICIALLY SINGLE

Over two years after filing for divorce, actors Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are legally single now.

According to court documents obtained by The Blast, a judge accepted their request for bifurcation, which means they can be legally considered single, despite the fact that they are not officially divorced yet.

"Both parents are focused on what's best for the kids," a source told people.com.

The couple share six children together, Maddox, Pax, Zahara, Shiloh and twins Knox and Vivienne.

Pitt and Jolie got married in 2014 but two years later, they filed for divorce, citing

irreconcilable differences.

The 'Wanted' actress demanded physical custody of the children. Since then, the two have been in ongoing negotiations over custody and dividing their finances.

In June 2018, a judge established a detailed schedule for Pitt to spend time with the children (except Maddox, who according to the court is old enough to decide for himself how much time he wants to spend with his father).

In November 2018, the pair reached a temporary child custody agreement "to keep things moving along in the right direction".

Source: IANS

EASTER: RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

This Christian holiday celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The date of celebration varies from March to April, depending on the date of the March equinox. Christians worldwide gather for this major holiday for the religion to feast, attend church services, and hunt Easter eggs. Easter Sunday marks the end of Lent, which is a 40-day period of fasting and reflection. It follows Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Biblical Background

The story of Easter makes up a fundamental aspect of Christian theology. While Good Friday marks Jesus's crucifixion, Easter Sunday is a day for Christians to celebrate his resurrection. Following Jesus's arrest and crucifixion, he was buried in a tomb. While the next part of the story varies according to different accounts, most follow the theme of female followers of Jesus going to visit the tomb and finding the stone rolled away from the opening with Jesus's body missing. Jesus went on to appear to his followers several times before his ascension into heaven. The resurrection of Christ is an important part of Christian belief because of its association with salvation.

Christians started celebrating the tradition of Easter with a feast soon after the time period of the resurrection, which is believed to have occurred around 33 AD. The time of year was chosen for the celebration since Jesus celebrated the Passover shortly before his crucifixion and so the time is believed to be around the time of Jesus's actual crucifixion. In medieval celebrations, congregations would walk in a procession after mass, following a priest holding a crucifix or candle.

Traditions

Many Christians begin the celebration with an Easter Vigil the night before, sometimes called Easter Eve or Holy Saturday. Church services on Sunday typically follow regular church service tradition with a sermon or songs concerning the Easter story. Some churches hold mass or other services at sunrise. Other common traditions include:

The Easter egg hunt is a tradition that originated with pagan spring festivals that celebrated fertility. Like many pagan traditions, Christians intertwined the practice with religious significance. Easter egg hunts feature eggs hidden by the mythical Easter bunny, which may contain candy or other prizes. Hard-boiled eggs may also be used. The children will go looking for eggs to put in their Easter egg basket. On the day before Easter, many families decorate hard-boiled eggs with paint to use for the hunt. Eggs are also part of the tradition because of the ban on eggs during Lent in Medieval Europe, meaning they were often included in the Sunday feast.

Churches are often decorated with flowers. A significant theme for Easter is rebirth, which flowers can emulate and symbolize. Traditional Easter flowers include Easter Lilies, which are believed to have grown in the Garden of Gethsemane, the site of Jesus's arrest. Other Easter flowers include pussy willows, daffodils, narcissuses, and red tulips, which symbolize Jesus's shed blood.

Including the candy hidden inside of Easter eggs, many children are given a basket of

goodies at the day's beginning. A common gift is a chocolate bunny.

Countries all over the world celebrate the holiday differently. Italy holds reenactments of the Easter story held in the public squares. Cyprus holds bonfires in the yards of schools and churches. In Germany, eggs are set in trees, called Easter egg trees, similar to the Christmas tree.

The Czech Republic and Slovakia have several unique Easter traditions. One features the males of a family spanking females with a homemade whip decorated with ribbons. The spanking is lighthearted and is believed to bring health over the next year. The men may also dump cold water on them in some areas. It is also a day for men to pay visits to objects of their affection.

In the United Kingdom, observers participate by rolling eggs downhill and in some areas by performing the Pace Egg play, a traditional local event. A big part of Jamaican celebration is to eat a spiced bun that may contain raisins with cheese. In Scandinavian countries like Norway, celebrators ski and relax at cabins in the mountains. Some areas may feature children in costumes going door to door for candy or flowers. Many Nordic countries include salmon or another type of fish with the feast.

In Australia, the Easter Bilby delivers eggs rather than the Easter Bunny, as bunnies are viewed as an agricultural pest. The city of Haux, France, make an omelet big enough to feed 1000. The dish is often has about a 10 inch diameter. Easter is an important holiday in Greece, where on the island of Corfu, residents toss pots of water out of windows, following the Venetian tradition of breaking pots in celebration. They also bake cakes in the shape of doves, called kolompines. Guyana flies homemade kites, a tradition often participated in by citizens of all religions.

Pagan Origins

In pagan celebrations, Easter was typically a celebration of fertility, and many cultures associated the celebration with the Germanic goddess of fertility, Eostre, which is where the holiday's name came from. Some cultures called the holiday Ishtar, which celebrates the resurrection of the Tammuz, another pagan god.

The Easter Bunny is a result of folkloric tradition. Their association with the holiday comes from their ability to procreate, making them symbols of fertility. German settlers brought the Easter Bunny tradition to America in the 1700s.



Enthusiastic NRIs Pledge their Support for Modi



Jyoti Gupta, Amita Karwal, Dr. Gitanjali Anand, Nilima Madan and others singing a patriotic song



Enthusiastic supporters of Modi. Seen among others are Dr. Raj Bhayani, Jay Jasbir Singh, Rajendra Singh, Shvdasan Nair and Nilima Madan

QUEENS, NEW YORK (TIP): Nilima Madan, National General Secretary of Overseas Friends of BJP organized an event in Queens NY for promoting BJP and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi with a special focus on the Lok Sabha Elections currently going on in India with members of the community.

Dr Raj Bhayani who is a major supporter of events in the tri state area and highly accomplished Doctor, Mukesh Modi an upcoming entrepreneur doing charity events spoke about the various aspects of Modi ji's vision and achievements besides mentioning about

several NRIs including himself who travel to India to help the Modi Campaign.

Mohan Wanchoo a leading philanthropist and well-known supporter of Ekal Vidyalaya spoke about the Kashmir situation and solutions in the 75-point manifesto by Modi Government.

Nilima Madan, an accomplished and well known community leader holding leading positions in several organizations spear headed the program and spoke about women empowerment and schemes - yojnas that were established during the tenure of Narendra Modi that helped women in every way to uplift their own

lives as well as betterment of the family specially the girl child. She also highlighted bank accounts, developing infrastructure, ease of doing business and overall progress that should keep evolving.

Rajendra Singh who is a founder of OFBJP spoke about how the history of India has changed and India is now a face of change for development.

It was attended by several well-known leaders of NY from all the three boroughs. All the organization leaders present spoke enthusiastically and very well by showing tremendous support for the Modi

Government.

Beena Kothari - GOPIO NY President, Jasbir Singh - IDP USA President, Harish Thakkar - AIA NY President, Shvdasan Nair - OFBJP NY, Bhushan Tadepalli OFBJP -NEC, Prakash Oza and many others also shared positive views of the Modi Administration.

Chants of Modi, Modi, 'Modi hai to mumkin hai', Modi Again etc. filled the air. Jyoti Gupta and Amita Karwal sang patriotic songs in their melodious voice. The organizers and supporters were very happy and humbled with all the support they got from the community and the media.

Regional Films at the Core of New York Indian Film Festival 2019

CONT'D FROM PAGE 3

as the Brand Ambassador of the Film Festival. Vikas Khanna, a Michelin-star chef as well as a restaurateur, cookbook writer, and humanitarian, now has a new feather in his cap of a filmmaker. The LAST COLOR, his debut film as a director will be the Closing Night Film on May 12.

IAAC Executive Director and President Sunil Hali announced the dates and venue of NYIFF and thanked the leading supporters of the event Including Air India. "Air India has been supporting this festival year after years. Otherwise it won't be possible for us to fly 20-30 artists from India."

Festival Director Aseem Chhabra gave details of some of the films.

OPENING NIGHT FILM: SIR

DATE: Tuesday, May 7th

DIRECTOR: Rohena Gera

CAST: Tillotama Shome, Vivek Gomber, Geetanjali Kulkarni, Rahul Vohar, Ahmaren

Anjum

SYNOPSIS: A prosperous young Indian man falls in love with his servant,



Brand Ambassador of NYIFF Vikas Khanna, IAAC Executive Director and President Sunil Hali and Festival Director Aseem Chhabra spoke on the occasion

a widow with the dream of becoming a tailor. "Sir" is an award-winning film that premiered at the Cannes Film Festival (Critics' Week).

CENTERPIECE: PHOTOGRAPH

DATE: Friday, May 10th

DIRECTOR: Ritesh Batra

CAST: Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Sanya Malhotra

SYNOPSIS: A struggling Mumbai street photographer pressured to marry by his grandmother convinces a shy stranger to pose as his fiancée during a family visit.

Despite vast cultural differences, the pair develops a surprising connection that challenges their worldviews in a wistful and funny romance from Ritesh Batra ("The Lunchbox"). "Photograph" premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was shown at the Berlinale as a Special Gala presentation.

CLOSING NIGHT FILM: The LAST COLOR

DATE: Sunday, May 12th

DIRECTOR: Vikas Khanna

CAST: Neena Gupta, Aqsa Siddiqui, Princy Sudhakaran, Rudrani Chettri,

Aslam Sheikh

Post Screening Q&A with Vikas Khanna

SYNOPSIS: Nine-year-old fearless tightrope walker and flower seller, Chhoti, savors her dream to save Rs. 300 (\$ 4), so she can attend school. "The Last Color" traces Chhoti and her best friend Chintu's daily struggles for survival on the streets of the ancient city of Banaras, India. Chhoti befriends Noor, a white-clad widow who suffers a life of total abstinence and is disallowed from taking part in any festivities, especially Holi, the Indian festival of colors. Over time, Chhoti and Noor's friendship and uplifting spiritual bond breaks through the barriers of the social system. "The Last Color" is a story of promises kept and promises broken, a friendship that knows no bounds, and victory of the human spirit. Trailers of few movies were shown, followed by some filmmakers' introductions. The festival will be held from May 7th thru 12th at the Village East Cinemas in the Lower East Side of Manhattan (181-189 2nd Avenue, New York, NY 10003).

cont'd from page 3

Gaiety marks the Bihar Jharkhand Association of North America (BJANA) Holi

Chief Ministers of Bihar and Jharkhand, Nitish Kumar and Raghubar Das respectively conveyed their good wishes to the BJANA family in their letters which have been featured in the Vaishali Magazine (a bi-annual publication of BJANA). The magazine also features all activities of BJANA. It

also features the messages from the Consul General, community leaders, and community members. The BJANA annual Holi celebration was alive with color and spirit, and an event that is sure to be remembered by all attendees. Next Event of BJANA is the Annual Picnic on Sunday, August 4th, 2019.



Performing artists

MALIAN PRIME MINISTER RESIGNS AS ANGER MOUNTS OVER MASSACRE

BAMAKO (TIP): Mali's prime minister resigned along with his entire government on April 18 following criticism over their handling of an upsurge of violence in the centre of the country and a massacre last month that left 160 people dead.

Lawmakers from both ruling and opposition parties had submitted a motion of no confidence against the government on Wednesday, blaming Maiga and his administration for failing to clamp down on the unrest.

"A prime minister will be named very soon and a new government will be put in place after consultations with all political forces" from both the ruling and opposition sides, the statement from Keita's office said.

The president had on Tuesday said in a televised address that he had "heard the anger", without explicitly naming the prime minister. (AFP)

THREE MOUNTAINEERS PRESUMED DEAD IN CANADA AVALANCHE

MONTREAL (TIP): Three world-renowned professional mountaineers--two Austrians and an American--were missing and presumed dead after an avalanche on a western Canadian summit, the country's national parks agency said on April 18.

The three men were attempting to climb the east face of Howse Pass, an isolated and highly difficult route, according to Parks Canada. They were part of a team of experienced athletes sponsored by American outdoor equipment firm The North Face, the company confirmed to AFP.

