



**Pompeo declines to sign risky peace deal with Taliban: Report**



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo did not favor the terms of the peace deal.

(File photo)

WASHINGTON (TIP): US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has refused to sign the peace deal that his special representative has inked with the Taliban, mainly because it does not guarantee the continued presence of US forces in the country to defeat al-Qaeda or the existence of the democratically elected government,

contd on page 20



The 9/11 Nightmare Page 14

**India, Russia begin 'new era' of cooperation in Indo-Pacific region: Modi**

VLADIVOSTOK (TIP): India and Russia are beginning a new era of cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region to make it "open, free and inclusive", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday, September 5, amidst China flexing its military muscles in the strategic region.

Addressing the plenary session of the 5th Eastern Economic Forum here, Prime Minister Modi said, "When ships will start plying between Vladivostok and Chennai with the opening of the maritime routes between the two cities, the Russian port city will become the springboard of northeast Asia market in India. This will further deepen the Indo-Russia partnership."

contd on page 20

A Memorandum of Intent was signed on Wednesday, September 4, between India and Russia for the development of maritime communications between the ports of Chennai and Vladivostok.

Image / Twitter @narendramodi



*Half-truths, untruths being peddled by US Media on J&K: Ambassador Shringla*

BIDISHA ROY



India's Ambassador to the US Harsh Vardhan Shringla has decried the tendency of US media to peddle incorrect information regarding the Indian State of Jammu & Kashmir

WASHINGTON (TIP): Half-truths, untruths, factually incorrect information is being disseminated in the US media regarding the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir, said India's Ambassador to the United States Harsh Vardhan Shringla.

Ambassador Shringla made the comments in a podcast on Sept 3 and spoke on changing the paradigm in India's Jammu & Kashmir - from cross-border terrorism and radicalization to jobs, inclusive development and a

hope for peace. "Over the past few weeks we have seen a great deal of speculation, some pedaling of half-truths, untruths,

contd on page 20

**400 million Facebook users' phone numbers exposed in privacy lapse: Reports**

WASHINGTON (TIP): Phone numbers linked to more than 400 million Facebook accounts were listed online in the latest privacy lapse for the social media giant, US media reported on Wednesday, September 4.



An exposed server stored 419 million records on users across several databases-including 133 million US accounts, more than 50 million in Vietnam, and 18 million in Britain, according to technology news site TechCrunch. The databases listed Facebook user IDs-unique digits attached to each account-the profiles' phone numbers,

contd on page 20

**British Parliament blocks no-deal Brexit prompting PM Johnson to push for new elections**

LONDON (TIP): British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was on Thursday, September 5, kicking off what is in effect an election campaign, casting an alliance of opposition parties trying to block a 'no-deal' Brexit as defeatists surrendering to the European Union.



Johnson, the face of the 2016 Vote Leave campaign, has pushed for an election on October 15, two weeks before the United Kingdom is due to leave the EU

As the United Kingdom spins towards an election, Brexit remains up in the air more than three years after Britons voted to leave the bloc in a 2016 referendum.

Options range from a turbulent 'no-deal' exit to abandoning the whole endeavor. After wresting control of the Lower House of Parliament on Wednesday,

contd on page 20

*Pioneer of Indian Sustainable Fashion Comes to Texas*

DALLAS (TIP): Pioneer of India's Sustainable Fashion designer Anita Dongre brings her latest collection of bridal couture, menswear, ready-to-wear women's wear and silver jewelry to Houston and Dallas on September 14 and 15, respectively.

Anita is best known as the fashion designer who pays homage to the supreme craftsmanship of India through her designs, while uplifting

women artisans to create beautiful tomorrows for the planet and its people. She Dongre is the first Indian designer to have her own stores in the United States. The Anita Dongre store in New York occupies three floors of a 1900s brownstone building in the prime address of 473 West Broadway and follows the opening of the Anita Dongre flagship store back in 2017, which is located on SoHo's trendy

Broome Street.

The prominent designer has dressed everyone from Beyonce to Kate Middleton to Hillary Clinton to Priyanka Chopra. Dongre is often referred to in fashion circles as the "queen of prêt", and largely draws inspiration from the embellishment styles and needlework made famous by the northern Indian state of Rajasthan.