Rescuers found signs of several avalanches and debris consistent with climbing equipment, Parks Canada said, leading them to presume that the climbers were dead. (AFP)

RUNAWAY SAUDI SISTERS GET HELP OFFER FROM GEORGIA

TBILISI (TIP): Two Saudi sisters who fled their country and appealed for international protection earlier this week saying their lives would be at risk if they were to return to the conservative kingdom got an offer of help from Georgia on April 18. Immigration authorities in the former Soviet republic visited the siblings in their temporary apartment in Tbilisi, providing them with information on how to apply for asylum in the country, the Georgian interior ministry said. "The purpose of the visit of law enforcement officers was to offer assistance and security guarantees to the women," the ministry said in a statement. The sisters identified as Maha al-Subaie(28), and Wafa al-Subaie (25), were later taken to the interior ministry's immigration office aboard a security van, local media footage showed.—Reuters

As Notre-Dame money rolls in, some eyebrows raised over rush of funds

PARIS (TIP): Pledged donations from French billionaires, companies and ordinary citizens for the restoration of fire-ravaged Notre-Dame cathedral are approaching 900 million euros after just two days, a reflection of the landmark's resonance in the national psyche.

But the outpouring has prompted questions from charities, politicians and commentators about why some of the business donors have offered so much so quickly, including speculation about how they might benefit from tax breaks on the donations.

People on social media, both in France and abroad, have expressed frustration that other disasters - from the Syrian and Iraq refugee crisis to the Grenfell Tower fire in London - have not received anything like the same degree of support.

The first major donation to Notre-Dame came from Francois-Henri Pinault, the billionaire head of luxury goods group Kering that owns fashion brands Gucci and Saint Laurent.

Pinault, 56, a celebrity figure in part because he is married to actress Salma Hayek, pledged 100 million euros (\$113 million) as the blaze was still raging - a decision dictated by emotion, a spokeswoman for his family's holding company said. Hours later, his great rival Bernard Arnault, France's richest man and the head of Louis Vuitton owner LVMH, announced he was donating 200 million euros, moved by the alarming pictures on TV, according to a group spokesman. The Bettencourt-Meyer family, the largest shareholder in L'Oréal, followed suit a while later, pledging a combined 200 million euros alongside the global cosmetics group.



Brand and reputation experts said the quick response by some of France's most recognisable corporate titans made sense, especially since the disaster involves a national symbol.

Adrian Palmer, the head of the marketing and reputation faculty at the Henley Business School, said all three billionaire families and their companies were closely aligned with the nation, and benefit from reinforcing the link.

"These brands stand for France and they sell around the world, so anything that puts the France brand at the centre of people's minds is going to help them and how they are regarded," he said. "It creates positive associations in people's minds, that they are generous, caring and good." Online, LVMH's announcement of the donations was met with a host of comments on Twitter,

from France and abroad, suggesting the money might be better spent in Africa or combatting climate change than rebuilding a cathedral. Others suggested the generosity was little more than smart marketing. Palmer said that even from a non-marketing point of view, early offers of support could be beneficial for a company's political positioning. All three firms are broadly supportive of President Emmanuel Macron and want to be seen as helpful with backing for his calls to rebuild.

"Macron has been facing protests," he said, referring to the "yellow vests" street demonstrations against the high cost of living that have rocked France for months. "In a sense the disaster at Notre-Dame has become a unifying issue, so they want to show they are aligned." (Reuters)

Guatemalan presidential candidate arrested in Miami in drug-trafficking plot

GUATEMALA CITY (TIP): A Guatemalan presidential candidate was arrested in Miami on April 17 and charged with an elaborate plot to use drug cartel money to win the election and assassinate rivals, according to US officials, two months before voters head to the polls.

Mario Estrada, candidate of the center-right National Change Union, who is polling far behind other rivals, is accused along with another man, Juan Pablo Gonzalez, of seeking between \$10 and \$12 million from Mexico's powerful Sinaloa Cartel to fund his campaign and transport cocaine into the United States.

"Estrada and Gonzalez conspired to solicit Sinaloa Cartel money to finance a corrupt scheme to elect Estrada president of Guatemala," Geoffrey Berman, US attorney for the Southern District of New York, said in a statement.

According to the statement, the two men pledged that if Estrada won the June 16 election, he would help the cartel transport drugs from Guatemalan airports and ports

with the aid of complicit security officials. The two also conspired to kill unnamed rival candidates, the US attorney's statement said.

The statement added that since January, several meetings with both men in Miami and Guatemala designed to advance the plot were held and recorded, in most cases with both video and audio.

Officials with Estrada's party did not immediately respond to requests for comment. It could not be immediately determined who was legally representing the two accused men.

US officials said the US Drug Enforcement Agency assisted with the investigation, as well as the Guatemalan government. Estrada, a 58-year-old former congressman, has lagged far behind in presidential opinion polls, with less than 3 percent support in one recent survey. Alfredo Brito, a spokesman for Guatemalan President Jimmy Morales, told Reuters the government would provide Estrada with the support needed to ensure his rights were respected. (Reuters)

29 GERMAN TOURISTS DIE IN MADEIRA ISLAND BUS MISHAP

CANICO (TIP): The Portuguese island of Madeira began three days of mourning on April 18 after 29 German tourists died when their bus spun off the road and tumbled down a slope before crashing into a house.

Drone footage showed the mangled wreckage resting precariously on its side against a building on a hillside near the town of Canico, the vehicle's roof partially crushed and front window smashed.

Rescue workers attended to injured passengers in the undergrowth where the bus came to a halt, some of them bearing bloodied head bandages and bloodstained clothes, others appearing to be more seriously hurt.

Local authorities said most of the dead were in their 40s and 50s. There were 11 men and 18 women among the victims and all of them were German. They were among the tourists who visit the Atlantic islands off the coast of Morocco each year, attracted by their subtropical climate and rugged volcanic terrain. — AFP

IRS CALLING

IRS provides tips for last-minute filers; resources for extensions, payments and installment agreements

WASHINGTON(TIP): As the tax-filing deadline fast approaches, the Internal Revenue Service is reminding taxpayers who have yet to file their tax returns that there are a variety of options to help them.

IRS tax help is available 24 hours a day on IRS.gov. Whether filing a tax return, requesting an extension or making a payment, the IRS website can help last-minute filers on just about everything related to taxes.

The IRS encourages taxpayers to file electronically. Doing so, whether through e-file or IRS Free File, vastly reduces tax return errors as the tax software does the calculations, flags common errors and prompts taxpayers for missing information. Free File Fillable Forms means there is a free option for everyone.

Qualifying taxpayers can receive free tax preparation from IRS-certified volunteers who will also electronically file the return for free. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers tax help to individuals who generally make \$55,000 or less, persons with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency. The Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program also offers free tax help, particularly for taxpayers age 60 and older. To find the nearest VITA or TCE site, taxpayers can use the VITA and TCE locator on IRS.gov, download the IRS2GO app or call 800-906-9887.

Request extra time

Anyone who needs more time to file can get it. The easiest way to do so is through the Free File link on IRS.gov. In a matter of minutes, anyone, regardless of income, can use this free service to electronically request an extension on Form 4868, Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return.

Taxpayers are reminded, however, that an extension of time to file is not an extension of time to pay. To get the extension, taxpayers must estimate their tax liability on this form and pay any



amount due. Tax payments are generally due by the April filing deadline, and taxpayers should pay as much as they can to avoid possible penalties and interest.

Taxpayers paying all or part of their income taxes, due by the April deadline, using IRS Direct Pay, the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS) or a credit or debit card will get an automatic extension of time to file. By selecting "extension" as the reason for the payment, there is no need to separately file a Form 4868. Taxpayers will also receive a confirmation number after they submit their payment. When paying with Direct Pay and EFTPS, taxpayers can sign up for email notifications.

Any payment made with an extension request will reduce or, if the balance is paid in full, eliminate interest and late-payment penalties that apply to payments made after the April tax filing deadline. The interest rate is currently 6 percent per year, compounded daily, and the late-payment penalty is normally 0.5 percent per month.

Alternatively, people can complete a paper copy of Form 4868 and mail it to the IRS. The form must be mailed and postmarked by the filing deadline. Download and print it from IRS.gov/forms.

Refunds

The safest and fastest way for taxpayers to get their refund is to have it electronically deposited into their bank or other financial account. Taxpayers can use direct deposit to deposit their refund into one, two or even three



accounts. Direct deposit is much faster than waiting for a paper check to arrive in the mail.

After filing, use "Where's My Refund?" on IRS.gov or download the IRS2Go Mobile App to track the status of a refund. It provides the most up-to-date information. It's updated once per day, usually overnight, so checking more often will not generate new information. Calling the IRS will not yield different results from those available online, unless "Where's My Refund?" instructs the taxpayer to do so, nor will ordering a tax transcript.

The IRS issues nine out of 10 refunds in less than 21 days.

Special instructions for paper filers

Math errors and other mistakes are common on paper tax returns, especially those prepared or filed in haste at the last minute. These tips may help paper filers:

- o Fill in all requested taxpayer identification numbers, usually Social Security numbers, including for all dependents claimed on the tax return. Check only one filing status and the appropriate exemption boxes.
- o When using the tax tables, be sure to use the correct row and column for the filing status claimed and taxable income amount shown.
- o Sign and date the return. If filing a joint return, both spouses must sign.
- o Attach all required forms and schedules.
- o Mail the return to the right address. Check Where to File on IRS.gov.

Penalties and interest

By law, the IRS may assess penalties to taxpayers for both failing to file a tax return and for failing to pay taxes they owe by the deadline. Taxpayers who can't pay all the taxes they owe can lessen penalty and interest charges by filing on time and paying what they can. That's because the penalty for filing late is typically 10 times higher than the penalty for paying late. So be sure to file either a tax return or an extension request by the deadline.

Installment agreements

Alternatively, taxpayers can request a payment agreement by filing Form 9465, Installment Agreement Request. This form can be downloaded from IRS.gov/forms and should be mailed to the IRS along with a tax return, IRS bill or notice. Taxpayers who owe taxes can use IRS Direct Pay or any of several other electronic payment options. They are secure and taxpayers receive immediate confirmation when they submit their payment. Or, mail a check or money order payable to the "United States Treasury" along with Form 1040-V, Payment Voucher.

Owe tax?

Qualified taxpayers can choose to pay any taxes owed over time through an installment agreement. An online payment plan can be set up in a matter of minutes. Those who owe \$50,000 or less in combined tax, penalties and interest can use the Online Payment Agreement application to set up a short-term payment plan of 120-days or less, or a monthly agreement for up to 72 months.

The late-filing penalty is generally 5 percent per month and can be as much as 25 percent of the unpaid tax, depending on how late the taxpayer files. For a tax return filed more than 60 days late, the penalty is often at least \$215. In contrast, the late-payment penalty is usually just 0.5 percent of the unpaid taxes per month. For further help and resources, check out the IRS Services Guide.

IRS announces multi-year plan to update, modernize IT systems

Effort focused on improved taxpayer services, expanded cybersecurity and taxpayer data protections

WASHINGTON (TIP): The Internal Revenue Service released, April 18, a six-year plan to modernize the agency's Information Technology systems and improve a variety of taxpayer services critical to the nation's tax system.

The plan outlines a bold strategy to enable business transformation focused on improving services for taxpayers and the tax community while protecting taxpayer data.

"Modernized systems are the key

component to delivering quality service to taxpayers, providing efficient and robust enforcement activities and keeping taxpayer data secure," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "Our modernization plan includes multiple milestones and levels of accountability to ensure it is implemented efficiently and effectively."

*Read full story on
www.theindianpanorama.news*

IRS issues guidance relating to deferral of gains for investments in a qualified opportunity fund

WASHINGTON (TIP): The Internal Revenue Service, April 18, issued guidance providing additional details about investment in qualified opportunity zones.

The proposed regulations allow the deferral of all or part of a gain that is invested into a Qualified Opportunity Fund (QO Fund) that would otherwise be includable in income. The gain is deferred until the investment is sold or exchanged or Dec. 31, 2026, whichever is earlier. If the investment is held for at least 10 years, investors may be able to permanently exclude gain from the sale or exchange of an investment in a QO

Fund. Qualified opportunity zone business property is tangible property used in a trade or business of the QO Fund if the property was purchased after Dec. 31, 2017. The guidance permits tangible property acquired after Dec. 31, 2017, under a market rate lease to qualify as "qualified opportunity zone business property" if during substantially all of the holding period of the property, substantially all of the use of the property was in a qualified opportunity zone.

*Read full story on
www.theindianpanorama.news*

STOP THE SKIN AGEING PROCESS

No matter how old you become, you still feel like a young version of yourself. This is the view most psychologists have. When we age and look at ourselves in the mirror, there is a sense of shock and disbelief. "I am supposed to be 25. Where did those wrinkles come from?" How does one reconcile the self-image with reality? The rise of anti-ageing technology and therapies allow us to recapture our youthful look. Ageing cannot be stopped entirely but there are means to help reduce its ravages.

More than skin deep

Where do the signs of ageing show up? The skin is divided into three layers—the epidermis, the dermis and the subcutaneous layer—and no layer is spared the effects of time. As we age, the skin cells become less regulated. Our epidermal barrier weakens, our melanocytes behave badly, and our skin stops looking supple, bright and clear. We get freckles or age spots, pigmentation, and the skin gets dry and sensitive, and dull. This all occurs in the epidermis and dermis. Then as our fibroblasts also become less effective, collagen and elastin, the building blocks of youthful skin, are produced less, and what is still there becomes damaged. There are pores and fine lines and the skin texture deteriorates. The skin starts to sag and the facial fat reduces. Now when you are trying to look younger, you have to reverse the signs of ageing on all three layers.

The art of reverse ageing

To improve the intrinsic youthfulness of the skin and keep the epidermis and



dermis looking bright and clear, good genes therapy is a must. Now what is this? A combination of micro dermabrasion, micro needling, vacuum assisted vitamin infusion and LED, the therapy stimulates the same collagen we had as a baby. It also helps the skin cells regulate themselves so they stop behaving badly. A course of the therapy can help your skin regain its natural youth and suppleness while also improving pigmentation, pores, lines and glow. So, consider this the basic foundation of your anti ageing routine.

Now it's time to go a little deeper. Those deep lines, larger pores and deeper discolourations need stronger results. So, look for therapies such as focus toning, CLAD, or simple PHOTOHD photo facials. These will target errant pigmentation while also boosting collagen secretion making your

skin significantly clearer, without lines and pores. For those with severe lines that occur when you use muscles such as the frown lines, forehead lines, and crow's feet, you can consider botox done every three to six months.

Finally, let's get down to the deepest layer. Sagging affects us all and those horrid lines near our mouths, deep under eye circles, thinning lips, the loss of our jawline and the appearance of neck lines reveal our age to all those around us. Look for therapies that target collagen in the deepest layers such as ulthera and thermitight. Done once a year, the treatment will help your skin look tighter and you younger by at least five to ten years. You can also consider hyaluronic acid-based fillers to lift and fill hollows and lines. When done correctly, it can look beautifully natural and fresh and lasts over a year.

HABITS THAT CAN MAKE YOU LOOK YOUNGER

Forget aging gracefully—here's how to age youthfully. Keep a healthy glow, a spring in your step, and a radiant appearance with tips from the experts.

Smile, wide

Young, middle-aged, and older individuals studied thousands of photographs and were asked to guess the age of models with various facial expressions. Neutral expressions yielded the most accurate results, and fearful expressions made subjects look older; happy faces were rated as younger than they really were.

Eat more grapes

Sorbitol, which gives grapes, berries, plums, and pears their sweetness, is a humectant, a substance that attracts water when applied to the skin, helping it absorb and retain moisture. That's one of the reasons why grapes are among the 30+ foods that are even better for you than you realized.

Cleanse and moisturize regularly

Cleansing and moisturizing helps protect skin and keep it healthy; but banish regular soap, which can be drying for older skin. Instead, use a cleanser that gently washes without stripping skin of its natural moisture. Avoid skin toners, especially those with a stringent or alcohol base. Follow with a good moisturizer, morning and night.

Give yourself a hand or two

A study showed that people could accurately guess women's ages by looking at their hands. Use a good hand cream frequently, preferably one that contains SPF for daytime. Brighten dull hands by exfoliating regularly: Mix sea salt with



lemon juice and gently scrub into your hands with a soft toothbrush.

Eat more greens and reds

Vitamin K—in kale and other green vegetables—helps your blood coagulate, reducing the impact of bruising. Lycopene in tomatoes gives the skin powerful protection against UV rays. Fruit and veggie consumption resulted in better skin complexion, according to a study.

FOOD CORNER



Murgh Musallam

Ingredients

- 3 pounds (1.5 kilograms) chicken (thigh fillet, cut into 2-inch cubes)
- 2 green chilies
- 20 cloves garlic
- 2 3-inch gingers
- 1 teaspoon garam masala
- 1 teaspoon turmeric powder
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1 teaspoon red chili powder
- 6 cardamom pods (large and brown/ badi elaichi)
- 10 cloves
- 1 stick cinnamon
- 10 peppercorns
- 1 teaspoon cumin seeds
- 2 teaspoons coriander seeds
- 15 almonds (blanched)
- 12 to 15 tablespoons oil
- 3 large onions (very thinly sliced)
- 3 tablespoons tomato purée
- 2 teaspoons salt (or to taste)
- 2 tablespoons cilantro (fresh, chopped)

Method

- Put the chicken into a large, deep, non-metallic mixing bowl.
- Grind the green chilies, half the garlic cloves, and 1 of the pieces of ginger into a smooth paste in a food processor.
- Mix this paste with the garam masala powder, 3/4 tsp of salt, turmeric powder, yogurt, and half of the red chili powder. Mix well to make the marinade for the chicken.
- Pour the marinade over the chicken and mix well to coat the pieces completely. Keep aside for later.
- While the chicken is marinating, heat a shallow pan or griddle on medium heat and when hot, roast the cloves, peppercorns, cinnamon, badi elaichi, blanched almonds, cumin seeds, and coriander seeds on it. Stir frequently until the spices begin to turn slightly darker in color. Take off from heat and allow to cool.
- Now heat 4 tablespoons of the vegetable cooking oil in a deep pan, on medium heat. When hot, add the sliced onions and the remaining half of the garlic to it. Sauté, stirring frequently, until the onions are pale golden in color. Use a slotted spoon to drain the onions and garlic and remove them from the oil. We will use this remaining oil and pan again a little later.
- Put the fried onions and garlic into a food processor along with the above-roasted spices and the remaining piece of ginger. Grind to a thick, smooth paste, only adding water as required to facilitate the grinding.
- Now (using the same pan you used to fry the onions), add 4 tablespoons of cooking oil to the pan and set up on medium heat. Brown only the pieces of chicken (in batches), reserving the marinade for later use. When this is done, keep the chicken aside. Add 2 to 3 tablespoons more of the cooking oil and when it is hot, add the ground paste you made above.
- Sauté for 2 to 3 minutes, stirring continuously. Add the marinade, chicken pieces, tomato pureé, remaining red chili powder, and salt to taste. Add 1/2 cup of hot water and stir well.
- Reduce heat to a simmer and cook until chicken is tender—most of the liquid will have dried up.
- Garnish your Murgh Musallam with chopped, fresh coriander leaves and serve with jeera rice and a salad! Naan bread also goes brilliantly with Murgh Musallam!

EGGS FOR BREAKFAST BENEFIT THOSE WITH TYPE 2 DIABETES

People with Type 2 Diabetes (T2D) should opt for eggs for breakfast, a recent study suggests. According to the findings, a high-fat, low-carb breakfast (LCBF) can help those with T2D control blood sugar levels throughout the day.

"The large blood sugar spike that follows breakfast is due to the combination of pronounced insulin resistance in the morning in people with T2D and because typical Western breakfast foods - cereal, oatmeal, toast and fruit - are high in carbohydrates," said Jonathan Little, lead author of the study published in the Journal of the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

According to Little, breakfast is consistently the "problem" meal that leads to the largest blood sugar spikes for people with T2D. The research shows that eating a low-carb and high-fat meal first thing in the morning, is a simple way to prevent this large spike, improve glycemic control throughout the day, and can perhaps also reduce other diabetes complications.

Study participants, with well-controlled T2D, completed two experimental feeding days. On one day, they ate an omelette for breakfast and on another day, they ate oatmeal and some fruit. An identical lunch and dinner were provided on both days. A continuous glucose monitor - a small device that attaches to your abdomen and measures glucose every five minutes - was used to measure blood sugar spikes across the entire day. Participants also reported ratings of hunger, fullness and a desire to eat something sweet or savoury.

Little's study determined that consuming a very low-carbohydrate high-fat breakfast completely prevented



the blood sugar spike after breakfast and this had enough of an effect to lower overall glucose exposure and improve the stability of glucose readings for the next 24 hours.

We expected that limiting carbohydrates to less than 10% at breakfast would help prevent the spike after this meal. But we were a bit surprised that this had enough of an effect and that the overall glucose control and stability were improved. We know that large swings in blood sugar are damaging to our blood vessels, eyes, and kidneys. The inclusion of a very low-carbohydrate high-fat breakfast meal in T2D patients may be a practical and easy way to target the large morning glucose spike and reduce associated complications," he explained. He does note that there was no difference in blood sugar levels in both groups later in the day, suggesting that the

effect for reducing overall post-meal glucose spikes can be attributed to the breakfast responses with no evidence that a low-carb breakfast worsened glucose responses to lunch or dinner.

"The results of our study suggest potential benefits of altering macronutrient distribution throughout the day so that carbohydrates are restricted at breakfast with a balanced lunch and dinner rather than consuming an even distribution and moderate amount of carbohydrates throughout the day," Little asserted.

As another interesting aspect of the research, participants noted that pre-meal hunger and their cravings for sweet foods later in the day tended to be lower if they ate the low-carb breakfast. Little suggests this change in diet may be a healthy step for anybody, even those who are not living with diabetes.

People with more muscle power tend to live longer: Study

Here's yet another reason to hit the gym and lift weights. According to a recent study, by increasing your muscle power, you can prolong your life.

"Rising from a chair in old age and kicking a ball depends more on muscle power than muscle strength, yet most weight-bearing exercises focus on the latter. Our study shows for the first time that people with more muscle power tend to live longer," said Professor Claudio Gil Araujo, lead author of the study.

Power depends on the ability to generate force and velocity and to coordinate movement. In other words, it is the measure of the work performed per unit time; more power is produced when the same amount of work is completed in a shorter period or when more work is performed during the same period. Climbing stairs requires power - the faster you climb, the more power you need. Holding or pushing a heavy object (for example a car with a dead battery) needs strength.

"Power training is carried out by finding the best combination of speed and weight being lifted or moved. For strength training at the gym, most people just think about the amount of weight being lifted and the number of repetitions without paying attention to the speed of execution. But for optimal power training results, you should go beyond typical strength training and add speed to your weight lifts," Araujo explained.

The study, discussed in the meeting of EuroPrevent 2019, enrolled 3,878 non-athletes aged 41-85 years who underwent a maximal muscle power test using the upright row exercise between 2001 and 2016. The average age of participants was 59



years, 5% were over 80, and 68% were men. The highest value achieved after two or three attempts with increasing loads was considered the maximal muscle power and expressed relative to body weight (i.e. power per kg of body weight). Values were divided into quartiles for survival analysis and analysed separately by sex.

During a median 6.5-year follow-up, 247 men (10%) and 75 women (6%) died. Median power values were 2.5 watts/kg for men and 1.4 watts/kg for women. Participants with a maximal muscle power above the median for their sex (i.e. in quartiles three and four) had the best survival. Those in quartiles two and one had, respectively, a 4.5 and 10-13 times higher risk of dying as compared to those above the median in maximal muscle power.



Diabetes in pregnancy ups the risk in kids later

Children and youths whose mothers had diabetes during their pregnancy are themselves at an increased risk of the disorder, say researchers, including one of Indian-origin.

The study showed that a child or teenager whose mother had gestational diabetes—diabetes during pregnancy—was nearly twice as likely to develop diabetes before the age of 22 years.

The association was found in children from birth to the age of 22 years, from birth to 12 years, and from 12 to 22 years, said the study, published in Canadian Medical Association Journal.

"Although Type-1 and Type-2 diabetes in parents are well-established risk factors for diabetes, we show that gestational diabetes mellitus may be a risk indicator for diabetes in the mother's children before age 22," said Kaberi Dasgupta, clinician-scientist from the McGill University in Canada.