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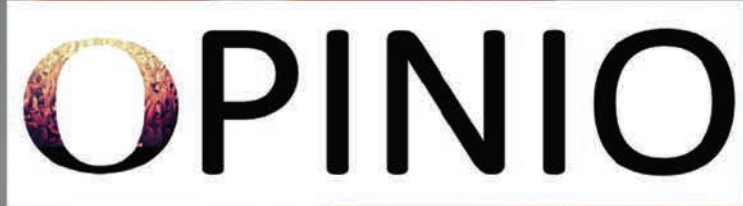


Dongre is the first Indian designer to have her own stores in the United States



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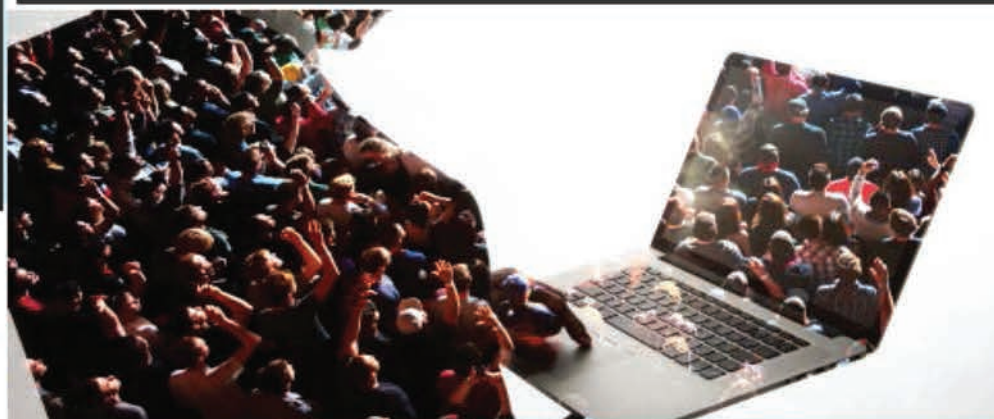
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# Indian Students Drowned at Turner Falls in Oklahoma

**OKLAHOMA (TIP):** Two Indian students have drowned at a popular tourist destination in Oklahoma, according to a media report.

The two students, 23-year-old Ajay Kumar Koyalamudi and 22-year-old Teja Koushik Voleti, who were international students at the University of Texas at Arlington died on Sept 3 at Turner Falls in Oklahoma.

According to media report, Ajay Kumar, a resident of Sindhanur Taluk in Raichur, jumped into the water body to save his friend Voleti, a native of Ongole, and in the process, both drowned.

Ajay, who was studying Construction Engineering Management, had left for Texas in December 2018 after completing his Bachelor of Civil Engineering at New Horizon College of Engineering in Bengaluru's Marathalli.

Teja was an engineering student who had completed his Bachelor's degree from Anna University, Chennai. According to reports, Teja hails from Ongole in Andhra Pradesh. He was



23-year-old Ajay Kumar Koyalamudi, a native of Raichur's Sindhanur and 22-year-old Teja Koushik Voleti, a native of Ongole, drowned at Turner Falls in Oklahoma on Sept 3.

pursuing a master's degree in Electrical, Electronics and Communications Engineering at the University of Texas at Arlington.

## Indian American Couple believed to have died in California Boat Fire



Image credit: facebook.com/Sanjeeri Deopujari  
Kaustubh Nirmal, who worked in a finance company in the USA and his wife Sanjeeri Deopujari, a dentist, were on board the ill-fated boat

**SAN FRANCISCO (TIP):** An Indian American couple is believed to among those who have died in a boat fire that took place off Santa Cruz island in California on Sept 2 morning.

According to media report, Kaustubh Nirmal, who worked in a finance company in the USA and his wife Sanjeeri Deopujari, a dentist, were on board the ill-fated boat, which caught fire and sank off the California coast. As many as 34 people died after the boat caught fire. The ship carried 33 passengers and 6 crewmembers, and only five of the crew sleeping on the top deck were able to escape by jumping off and taking a small boat to safety.

## Indian Scientist Part of UPenn Team that innovates new brain monitoring technology

**NEW YORK (TIP):** Pennneuroscientist Michael Platt and postdoc Arjun Ramakrishnan have created a tool to use outside the lab, a wearable technology that monitors brain activity and sends back data without benching a player or asking a trucker to pull over.