Stem cell protein may help find blood cancer cure

Researchers have identified a stem cell protein that may play an important role in finding a cure for blood cancer. The study, done on mice, suggests a stem cell protein called Asrij is a novel regulator of wild type tumour suppressor p53 stability in hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs).

It could help design targeted therapies for myeloproliferative disease, a group of slow-growing blood cancers, according to researchers, including Maneesha S. Inamdar from the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) in Bengaluru.

"We provide a new mouse model resembling myeloproliferative disease and identify a post-translational regulator of wild type p53 essential for maintaining HSC quiescence that could be a potential target for pharmacological intervention," the team said.

According to the study, published in the journal Blood, inactivation of the tumour suppressor p53 is essential for unrestrained growth of cancers. But only 11 per cent of hematological malignancies have mutant p53.



PAGE SPONSORED BY

DR. SATISH AND GITANJLI ANAND



DR. SATISH ANAND

Former Chairman, Board of Trustees, AAPI National

E-Mail: sanandmd@gmail.com

GITANJLI ANAND

Former President, India Association of Long Island (IALI)

E-mail: gitanjlianand@gmail.com



FACEBOOK WORKING ON VOICE ASSISTANT LIKE AMAZON ALEXA

In a bid to take on Amazon Alexa or Google Home, Facebook is working on a voice-based assistant for its Portal video chat service and other future projects.

According to a report in CNBC, the social network is "unclear how exactly Facebook envisions people using the assistant".

Facebook's AI-enabled Portal video chat service currently uses Amazon's Alexa.

"We are working to develop voice and AI assistant technologies that may work across our family of AR/VR products including Portal, Oculus and future products," a Facebook spokesperson said in a statement.

Facebook last year shut down a chat-based assistant called "M" in its messaging app.

According to the report, Ira Snyder, a general manager at Facebook Reality Labs, is working on the voice-assistant project.

Facebook Portal and Portal+ video chat speakers come with Smart Camera and Smart Sound technology.

Portal offers hands-free voice control. You can start a video call simply by saying 'Hey Portal' and noting who you'd like to call.

Source: IANS

NASA finds new way to defend Earth from asteroids

In order to defend Earth from asteroids, the trick is to spot the near-Earth objects first, according to NASA researchers.

A mere 17-20 metres across, the Chelyabinsk meteor caused extensive ground damage and numerous injuries when it exploded on impact with the Earth's atmosphere in February 2013.

To prevent another such impact, Amy Mainzer, principal investigator of NASA's asteroid hunting mission at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, and colleagues have devised a new way to spot tiny near-Earth objects (NEOs) as they hurtle toward the planet.

"If we find an object only a few days from impact, it greatly limits our choices, so in our search efforts, we've focused on finding NEOs when they are further away from Earth, providing the maximum amount of time and opening up a wider range of mitigation possibilities," Mainzer explained.

NEOs are intrinsically faint because they are mostly really small and far away from us in space.

"Add to this the fact that some of them are as dark as printer toner, and trying to spot them against the black of space is very hard," she added.

Instead of using visible light to spot incoming objects, Mainzer's team has leveraged a characteristic signature of NEOs—heat.

Asteroids and comets are warmed by the sun and so glow brightly at thermal wavelengths (infrared), making them easier to spot with the Near-Earth Object Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (NEOWISE) telescope.

Source: IANS



TWITTER SET TO LAUNCH 'HIDE REPLIES' FEATURE IN JUNE

As part of the efforts to make its platform appear less toxic, Twitter is planning to give people an option to hide replies to their tweets, thereby giving users more control over the nature of conversation they would like to have on the platform.

"Starting in June, we'll be experimenting with ways to give people more control over their conversations by giving them an option to hide replies to their Tweets," Donald Hicks, Vice President, Twitter Service and David Gasca, Twitter's Senior Director, Product Management, Health, wrote in a blog post on Tuesday.

While the feature has the potential to make trolls invisible, it could make it difficult for users to correct wrong statements made by others.

Other social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram already give users much more power in terms of dealing with the comments to their posts, including the option to delete them.

Twitter last year said that making the platform free of abuse, spam and other things that distract from the public



conversation is its top priority.

The microblogging site on Tuesday said it had got a lot faster and better at curbing abusive behaviour and hateful content.

"This time last year, 0 per cent of potentially abusive content was flagged to our teams for review proactively. Today, by using technology, 38 per cent of abusive content that's enforced is surfaced proactively for human review instead of relying on reports from

people using Twitter," Hicks and Gasca wrote.

"The same technology we use to track spam, platform manipulation and other rule violations is helping us flag abusive Tweets to our team for review," they said.

Twitter said 100,000 accounts were suspended for creating new accounts after a suspension during January-March 2019—a 45 per cent increase from the same time last year. *Source: IANS*

Saturn's moon Titan has 100-m deep methane lakes

Saturn's largest moon Titan has small liquid lakes that run more than 100 metres deep, perched atop hills and filled with methane, scientists have found using data from NASA's Cassini spacecraft.

The findings, published in the journal Nature Astronomy, are the first confirmation of just how deep some of Titan's lakes are (more than 300 feet, or 100 meters) and of their composition.

They provide new information about the way liquid methane rains on, evaporates from and seeps into Titan—the only planetary body in our solar system other than Earth known to have stable liquid on its surface.

Scientists have known that Titan's hydrologic cycle works similarly to Earth's—with one major difference. Instead of water evaporating from seas, forming clouds and rain, Titan does it all with methane and ethane.

We tend to think of these hydrocarbons as a gas on Earth, unless they're pressurised in a tank. However, Titan is so cold that they behave as liquids, like gasoline at room temperature on our planet.

Scientists have known that the much larger northern seas are filled with methane, but finding the smaller northern lakes filled mostly with methane was a surprise.

Previously, Cassini data measured Ontario Lacus, the only major lake in Titan's southern hemisphere. There they found a roughly equal mix of methane and ethane. Ethane is slightly heavier than methane, with more carbon and hydrogen atoms in its makeup.

"Every time we make discoveries on Titan, Titan becomes more and more mysterious," said Marco Mastrogiuseppe, Cassini radar scientist at California Institute of Technology in the US.

"But these new measurements help give an answer to a few key questions. We can actually now better understand the hydrology of Titan," Mastrogiuseppe said in a statement.



Volcanoes caused biggest mass extinction ever: Study

Mercury buried in ancient rock provides the strongest evidence yet that volcanoes caused the biggest mass extinction in the history of the Earth, scientists say.

The extinction 252 million years ago was so dramatic and widespread that scientists call it "the Great Dying".

The catastrophe killed off more than 95 per cent of life on Earth over the course of hundreds of thousands of years, said researchers from the University of Cincinnati (UC) in the US.

The study, published in the journal Nature Communications, found a spike in mercury in the geologic record at nearly a dozen sites around the world, which provides persuasive evidence that volcanic eruptions were to blame for this global cataclysm.

The eruptions ignited vast deposits of coal, releasing mercury vapour high into the atmosphere, researchers said.

Eventually, it rained down into the marine sediment around the planet, creating an elemental signature of a catastrophe that would herald the age of dinosaurs, they said.

"Volcanic activities, including emissions of volcanic gases and combustion of organic matter, released abundant mercury to the surface of the Earth," said Jun Shen, an associate professor at the China University of Geosciences.

The mass extinction occurred at what scientists call the Permian-Triassic Boundary.

The mass extinction killed off much of the terrestrial and marine life before the rise of dinosaurs.

Some were prehistoric monsters in their own right, such as the ferocious gorgonopsids that looked like a cross between a sabre-toothed tiger and a Komodo dragon.

The eruptions occurred in a volcanic system called the Siberian Traps in what is now central Russia.

JET AIRWAYS FINALLY GROUNDS ITSELF, LEAVES 20,000 JOBS AT STAKE

MUMBAI (TIP): After flying for 25 years, Jet Airways Wednesday announced temporary grounding of operations after the lenders declined a Rs 400-crore lifeline, putting at stake 20,000 jobs and thousands of crores in passenger refunds, dues to vendors and over Rs 8,500 crore to banks.

Founded by Naresh Goyal, who began as a general sales agent to a host of international airlines with travel agency Jetair, the full-service carrier served tens of millions of passengers for over two-and-a-half decades, before becoming the seventh domestic carrier to shutter operations in the past five years.

However, the once-premier airline flew into deeper turbulence-second in its history after the 2010 crisis-- after four back-to-back quarterly losses, leaving it gasping for financial breath and forcing it to default on payments to nearly all--from banks to lessors, to employees, and eventually leading to the shutdown from tonight as its fleet strength has crimped to just about five planes from 123 in December last.

"Since no emergency funding from the lenders or any other source is forthcoming, we will not be able to pay for fuel or other critical services to keep the operations going.

"Consequently, with immediate effect, we are compelled to cancel all our international and domestic flights temporarily. The last flight will operate today," Jet Airways said in an evening statement.

The troubles at Jet sent airfares soaring and its pains were the gains for rival carriers like Indigo and Spicejet which took over most its slots at premium airports.

And the formal grounding announcement will lead to exponential spike in airfares amid the peak summer travel demand.

Under a debt resolution plan approved by the airlines board on March 25, Goyal agreed to cede control to the lenders consortium and also resigned from the chairmanship. His wife, Anita, too quit



the board. He had also agreed to halve his stake in the airline to around 25 percent.

But the April 2 Supreme Court order quashing the February 12, 2018 RBI circular (which ended all debt recast plans even on a one-day default) put paid to the resolution plan as banks were left with no leeway to restructure the loan and pay the promised Rs 1,500 crore interim funds which would have been converted into equity at Re 1 a share and also take over the management control.

Before its last flight tonight from Amritsar to Delhi, Jet's fleet has diminished to just five aircraft and 37 flights from 123 planes and some 650 flight daily till December last.

"This (temporary grounding) decision has been taken after a painstaking evaluation of all alternatives that were made available to the airline and after receiving guidance and advice on the same from the board," the airline said, adding it has informed the civil aviation and finance ministries besides the regulator DGCA, of its decision.

The carrier, however, said it will now await the bid finalisation process by the lenders. Earlier this month, SBI Caps, on behalf of the lenders, had invited bids

Jet's story

August 3, 2018: Jet denies media report it cannot fly beyond 60 days

August 11: SBI chairman says Jet's loan is on watch list.

August 27: Jet posts June-quarter loss, says will inject funds, cut costs by more than Rs. 2,000 crore in two years

September 6: Jet says paid salaries to 84% of its employees after media reports that pilots warned 'non-cooperation' over salary default

November 5: Media report says conglomerate Tata Group aims to buy 51 per cent stake in airline and merge Jet with Tata's Vistara

January 1, 2019: Jet delays payment to a consortium of Indian banks

January 17: SBI says Jet's lenders considering plan to resolve debt issues

Feb 8: Airline grounds four aircraft after failing to make payments to lessors

March 25: Founder Naresh Goyal steps down as chairman, wife Anita Goyal resigns from board. Lenders to pump in Rs. 1,500 crore in immediate funding

April 3: Jet forced to ground more than three-quarters of its fleet as it awaits bailout funds



Prashant Singh and Tushar Kumar.

MEDLIFE CLOCKS RUN RATE OF 1000 CRORES IN FY 2019

Medlife, <https://www.medlife.com/>, India's largest online pharmacy, announced crossing the 1000 crore plus runrate as of March 2019. The company expects to achieve overall sales of Rs 1500 crore with an exit run rate of 2000 crores over the next financial year. Medlife has been witnessing robust growth and expects to turn profitable this year. Its pharmacy segment showed a 3x growth from last year and the lab vertical contributed 40 to 45 crores towards the revenue.

While Tier 2 and 3 cities are the fastest growing segments for Medlife, metro cities contribute to 70% of the share. As per Frost and Sullivan, the e-pharmacy market is valued at 450 to 475 billion dollars and Medlife has a 30% market share presently. The market is growing rapidly and Medlife expects to have 50% share of the pie in the next 2 to 3 years.

Speaking about this, Mr. Tushar Kumar, Founder & CEO, Medlife International Pvt. Ltd said, "We are happy to share that Medlife is a frontrunner in the online healthcare space today. While pharmacy remains our topline contributing to 75% of the revenue, the lab segment is also showing steady growth. We also hope to double our run rate in the coming financial year and achieve a steady growth year-on-year."