The platform is akin to a Fitbit for the brain, with a set of silicon and silver nanowire sensors embedded into a head covering like a headband, helmet, or cap. The device, a portable electroencephalogram (EEG), is intentionally unobtrusive to allow for extended wear, and, on the backend, powerful algorithms decode the brain signals the sensors collect. Though it's still in the early stages, the technology has potential applications from health care to sports performance and customer engagement.

In early 2017, they decided to build their own portable EEG, getting a boost from a National Science Foundation-funded seed grant allocated by Penn's



Arjun Ramakrishnan is a postdoctoral researcher in the Platt Labs

Singh Center for Nanotechnology.

Platt and Ramakrishnan began talking with PCI Ventures, a branch of the Penn Center for Innovation aimed at guiding University faculty through the process of starting a company. The licensing team

at PCI helped them file a provisional patent for the product (originally called NanoNeuroScope), and Cogwear, LLC, was born in May 2018.

(Source - Upenn.edu)

## Indian American Princeton Student Wins Slavin Fellowship for Work in Entrepreneurship



Rohan Shah is a molecular biology major in the Class of 2020 at Princeton.

Photo / courtesy Princeton

**PRINCETON, NJ (TIP):** The Slavin Family Foundation awarded Rohan Shah, a molecular biology major in the Class of 2020 at Princeton, with Slavin Fellowships for his work in entrepreneurship on campus and beyond. He is among 26 global recipients of the Slavin Fellowships. The Slavin Fellowship offers mentorship, support and a grant to a limited number of undergraduate and graduate students pursuing entrepreneurial projects. "Fellows span fields from tech to life science and materials science to fashion and the arts, and now include Thiel Fellows, Schwarzman Scholars, and winners of other international awards and competitions," said Nick Slavin, chairman, Slavin Family Foundation. Shah is a co-founder of Alimtas BioVentures, a student organization working with the University's Office of Technology Licensing to spin out new life science ventures. (Read full story on www.theindianpanorama.news)

## Indian Origin Realtor from Queens Sentenced up to 6 Years for Duping Home Buyers

**NEW YORK (TIP):** A Queens resident has been convicted on charges of larceny and scheme to defraud. The 53-year-old has been sentenced up to six years in prison for stealing nearly USD 600,000 in payments from prospective home buyers.

Queens Acting District Attorney John M. Ryan announced Aug 30 that a former licensed real estate salesperson living in Richmond Hill, Queens, has been sentenced to up to 6 years in prison for stealing nearly \$600,000 in payments from prospective homeowners for the purported "short sale" of several Queens and Brooklyn properties in 2015.

(Read full story on www.theindianpanorama.news)

## Indian Americans die after car crash off Sawgrass Expressway in Florida

**ORLANDO, FL (TIP):** Three Indian origin people were killed after the vehicle they were riding in crashed into a lake and became submerged in Florida's Deerfield Beach Sept 3, according to media reports.

The victims were identified as 47-year-old Boby Matthew, his wife 41-year-old Dolly Matthew, and 16-year-old son Steve Manoj, all from Coral Springs. The crash happened on the Sawgrass Expressway near the northbound Florida Turnpike ramp. When fire rescue crews responded, the vehicle was submerged in the lake about 20 yards from the roadway.

The Florida Highway Patrol is investigating the cause of the crash.



## US judge rules terrorism watch list violates constitutional rights: NYT

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** A US judge ruled on Wednesday that a federal government database of people identified as "known or suspected terrorists" violates the constitutional rights of those placed on the watchlist, the New York Times reported.

Several thousand US citizens are among the more than 1 million people on the list, which can keep people off planes and block them from entering the United States. The list is maintained by the FBI's Terrorism Screening Center.

US District Court Judge Anthony Trenga of the Eastern District of Virginia ruled in favor of 19 Muslim US citizens who challenged the watchlist, the Times said.

Trenga granted them summary judgment, although he stopped short of saying what should happen next, asking the US Department of Justice and the lawyers for the plaintiffs to submit briefings on that topic, the Times reported.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

(Source: Agencies)

# US, China to resume trade talks in October to end trade war

**BEIJING (TIP):** China and the US have agreed to hold the next round of trade negotiations in Washington in early October to end the bruising trade war following an agreement that both sides will jointly take concrete actions to create favorable conditions for the talks, Chinese officials said here on Thursday, September 5.