Medlife started with an initial investment of \$15 million, and later received funding of \$30 million through family investment and promoters. The founders are planning to raise investment of \$65 million and will seek funding from the family to be used as growth capital.

Currently, they service over 20,000 deliveries daily across 29 states in over 4,000 cities and 25,000 pin codes in India. Medlife's customer-centric approach ensures that people get the best value for their money and save considerable time on every purchase through a two-hour delivery option. They offer genuine healthcare products from authorized dealers at discounted prices, cashback, and referral discounts. Medlife's USPs also include a transparent inventory-led model and the steadfast conviction to sell drugs only against a valid doctor's prescription.

Medlife's lab services are currently operational in Bengaluru, Mumbai, Delhi NCR, Kolkata, Jaipur, Pune, Kanpur, Lucknow, and Hyderabad; and will be extended to other locations. They have launched their first offline store in Mumbai and their first diagnostic lab in Bengaluru in March 2018 with the direct approach of providing easily accessible high-quality diagnostics services at affordable prices in Tier I/II cities.

AICRA STEM Summit draws talent pool from across the country

HYDERABAD (TIP): The second edition of STEM Summit organized by All India Council for Robotics & Automation (AICRA) on April 16 in IIT Delhi, witnessed attendance of dignitaries from across the industries besides Mission Director Dr Ramana Ramanathan, Atal Innovation Mission, Government of India attending as the chief guest.

Pactera Technologies Pvt Ltd (China based Hyderabad company) sponsored the 2019 AICRA STEM summit which is a global super-ecosystem event. This summit was comprised of presentations, panels and round-table discussions to highlight robotics education scenario, industries automation process, government regulations and policies on automation implementation and research, manufacturing and other relevant topics. STEM Summit also hosted the AICRA STEM awards that celebrate the exemplary work of the institutions and individuals working in Indian STEM sectors. AICRA believes sharing of good practices through this platform will help in elevating the condition of Robotics and Automation in Indian Education Sphere.

Pactera Technologies country head Mr. Narayana Murthy delivering key note address during the summit said that, "Future of work in the digital & AI first world". He emphasized on how the



Narayana Murthy, Country Head Pactera receiving STEM Award from Dr. Manoj Kumar, Director, CSIR-NISCAIR, Dr. M. Ariz Ahmed, NHB, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

industries are transforming into an intelligent robotics ecosystem. Mr. Murthy has been instrumental in executing several key initiatives in his successful career such as mapping Digital capabilities to strategic priorities of the organizations, driving process innovation, developing, administering and delivering EDGE Technology Project Portfolios. Pactera Technologies since

its incorporation in India has delivered several successful engineering projects under his leadership.

Pactera Technologies is a global IT services company offering consulting, digital transformation, technology and operations services to the Fortune 500 companies.

As India's most prestigious stage for honoring excellence and building & reinforcing networks, the STEM summit honored Pactera Technologies PVT LTD with the award for Excellence in Automation - recognizing the best automation system integrators in the business. Pactera Technologies, over the years has executed emerging technology solutions using Artificial Intelligence; Machine learning, IoT technologies, Blockchain, Robotic Process Automation according to industry standards.

Pactera received award from Dr. M. Ariz Ahmed, MD - National Horticultural Board, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Dr. Manoj Kumar Patrairya, Director, CSIR- NISCAIR, and Rajkumar Sharma, President, AICRA.

Pactera has been previously awarded and recognized by IBM, IDC, Gartner, Forrester, HYSEA, Indywood and Microsoft. Details of the summit and awards can be viewed at: <https://www.aicra.ac.in/stem-summit-awards/award-categories.php>



Shree Ganeshaya Namah

Bejan Daruwalla is world's most famous astrologer today. He appears regularly on world wide TV shows. Bejan who has been a professor in English, has authored a number of books on astrology. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on March 29, 2012, lunched one of Bejan's books, '2012- End of the World? Bejan contributes to a number of journals and newspapers in many parts of the world which include Berkley Communications (London) Times of India (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai) and The Indian Panorama (New York and Texas). Bejan's predictions have mostly been correct and people the world over rely on his predictions.



Bejan Daruwalla is available for astrological consultations. He can be reached at info@bejandaruwalla.com and on phone 011-91-8141234275 www.bejandaruwalla.com

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE APRIL 22 - APRIL 28, 2019

ARIES

Ganesha says there is genuine growth after all the soul searching of the past period. As a result of your evaluation of yourself, you gain in credibility, popularity, authority and win kudos for your accomplishments. The creative pursuits - cinema, television, the performing arts, hobbies, even speculation and playing the stock market - will yield excellent results. You approach life and work with a much more open frame of mind leading to greater ingenuity as well as better, brighter ideas.

TAURUS

There will be new bonds and ties of love which will be much more intense and deeper. There is professional and personal recognition as you enjoy greater gains and deeper joy. You face life's challenges with equanimity. There are expenses as well as more earning. This is a great phase to be. Ganesha blesses you. One reason for your success is the way in which you handle people. You take the middle path and win friends easily. You have realized that this is the best way.

GEMINI

There is no room for hurt, acrimony, false expectations or acquisitions in all your interactions. Attachments, friendships, love, romance and other ties are constantly strengthened and reinforced. There is emotional balance leading to success. The gains you make will be long-lasting and pleasing and they will remain for a long time. Your popularity soars and nothing can come in the way of your steady and sure progress. Just believe in Ganesha and go with the flow.

CANCER

You are in great spirits and nothing can stop you. Your success with people and your relationships keep you on a high. You want to have fun and enjoy the limelight. You savor the pleasures of good company, good friends, good food, in short, all the good things of life. You are ready to mingle, socialize and party like there is no tomorrow. You do all this with elan and a touch of class. You have charisma and you charm even the worst critics.

LEO

You make new acquaintances and renew old friendships. There is domestic bliss as the family draws closer. This is a wonderful period as you get closer to your ideal of the good life. Ganesha is pleased. Your two main areas of interest will now be money and the people in your life. You will reinvent old school ties and also focus on work and forming new associations. There will also be a lot of partying as you mix business with pleasure.

VIRGO

Finance will be important and activities like leasing, rentals, taxes, funding, bonds will be a major part of the period's theme. There will be a grand fusion of work and pleasure. Ganesha is generous. There will also be great moments of beautiful bonding with a new love. You may escape the routine of everyday life and even shack up in some exotic locale with your new love interest.

LIBRA

You branch out in different directions like the roots of a giant banyan tree. You will be confronted by certain issues and will have to make important decisions. You don't want your success / popularity to falter. But you also find the time to help others, to share resources, give charity or monetary help to those in need. You fine tune your professional goals and indulge in serious planning to get where you want to be.

SCORPIO

Your sights are set high and you will need to improve the work environment, streamline office procedures and work on improving inter-personal and intra-personal relationships. You also take a hard look at spirituality and at ways to give back to society. Ganesha blesses you. You are on the fast track to progress and the first priority is to get your act together. You will be doing some serious and hard thinking and changing your lifestyle and priorities.

SAGITTARIUS

You may have to curtail the excessive partying and spending habits. But you know what is best in the circumstances. There could also be unnecessary roadblocks like jealousy, animosity from your peer group and your own ego drives. You will have to handle all this with care. Even though you are truly breaking new horizons, do not leave neighbors, relatives and friends behind. Carry them with you. Share your success with others and it will really help.

CAPRICORN

You may also undertake new studies. Ganesha believes that you will have the four G's - gains, glory, good times, genuine companions. Please tell me if there is more needed in life. You make progress and also get into an introspective frame of mind. There is expansion of your mental horizons and many interests occupy your mind. There are new inclinations and predilections, a new focus, a deep gnawing desire for spirituality and the higher issues of life.

AQUARIUS

You are concerned with justice, law and order, the higher self you look hard at widening the vistas of your mind. Travel, publicity, visits, interviews, meets, conferences, collaborations and networking within and outside the family add to the quality of life. There is greater intensity and depth in all your interactions. Ganesha blesses you with wonderful times. You have made money and earned accolades. Now you look at many other aspects that make life more complete.

PISCES

You get deep within yourself and seriously examine the workings of the mind and the meaning behind your actions. You are excited by parapsychology, psychic insights, nursing, healing, mantra, tantra, healing, charities and all activities far removed from the regular tenor of life. You have a new mindset now and the phase brings a sense of completion and direction to your growth as an individual. This is a great period and if carefully handled can lead to stupendous success.

The birth celebration of Lord Hanuman or Hanuman Jayanti is around the corner and all the worshippers love to visit the temples to celebrate the festivity. Lord Hanuman, also known as Pawanputra, Sankat Mochan, Bajrang Bali, is worshipped as the monkey God in almost all parts of India. He was the 11th reincarnation of Lord Shiva, born to Pawan Dev and Queen Anjani.

Lord Hanuman, a dedicated disciple of the Hindu Lord Rama, is worshipped all over the India by the Hindu people for his deep devotion to the god Rama. At the day of Hanuman Jayanti celebration, all the Hanuman temples become full of crowd as people started puja from early morning after a holy bath. Hanuman Jayanti is celebrated with great enthusiasm by the people of Hindu religion as an important festival of the Hindus. It is a great Hindu ritual celebrated in cultural and traditional way.

People worship Lord Hanuman as a symbol of devotion, magical powers, strength and energy. People read Hanuman Chalisa as it has ability to conquer the evil spirits and provide peace to the mind. The devotees of Lord Hanuman visit Hanuman temples at this day after a holy in the early morning, apply red tilak (vermillion) to the foreheads of Hanuman idol, read Hanuman Chalisa, offer Prasad of laddoo, do Aarti by chanting mantras and Aarti songs, make round of the temple and so many rituals. As Lord Hanuman was born to the Vanara community having reddish orange color body, that's why it is seen to all the Hanuman temples having reddish orange colored Hanuman idol. After puja, people apply red Sindur to their own foreheads as a Prasad and distribute laddoo Prasad among people to get blessed with what they have prayed to their God Hanuman.

In the Maharashtra, it is commemorated to the Purnima in the Hindu Lunar month of Chaitra. However, according to other Hindu calendar, it falls on 14th day (chaturdashi) of Ashvin month in the dark fortnight. After puja, Prasad is distributed among people to have full blessings.

In Tamil Nadu and Kerala, it is celebrated in Margazhi month (between December and January) in the belief that Lord Hanuman was born to the amavasya in the Margazhi month. In Odisha, it is celebrated on 1st day in the month of Baisakha (in April). In Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, it is celebrated on 10th day of Vaishaka month in the Krishna Paksha. It is the 41 days long celebration in the Andhra Pradesh which starts from the Chaitra Purnima and ends at 10th days of the Krishna Paksha of Vaishakha month.

Significance

Hanuman Jayanti celebration indicates the balanced coexistence of the whole human fraternity with the nature's incredible creature, Lord Hanuman from Vanara community. People from the Hindu religion worship Lord Hanuman as a divine creature. This celebration has lots of importance to all however Brahmacharis, wrestlers and bodybuilders are specially inclined towards this celebration. There are many names through which Lord Hanuman is famous among his devotees like Bajrangabali, Pavanasuta, Pavankumar, Mahavira, Balibima, Marutsuta, Anjanisut, Sankat Mochan, Anjaneya, Maruti, Rudra and many more.

Hanuman avatar is considered as the 11th Rudra avatar of the Lord Siva with great devotion, strength, knowledge, divine power, bravery, intelligence, spirit for selfless service and etc. He has devoted his life only for his Lord Rama and Mata Sita and never shows his bravery and intelligence without any purpose. The devotees of the Lord Hanuman always pray him for getting blessed with the same for their bright future. He is worshipped in many ways by his

HANUMAN JAYANTI

Hanuman Jayanti this year falls on April 19, Friday



devotees; some meditates by repeating his name many times to get power, fame, success and etc in the life whereas some reads the Hanuman Chalisa to get the same.

History

Once, a great saint named Angira went to visit the heaven king, Indra and welcomed there through the dance presented by a damsel named, Punjikstala. However, saint was not used of that type dance and started meditating on his God. After the end of dance, he was asked by the Indra about the performance of dance. He was silent and said that I was in deep meditation to my Almighty because I have no interest in such dance. It was very ashamed to the Indra and damsel; she started disappointing the saint and then cursed by the Angira that "Behold! You shall degrade to earth from Swarg. You will be born as a female monkey in the mountain forests". She then felt sorry and regretted to the saint then a merciful saint supported her through blessings like, "A great devotee of Paramatma will be born to you. He will forever serve Paramatma". She became the daughter of Kunjar (king of the monkeys on earth) and got married to the Kapiraj Kesari of the Mount Sumeru. She gave birth to the

Hanuman with the help of five divine factors such as curse and blessings of the saint Angira, her prayers, blessings of Lord Shiva, blessings of Vayu deva and Putreshti Yagna's fruit. It is considered that Lord Shiva had to rebirth as a human being on the earth in his 11th Rudra avatar in the form of Hanuman as He could not serve to the Lord Rama by being

in His real form. The whole Vanara community including all the human fraternity was happy and celebrated his birthday with great enthusiasm and joy by dancing, singing and lots of activities. From then, it was started celebrating as a Hanuman Jayanti by his devotees to get strength and wisdom like him.

PAGE SPONSORED BY

ARISH K. SAHANI

Serving Since 1972

Please Call or Write for Your Insurance Needs

Arish K Sahani (Father)

Shiv Sahani (Son)

Priya Sahani Sood (Daughter)

718 - 271 - 1906

arish.sahani@gmail.com



"If Hindus don't maintain Hinduism, who shall save it?"
"If India's own children don't cling to their faith, who shall guard it?"
"Indians alone can save India, and India and Hinduism are one."

One of the most auspicious festivals for the Jain community, Mahavir Jayanti marks the birth anniversary of Lord Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara of Jainism. This year, Mahavir Jayanti is being celebrated on April 17 to observe peace, harmony and to spread the teachings of Lord Mahavira.

Religious processions (rath yatra) are carried out on Mahavir Jayanti. Jain temples are decorated with flags, and offerings are given to the poor and needy. Jainism lays focus on world peace and harmony such that no or minimal harm is brought to living creatures. Hence, donations are also made in order to contribute towards saving animals from slaughter.

WHO IS LORD MAHAVIRA?

Lord Mahavira was born on the 13th day of waxing moon on the Chaitra month of Hindu calendar to King Siddhartha and Queen Trishala in Kundalagrama in Bihar. By the time he turned 30 years old, Lord Mahavira renounced his crown and spent 12 years in exile as an ascetic away from all worldly pleasures. He was also called Sage Vardhamana and preached non-violence (ahimsa).

He got his name for his exceptional control over his senses. Seeking truth and spiritual freedom, he went attained enlightenment (Nirvana) at the age of 72.

His birth date, however, is sometimes debatable among the Swetambar Jains, according to whom he was born in 599 BC, while the Digambar Jains believe he took birth in 615 BC.

Jains believe that Jainism is an eternal (sanatan) religion (dharma) with the tirthankaras guiding every cycle of the Jain cosmology. Parasparopagrahah Jivanam (the function of souls is to help one another) is the motto of Jainism, while ?amokara mantra is the most common and basic prayer in Jainism.

LIFE OF LORD MAHAVIRA

Lord Mahavira was born in royal Ikshvaku dynasty, to king Siddhartha and queen Trishala. Other Indian deities like Rama and Gautam Buddha also belonged to the same dynasty. Jains believe that their twenty one out of twenty four tirthankaras also belonged to the same dynasty.

Digambar Jains believe that the place of birth of Mahavir was in a village named Kundagrama, now in present day Vaishali district of eastern state of Bihar, where his mother gave birth to him in a seven storey palace known as Nandavarth palace. However, this claim conflicts the Swetambar Jains, who believe that Mahavir was born at a place called Kshatriyakund village. Never the less, both of these places were in Bihar and also there is no difference regarding Lord Mahavir's date of birth, which is, Chaitra Shukla 13 in 599 BC.

Lord Mahavir's child hood was spent in prosperity and abundance, as a prince. His parents were ardent devotees of twenty third tirthankara, Parshvanatha; this in fact had an influence on Mahaveera's personality. Swetambar Jains believe that he was married to Yashoda, and the couple also had a daughter, Priyadarshana; however, Digambaras challenge it and claim that he was never married.

Mahavir took to ascetic life at the age of thirty. He left his royal life and family, in search of spiritual awakening. He abandoned his clothes and underwent hard penance for twelve years before he attained Kevala Jnana (infinite knowledge and wisdom) at the age of forty two, under a sal tree, at the banks of Rijupalika River, at a place called Jrimbhikagrama located in modern day Bihar state.

After achieving infinite wisdom and knowledge, Mahaveera roamed throughout India to a number of places for thirty years to teach his philosophy. His disciples included

MAHAVIR JAYANTI

Mahavir Janma Kalyanak is one of the most important religious festivals for Jains. It celebrates the birth of Mahavir, the twenty-fourth and last Tirthankara of present Avasarpi



14000 male ascetics, 36000 nuns and half a million male, female followers.

There is no dispute among the two sects of Jainism regarding Mahaveera's date of birth; however, they both differ on his nirvana (death) date. Swetambar Jains believe that Mahavir died in 527 BC, while the Digambars believe that his death occurred in 468 BC. However, both the sects agree on Pawapuri in present day Bihar as the Mahavira's place of death.

LEGENDS OF LORD MAHAVIRA

There are various legends associated with the early as well as previous lives of Lord Mahaveera. Even there is a legend associated with his nirvana (death).

As per the ancient mythological legend of Jainism, Mahavira took 27th rebirths before he was born as Mahavira in the sixth century. He is believed to have taken birth as a resident of hell, a lion and also a God, before his birth as the twenty fourth tirthankara. Ancient Swetambara texts state that the embryo of Mahavira was first formed in a Brahmin woman and was transferred into the womb of Trishala, by Hari Naigameshin, the commander of Lord Indra's army.

Ancient texts on Jain tradition describe the occurrence of auspicious dreams to a mother, foretelling the birth of a child. Mahavira's mother Trishala too had a number of auspicious dreams, all signifying the birth of a great soul. However, Swetambara and Digambara sects believe that Trishala had fourteen and sixteen dreams respectively.

Another legend states that Lord Indra descended on earth to perform anointment

(abhisheka) of Mahavira at Sumeru Parvat when he took birth.

There is also a legend associated with the death of Mahavira; it states that, he was giving a sermon to thousands of his disciples at the town of Pawapuri in Nalanda district of eastern Bihar state. Sometimes during the night, when the disciples were fast asleep, Mahavira attained nirvana.

When the disciples got up in the morning, Mahavira was not to be found anywhere, rather his disciples found his nails and hairs, which they cremated. Today, Mahavira Jal Mandir stands at the place where Lord Mahavira attained nirvana.

TEACHINGS OF MAHAVIRA

Historians believed that the teachings of Mahavira were different in many ways than his contemporary Gautam Buddha. Teachings of Mahavira detailed a belief in soul while Gautam Buddha rejected such details. The ascetic teaching of Mahavira are considered to be more intense as well as his emphasis on ahimsa (non violence) is unparalleled to any other religion.

For the purpose of achieving spiritual peace and enlightenment, Mahavira, emphasized on taking five vows. They are ahimsa or non violence, Satya (truthfulness), Asteya (non stealing), Brahmacharya (chastity) and Aparigraha (non attachment).

In Indian traditions, Mahavira is considered the supreme preacher of ahimsa ever born. He taught that all living beings should live in harmony and no harm should be done on anyone be it human, animal or even insects. Mahavira preached that any bad

deed done in this life cycle will affect the next life. According to him enlightenment could only be achieved through practicing self restraint.

HOW IS MAHAVIR JAYANTI CELEBRATED?

Mahavira Jayanti is grandly celebrated with reverence to Mahavira, Jainism's twenty fourth tirthankara. A procession called Rath Yatra is carried out with the idol of Mahavira. Devotees recite bhajans and other religious rhymes in commemoration to Lord Mahavira. Next, the idol of Mahavira is anointed, this ceremony is called Abhisheka. Devotees visit Jain temples to worship and meditate and to listen to religious sermons.

The teachings of Mahavira laid much significance on Ahimsa, so to commemorate his teachings, an ahimsa walk is carried out, in which people display compassion and consideration towards each other as well as other living creatures.

Charity is also promoted and people donate food, money to the needy, or help in whatever way they can. The charity events differ from place to place and could range from individual donations to large community feasts or other similar events.

Large crowds of devotees throng to significant Jain temples all over India, more so, in the temples with an idol of lord Mahavira, for example – Dilwara temples near Mount Abu, Rajasthan; Palitana temples in Gujarat, Kulpakji Temple in Telangana, Sonagiri temples in Madhya Pradesh.

One of the major celebrations of Mahavir Jayanti takes place at the 17th century Hanumantal Jain temple in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. A considerably large procession is taken out from the temple on the birthday of Lord Mahavira.

Last but not the least; food also plays a significant role in any Jain festival. Devotees eat mostly fruits, nuts and vegetables, abstaining from garlic, onion and root vegetables.

SIGNIFICANCE

Lord Mahavira was a great spiritual teacher and the greatest advocate of Ahimsa or non violence. Even, Mahatma Gandhi, the great Indian freedom fighter and the champion of truth and non violence, had said that Lord Mahavira was the greatest advocate of truth and non violence, ever born. Remembering him and his teachings on his birthday, let the devotees reinstate faith in their religion and spiritual masters. The birthday of Lord Mahavira gets all more significant considering the fact that there are very few festivals in Jainism.

The celebration also gives a fair chance to other religions as well, to know Jainism deeply. People of other faiths, from across India and the world as well, get to know the sanctity of Jainism and admire it. The intense penance, meditation for twelve years by Mahavira to attain enlightenment, is an inspiration for millions of devotees, while facing everyday challenges, keeping them from deterring from the path of truth and non violence. Another most significant fact about Mahavira Jayanti is that, it promotes a sense of compassion towards the sufferings of other living beings and charity. Jain devotees donate money and other valuables to the needy, irrespective of caste or religion, implying the significance of good deeds and its rewards.

A.A. BEDDING

The Mattress People
Wholesale & Retail

143-02 94th Ave.
Jamaica NY 11435



Tel. 718-291-8101

Ask for Julio Caraballo
Salesman

Indian Visa Center

VISA / OCI PIO / PASSPORT
APPLICATION ASSISTANCE CENTER

349 S. Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

DEEPAK BANSAL

Email: deepakbansalny@gmail.com

Cell: 516.304.8808 Fax: 516.218.8009

The INDIAN PANORAMA
EVER TRUTHFUL

NEW YORK- DALLAS

MARKETING STAFF REQUIRED

We are looking for marketing persons for The Indian Panorama print editions and the web portal at a couple of locations which include Long Island, Queens, Manhattan and Buffalo in New York, Jersey City and Edison in New Jersey, Stamford in Connecticut, Atlanta in Georgia, Houston and Dallas in Texas, and Chicago in Illinois.

Persons with experience in newspaper reporting will be preferred.

The individual must be a person with experience in marketing and public relations, confident, independent and able to handle marketing on his/her own with minimum support from the management.

Compensation will be based on experience with up to 40% revenue created by the individual.

Anyone who would like to work with us part time and on the basis of revenue sharing may email to salujaindra@gmail.com or contact at 646-247-9458.

LADOO MATRIMONIAL

ਰਿਸ਼ੇ ਹੀ ਰਿਸ਼ੇ RISTHE HI RISTHE

We Provide Worldwide Services



Jetander Sapra

212-470-7175, 516-309-0236

ladoomatrimonial@gmail.com

jetandersapra@gmail.com

261-03, Hillside Ave, Floral Park-11004

www.ladoomatrimonial.com



Rohan Handa
Executive Partner
New York Life

Do you want to succeed in a very rewarding career?

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
IS HIRING

Do you want to capitalize on your ability to produce?

COME CHECK IT OUT!

CALL MR. ROHAN HANDA 718-286-1132 | 516-435-6120

Conveniently located at:
95-25 Queens Blvd., 4th Floor
Rego Park, N.Y. 11374



GROCERY

NEW YORK

J & P GUYANA W.I. GROCERY INC.

We carry a wide range of West Indian
Grocery at low prices

113-17 Liberty Avenue Richmond Hill, NY 11419

President: David Ramsawmy (Elvis)

PH# 718-925-0100

The EXPERIENCE

The INDIAN PANORAMA
EVER TRUTHFUL

The Indian Panorama brilliantly fuses content and commerce with unrivaled world-class editorial. Anytime, anywhere, any platform...



Your access to
**high-value
engaged
& focused
customers**

Advertise for as low as*
\$50*
Talk to us today.
Call us at 646 247 9458

900k+

ASIAN INDIANS in NEW YORK-
NEW JERSEY - DALLAS (DFW)

\$101,591
Average Household Income

The Indian Panorama is a South-Asian English newspaper with print editions in New York City, the Tristate area and now also as the first English Asian Newspaper from Dallas, printed weekly every Friday.

Bespoke CONTENT

contd from page 1**Mueller probe found...**

Briefing reporters on the details of the recently concluded Mueller investigations, a copy of which was now headed to the Congress and a redacted version also being made public, Barr said the report makes clear, the Russian government sought to interfere in American elections.

"But thanks to the special counsel's thorough investigation, we now know that the Russian operatives who perpetrated these schemes did not have the cooperation of President Trump or the Trump campaign - or the knowing assistance of any other Americans for that matter. That is something that all Americans can and should be grateful to have confirmed," he said.

Commenting on the 448-page report, Trump said Russia probe was a "hoax".

"No collusion, no obstruction," Trump said. "There never was, by the way, and there never will be. And we do have to get to the bottom of these things...This hoax. It should never happen to another president again."

The report details efforts by the Internet Research Agency, a Russian company with close ties to the Russian government, to sow social discord among American voters through disinformation and social media operations.

Following a thorough investigation of this disinformation campaign, Mueller brought charges in federal court against several Russian nationals and entities for their respective roles in this scheme. Those charges remain pending, and the individual defendants remain at large, Barr said.

"But the special counsel found no evidence that any Americans - including anyone associated with the Trump campaign - conspired or coordinated with the Russian government or the IRA in carrying out this illegal scheme," he said.

The report details efforts by Russian military officials associated with the GRU (Russian intelligence agency) to hack into computers and steal documents and emails from individuals affiliated with the Democratic Party and the presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton for the purpose of eventually publicizing those emails, he said.

Asserting that obtaining such unauthorized access into computers is a federal crime, he said following a thorough investigation of these hacking operations, Mueller brought charges in federal court against several Russian military officers for their respective roles in these illegal hacking activities.

"But again...there was no evidence of Trump campaign 'collusion' with the Russian government's hacking," Barr said.

Barr said after nearly two years of investigation, thousands of subpoenas, and hundreds of warrants and witness interviews, Mueller confirmed that the Russian government sponsored efforts to illegally interfere with the 2016 presidential election but did not find that the Trump campaign or other Americans colluded in those schemes.

"After finding no underlying collusion with Russia, the special counsel's report goes on to consider whether certain

actions of the President could amount to obstruction of the special counsel's investigation," he said.

Mueller "did not make a traditional prosecutorial judgment regarding this allegation. Instead, the report recounts 10 episodes involving the President and discusses potential legal theories for connecting these actions to elements of an obstruction offence," he said.

"After carefully reviewing the facts and legal theories outlined in the report, and in consultation with the Office of Legal Counsel and other Department lawyers, the Deputy Attorney General and I concluded that the evidence developed by the special counsel is not sufficient to establish that the President committed an obstruction-of-justice offense," Barr said.

Barr said Mueller acknowledges that there is substantial evidence to show that the President was frustrated and angered by a sincere belief that the investigation was undermining his presidency, propelled by his political opponents, and fueled by illegal leaks.

"Nonetheless, the White House fully cooperated with the special counsel's investigation, providing unfettered access to campaign and White House documents, directing senior aides to testify freely, and asserting no privilege claims," he said.

"And at the same time, the President took no act that in fact deprived the special counsel of the documents and witnesses necessary to complete his investigation," he said.

Mueller was chosen to head the investigation in 2017 following concerns from US intelligence agencies that Russia had tried to tip the election in Trump's favour.

Earlier on Thursday, President Trump said the Mueller probe was "Greatest Political Hoax of all time!"

"Crimes were committed by Crooked, Dirty Cops and DNC/The Democrats," tweeted Trump, who refers Clinton as "Crooked".

Meanwhile, Democratic Congressman Jerry Nadler said he has sent a letter to Mueller - requiring his testimony before the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee by May 23.

"We cannot take Attorney General Barr's word for it. We must read the full Mueller report, and the underlying evidence," Nadler said. (*Source: PTI*)

N Korea demands...talks

official Kwon Jong Gun as warning that no one could predict the situation on the Korean peninsula if the United States did not abandon the "root cause" that compelled North Korea to develop nuclear weapons.

The statement came shortly after North Korea announced that leader Kim Jong Un had overseen the testing of a new tactical guided weapon, which KCNA said has a "peculiar mode of guiding flight" and "a powerful warhead".

It was the North's first weapon test since talks in Vietnam between Kim and US President Donald Trump in late February broke down over conflicting demands by North Korea for sanctions relief and by the United States for North Korea to abandon its nuclear program.

KCNA gave no details on the weapon

that was tested on Wednesday but "tactical" implied a short-range weapon rather than the long-range ballistic missiles that have been seen as a threat to the United States.

KCNA quoted Kwon, who is in charge of US affairs, as saying the Vietnam summit, the second between the two leaders, showed that talks could go wrong "whenever Pompeo pokes his nose in".

"I am afraid that, if Pompeo engages in the talks again, the table will be lousy once again and the talks will become entangled," Kwon said.

"Therefore, even in the case of possible resumption of the dialogue with the United States, I wish our dialogue counterpart would be not Pompeo but other person who is more careful and mature in communicating with us."

While Kwon did not elaborate on why North Korea felt compelled to develop nuclear weapons, it has long spoken of the need to defend itself from what it sees as US aggression.

Kim said last week said the breakdown in talks risked reviving tensions and he gave a year-end deadline for the United States to change its attitude.

Despite the failure of the Vietnam summit, Trump has stressed his good relationship with Kim.

Kwon also said the two leaders were on good terms, even as he castigated Pompeo for "fabricated" stories as part of a "publicity stunt". He did not elaborate.

Kwon said Pompeo had made "reckless remarks hurting the dignity of our supreme leadership", apparently referring to him agreeing to the characterization of Kim as a "tyrant" at a US Congressional hearing last week.

(Source: Agencies)

contd from page 3

Arijit Singh Dazzles...

Arijit has become a legend at a young age and with his band has been creating new records in last six years since he started work tours. Now with a group of world musicians, Arijit has scaled new heights. He is touring USA since April 5th and had equally sold out shows in Seattle, SFO, LA, and Houston in a twelve cities tour under the banner of Bright Brains as national promoters.

The show business seems to have taken a new leap as the concert was budgeted at more than a million dollars. This is a record for any Indian music and entertainment concert ever.

Promoters said, "We both were clear that we have to pull all stops to make it financially viable. And we designed a sales and marketing strategy where fans won't stop and buy at a higher price to see their favorite singer. Besides this show will attract groups together which will allow for a higher ticket pricing. The core strategy was to market aggressively and create the hype. And we sensed it very early when we had 50% sales within four weeks which is never heard of in this business.

And we became confident of our approach. which worked". Said Hali who is in a pioneer in the field of media, entertainment and marketing with more than twenty-five years of experience. He has produced blockbuster productions including Bollywood Awards in 2000, The Music Festival of India in 1997, Miss



A day of fulfillment for promoters Sunil Hali and Kulbhushen Chopra and co-promoter Seema Chopra

Indian Worldwide in 1999, Zee Double wicket cricket championship in 2001 and Indian and American Achiever awards in 2007 amongst many others. Hali has launched many leading media in all formats that includes newspapers, television channels and radio. "We divided our work and went about it with single focus. Kulbhushen focused in the back end and I focused on marketing and sales. Our bond for almost four decades, focus and collective thinking helped in making the show a history" said Hali.

Prudential rocked with almost 12,000 fans from 8 pm till 1120 pm when Arijit sang his songs. The audience sang with him and never stopped dancing. It was an ocean of people inside the arena. One of the highlights of the concert presentation was a 1st time LED wrist band which was on every chair for fans to wear. That made the arena look so beautiful as fans waved their hands in dark background. It was "Sky filled stars" inside the arena, a moment to capture with every camera. Arijit Singh charisma has been growing year after year and his fans cut across all age barriers. From fourteen to eight four years old, fans just love him. His unassuming outlook, simplicity and a fluid voice with songs that are based on romance and love primarily have made him worldwide super singer. At a young age, he has built a fans base that is growing, and he has along way to go.

The tour continues thru multiple cities ahead with similar expectations of "Sold Out". (*Based on a press release issued by Sunil Hali*)

Sea of Colors at Times...

Deputy Consul General of India in New York Shatrughna Sinha said the Consulate is commemorating the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak with Gurbani recital programs.

As part of the commemoration of Guru Nanak's 550th birth anniversary as well as to mark Baisakhi, this year the Consulate associated with The Sikhs of NY on Turban Day, Mr Sinha said.

"This is a great environment and ambience and the crowd is fantastic," Mr Sinha said, sporting a blue turban as he took part in the commemoration.

*(Read full story on
www.theindianpanorama.news)*

EXPLORE THE BEACHES OF ANDHRA PRADESH

You can dig your feet in the sand at any given beach in Andhra Pradesh, but making it to the best beaches is a whole new experience. Some of the beaches are rich in culture, history, water sports, exotic food and the works to keep you busy, that you'll end up soaking plenty of Vitamin D without realising how the hours passed so effortlessly. Whatever be your agenda to visit a beach, these shores are good for the quiet-types and groups alike.

Baruva

This beach in the Srikakulam district is situated near the confluence of the Mahendra Tanaya river and the Bay of Bengal sea. Do not miss the sunrise and sunset moments. There is also a lighthouse here and a few old temples here. Not far from Sompeta town, it is not much known beyond the state. You can approach Baruva from Brahmapur (70km away) in neighbouring Odisha.

Bheemunipatnam

Popularly known as Bheemili, this is a town with many historical associations. The town lies at the confluence of the Gosthani River with the Bay of Bengal. Only 20km from Vishakhapatnam city (Vizag), it is a sprawling lonely beach. Carry drinking water and snacks.

Manginapudi

About 75km away from Vijaywada, and near Machilipatnam town, this is one of the popular beaches of Andhra Pradesh and can be quite crowded during holidays. In the morning, you can watch the fishermen bringing in their catch from the sea. Bathing in the sea is discouraged after the beach was devastated during the 2004 tsunami. Chilakalapudi village near the beach is known for its imitation jewellery business.

Mypadu

Located about 25km away from Nellore city, Mypadu beach is one Andhra's most picturesque beaches. The tree-lined golden sandy beach slips into the blue waters of the Bay of Bengal sea. Bask in the sun or bathe in the sea or take walk along the beach; round up your visit with a snack break at the beachside stalls. The speedboats are the newest addition.

Ramakrishna Beach

Located on the seaward end of Vizag city,



this is one of the most popular and hence crowded beaches of the state. It takes its name from the Ramakrishna Mission and the Kali Temple across the road from the beach. The food vendors are almost all over the beach. Part of the beach is rocky and one has to be careful here. The rock jutting into the sea at a distance is called the Dolphin's Nose because of its shape.

Rushikonda

Located on the outskirts of Vishakhapatnam, about 8km away from the main city, beach is also very popular and junk piles are not uncommon. The state tourism is promoting water sports activities here. Besides taking a ride in the speedboats, you can water ski, windsurf, etc. Since this beach is a little away from town, most visitors leave by late evening.

Suryalanka

Located in Guntur district, near Bapatla (50km away from Guntur city), this little known beach is not yet on the regular tourist

circuit though local people flock to the beach during weekends.

Thummalapenta

Shaded by palm groves, the beach dips into the gentle sea. The beach is located near Kavali town in Nellore district. Local people come for a dip especially during Karthika pournami and other religious festivals.

Uppada

One of the lesser known beaches, it is located about 5km away from Kakinada town. Apart from the sprawling beach, the nearby parks and eateries make this place a popular family getaway. Go swimming or join the local people playing cricket or football on the beach.

Vodarevu

Nearly 6km away from Chirala (100km from Vijaywada), this beach is not much known beyond the state. Walk through the coconut groves to reach the yellow sand beach. Catch the sunrise or the sunset at the beach. The

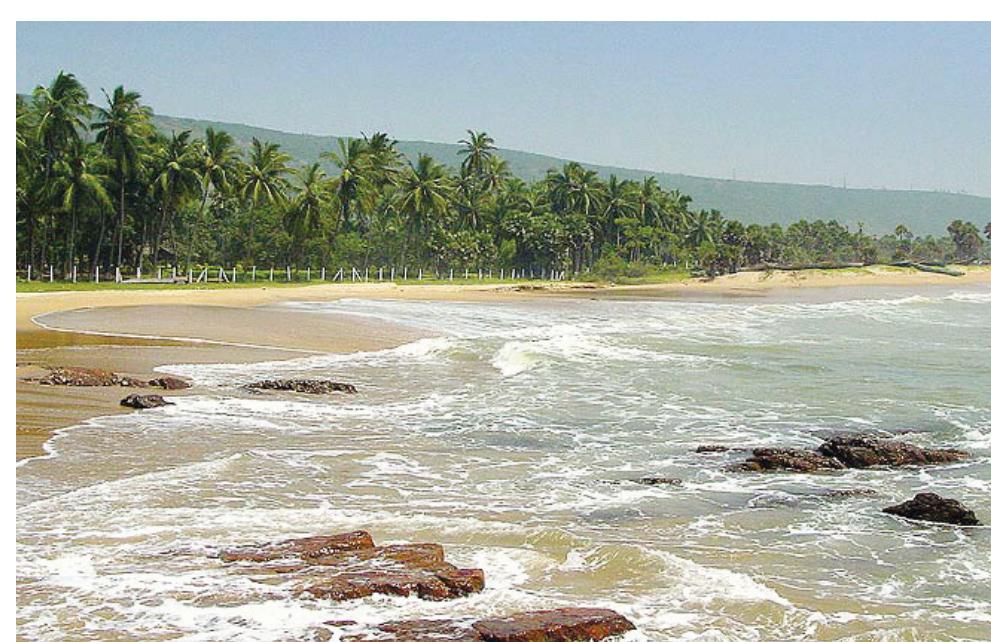
beach lies at the edge of a fishing village. During early morning and evening, as the fishing boats come in with their catch, the beach becomes noisy as people unload the fish, auction them and the fish are carried away by the buyers. Some of the fishing boats can also take you on a jaunty ride in the sea; negotiate the rate first.

Vakalapudi

Also near Kakinada town, the beach has been renamed as NTR Beach. Besides enjoying the uncrowded beach, you can also explore the mangrove forest here. The annual Kakinada Beach Festival is also held here.

Yarada

Located about 15km away from Vizag town, this lonely beach is best visited on weekends when there are local visitors around. Apparently this is a private beach and you have to pay an entry fee. Arrange for transport as this is an off route destination. According to latest visitor reports, the road to Yarada is bad in patches.



Excluded from India World Cup squad, Pant, Rayudu, Saini named standbys



NEW DELHI (TIP): Young wicket-keeper Rishabh Pant and middle order batsman Ambati Rayudu were on Wednesday named among the standbys for India's World Cup squad, reigniting their dashed hopes of making the trip to the UK in case an injury setback hits Indian cricket team. Speedster Navdeep Saini also found a place in the list of three backups for ICC cricket World Cup 2019, starting on May 30.

Pant and Rayudu's exclusion from the squad of 15 had created quite a stir on Monday. While Sunil Gavaskar called Pant's omission surprising, the snub to Rayudu was questioned by Gautam Gambhir. With the ICC doing away with the practice of letting countries announce a probables' list before the final squad, the BCCI also has the option of including anyone apart from these three but it is unlikely to happen.

"Just like ICC Champions Trophy, we have three standbys. Rishabh Pant and Ambati Rayudu are the first and second standbys while Saini is the bowler in the list. So if anyone gets injured, as per requirement, one of the three will be going," a senior BCCI official told PTI on Wednesday. Rayudu took to Twitter to take a dig at his omission from the squad of 15 on Tuesday. "Just Ordered a new set of 3d glasses to watch the world cup," Rayudu wrote on his twitter handle Tuesday.

This was after chairman of selectors MSK Prasad justified preferring Vijay Shankar over Rayudu, citing the former's "three-dimensional qualities".

While Khaleel Ahmed, Avesh Khan and Deepak Chahar will be travelling with the team purely as net bowlers, they can also be drafted in if the management feels so. "Khaleel, Avesh and Deepak are not designated standbys. In case of bowlers, that possibility is there but when it comes purely to batsmen, it will

SEVEN FIRST-TIMERS IN THE INDIAN TEAM

KL Rahul

He returned to the Indian team after a stunning IPL season for Kings XI Punjab in 2018 but lost his way soon. After being dropped from the Test team following a string of poor scores in Australia, KL Rahul was primed to play the 3-match ODIs when the Koffee with Karan storm threatened to rock his career. However, KL Rahul returned to the Indian team for the home series against Australia and did well in both the T20Is.

Vijay Shankar

In the Nidahas Trophy final against Bangladesh, Vijay Shankar failed to put bat to ball in a tense chase before Dinesh Karthik bailed the team out with a stunning assault. A year later, Vijay Shankar flew out to Australia as replacement for Hardik Pandya who was banned in the aftermath of the Koffee with Karan controversy.

Kedar Jadhav

Kedar Jadhav has been a solid middle-order batsman and his part-time off spin has broken several threatening partnerships. He may not get to bowl as much in England but if the pitches are dry, Jadhav can be called upon to deliver with his slingy action.

Hardik Pandya

He had every reason to be worried about his immediate future after his sexist comments on Koffee with Karan. But once the suspension was lifted, he went to New Zealand and made a strong impact.

Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav

No surprises there either. After the Champions Trophy in England 2 years ago, India's focus shifted to wrist spin. R Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja were phased out and both Chahal and Kuldeep showed they could be trusted do to the job. The two leg-spinners had a great time in South Africa where India won the ODI series 5-1.

Jasprit Bumrah

India's greatest strength in the bowling department. Jasprit Bumrah's selection in the World Cup squad was a no-brainer. He was spotted by John Wright when he was out on a talent scouting mission for Mumbai Indians a few years ago. Today, Bumrah is the No.1 ODI bowler in the world and is reliable with both new and old ball.

be either Rishabh or Rayudu," the official said. In other developments, there will be no Yo-Yo Test for the World Cup-bound players as the IPL is going to end only on May 12, just a few days before India head to the UK. India are scheduled to play

their opening World Cup match on June 5 against South Africa in Southampton.

"The players are already in the middle of a gruelling T20 season. Once the IPL ends, they will need recovery time."

Source: PTI



FORMER WORLD NO. 1 ARANTXA SANCHEZ VICARIO WILL BE INTERNATIONAL EVENT AMBASSADOR FOR TCSW10K BENGALURU

Bengaluru (TIP): In the quest to keep raising the profile of the event, Procam International, promoters of the IAAF Gold Label Tata Consultancy Services World 10K Bengaluru, the world's premier 10K run, announced former women's World No. 1 tennis player Arantxa Sanchez Vicario as the International Event Ambassador.

The Spanish legend who accumulated 14 Grand Slam titles - four singles, six doubles, and four mixed doubles is considered to be one of the most decorated Olympians in Spanish history winning four medals (two silver, two bronze). At just 17, she reached the 1989 French Open final facing world No. 1 and two-time defending champion Steffi Graf. But she stunned one and all, and announced her arrival on the pro circuit, beating the German to win her first ever Grand Slam, becoming the youngest player ever to win the French Open.

She was the first Spanish player to simultaneously be ranked as the world's No. 1 player in both singles and doubles during career. For her sheer tenacity and refusal to concede a point, Arantxa was nicknamed as the 'Barcelona Bumblebee'.

A stellar 17-year career saw her becoming the first Spanish woman player to be inducted in the International Tennis Hall of Fame. When she lands in Bengaluru for the event, she will encourage the 25,000 runners of Tata Consultancy Services World 10K Bengaluru through her story of determination and never-say-die-attitude. "Running has played an important part in my career and I think it is the easiest way to keep your mind and body sound. Sport has the ability to connect communities beyond the competitive spirit, and instill a sense of pride amongst all and celebrate accomplishments. Running has managed to do just that. It is exciting that my association with India begins with the TCS World 10K in Bengaluru. I am glad to be there on the start line with all the runners and enjoy the infectious energy on race day," said the former world no 1.

After retiring from competitive tennis in 2002, Arantxa has been involved in multiple causes including as a Celebrity Chairperson of Children's Cancer Research in Spain and Foundation Sanchez-Vicario. In 2015, she tried her hand at coaching helping Caroline Wozniacki a former world no. 1 herself.

Speaking on Arantxa Sanchez Vicario's association with the run as the International Event Ambassador, Vivek Singh, Joint Managing Director of Procam International, said "Arantxa is one of the most revered tennis players of all time and we are grateful that she joins us for the 12th edition of Tata Consultancy Services World 10K Bengaluru. As an athlete, she was known for her unceasing quest to retrieve the tennis ball for every point she played. That grit and determination resonates with endurance sport and the spirit of going the distance. Her presence will inspire many of our runners and we take great pride in having her as the International Event Ambassador for this edition."

For the past 12 years, Bengaluru has played a proud host to the world's premier 10K with over 25,000 participants across categories. The event has received international applause for its formidable elite field and mass participation and a global showcase of the indomitable sporting spirit of Bengaluru.

Apart from being a globally acclaimed sporting event, the TCS World 10K has created a phenomenal impact in terms of social change and established itself as one of the largest platforms for charity in India. Today, the event is a celebration of pride for each participant, as well as the sporting community as a whole.

Now the number 1 News Publication for Indian Americans

Opinio's technology helped increase interaction, engagement and monetization for The Indian Panorama.

OPINIO

* Source - Alexa
Comparison between web visibility - NY NJ Newspapers

BUSINESS GROWTH THROUGH DIGITAL MARKETING

Time Is Money, What's your time Really Worth?

WEB DESIGN

ORGANIC SEO

DIGITAL MARKETING

TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Got questions? We have answers! ?
opiniomedia.com  just great, simple tech!

care@opiniomedia.com

Simplify your marketing with Opinio Media™

IT'S NOT WHAT BRANDS SAY, IT'S WHAT PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT MATTERS

INTELLIGENCE FOR TOMORROW

OPINION DEVELOPMENT

DIGITAL EVOLUTION

PLANS STARTING \$49/MONTH

Starter

\$49
per month

Premium

\$99
per month

Pro

\$199
per month

THE SCIENCE OF SOCIAL PR & BRANDING



Let's Talk.

Call us now @ 646-431-4064
Ask for Jack at 631-428-9081

OPINIO MEDIA, INC | 124 DEAN STREET, HICKSVILLE, NY 11801

A&K GROUP

41-22 75th Street Elmhurst NY 11373
Offices: (718) 806-1177 (718) 806-1373 or (929) 300-5885
Fax: (718) 806-1353 **Email:** akcon.inc@gmail.com
We speak: English, Spanish, Korean, Urdu, Hindi, & Punjabi
www.akgroupusa.com (Korean Company)

A & K Group has been involved in more than 300 construction projects, both small and large, including the renovation of the Korean Consulate Office in New York. We offer quality services you can trust and are leaders in our field, including innovative ideas to fit your needs of your business. A&K Group will provide experienced and quality support in furthering your business and to help increase the value of your brand.



At AK Construction, we provide various types of remodeling, expanding, and building.
 Our architects can help you design the house of your dreams.



A&K Interior Construction is dedicated to creating luxurious interior layouts for residential, restaurant, supermarkets, and offices at a competitive price.



A&K Interior Design is committed to achieving the highest level of design and beauty.

At A&K Development, we develop in order to enhance the value of your property.

NY A&K international

Wholesale fresh and high-quality Ecuadorian Seafood at a good price
www.freshfishcuador.com.ec
www.freshfishcuador.com.ec/camaron-shrimp/



At NY A&K international, we will directly deliver fresh frozen tuna, shrimp, octopus, and canned tuna to our customer from Ecuador at resonable price.

41-22 75th Street Elmhurst NY 11373

Offices: (929) 300-5885 **Fax:** (718) 806-1353

We speak: English, Spanish, Korean, Urdu, Hindi, & Punjabi

Website: www.akgroupusa.com/seafood
E-mail: akgroup.usa.ny@gmail.com