Twelve rounds of talks so far have failed to make a headway as China continued to resist US President Donald Trump's demand for an intrusive verification mechanism to supervise Beijing's promise to protect intellectual property rights (IPR) technology transfer and more access to American goods for the Chinese markets.

Trump kicked off the trade war in June last year demanding China to reduce the massive trade deficit which last year climbed to over USD 539 billion. Both the countries slapped additional tariffs on each other's goods which also resulted in global trade and economic slowdown.

China itself is grappling with the slowdown of its economy which touched a 27-year low of 6.2 per cent in the second quarter of this year.

Chinese and American chief trade negotiators agreed on Thursday to



U.S. President Donald Trump and China's President Xi Jinping

File photo

jointly take concrete actions to create favorable conditions for further consultations in October, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

No specific date has been mentioned for the talks.

The agreement was reached in a phone conversation between Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, who is China's chief

negotiator and US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. The two sides agreed to hold the 13th round of China-US high-level economic and trade consultations in early October in Washington and maintain close communication before that, Xinhua reported. **(Read full story on [www.theindianpanorama.news](http://www.theindianpanorama.news))**

# Facebook launches dating services in U.S.

**SAN FRANCISCO (TIP):** Facebook Dating, a matchmaking service the company already offers in Brazil, Canada and 17 other countries, arrives in the U.S. on September 5. But after years of privacy missteps by the social network, will people trust it with their love lives?

For a company that's also developing its own digital currency and dabbling in e-commerce, love is another step toward reaching into all aspects of human existence. Although many features resemble what other matchmaking services offer, Facebook's version promises to be different, just as Tinder did before it with its swipe action and Bumble with its female-first messaging. Your Facebook Dating profile will be separate from your main one, but it will tap existing features such as events and groups, as well as your network of friends to identify "secret crushes".

Facebook Dating, while being free to use and free of ads, can still help Facebook make money if it keeps people glued to its other services longer.

That's if users can get over concerns about privacy.

"A feature on Facebook that people don't trust isn't going to be successful," said Rob Sherman, the company's deputy chief privacy officer. "We built in privacy from the ground up." Tell that to Seth Carter, 32, an engineer from Terre Haute, Indiana, who tried a host of dating apps ranging from Match to Bumble, Tinder



and Christian Mingle prior to his current relationship. "Facebook is here to make money and I get that," he said. But he worries that Facebook's stated commitment to privacy would ultimately buckle under pressure to make money off the service. "That likely means they're going to sell my dating preferences, which means even more intrusions into my life." Facebook says it won't be doing any of that. But users like Mr. Carter can hardly be blamed for their apprehension, given the company's multiple stumbles over protecting people's private information. Facebook was fined a record \$5 billion this summer by the Federal Trade Commission over privacy violations. It's also under scrutiny for allowing for the spread of election-related misinformation and discrimination in U.S. housing ads.

Facebook Dating comes as the popularity of online dating grows - In 2016, 15% of all U.S. adults said they had used online dating services, up from virtually none in 2005, according to the Pew Research Center.

From old school sites like eHarmony to Hinge or The League, a members-only service promising to bring together folks with "ambition and a drive to succeed," there are also apps focused on farmers, religious groups, seniors, the LGBT community and so on.

When he announced the feature in 2018, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg said Facebook Dating is "not just for hookups" but to build "meaningful, long-term relationships". That appeared to be a direct swipe at Tinder, a service best known for hooking people up with people they find attractive by showing their photo, age and first name.

With Facebook, you start by creating a dating profile distinct from your Facebook profile. You can add up to 36 pictures from your Instagram account. You have to be at least 18, rather than 13 with the main Facebook service. When you see a suggested match, you "like" someone by tapping a heart icon, or tap "X" to dislike. There's no Tinder-like swipe.

Facebook Dating won't suggest your friends as people you might want to date. Your dating profile also won't show up on your news feed or be visible to friends; it's only for others using the dating

service. Facebook insists it won't use information gleaned from your dating profiles for advertising and says there won't be ads on Facebook Dating.

To prevent unwanted messages, photos and spam, Facebook Dating lets you message someone just once unless you get a response. Facebook also won't allow lonely hearts or creeps to send photos or website links, which could help cut down on unsolicited body-part photos.

There were initially rumblings that the dating feature might be open only to people who list themselves as "single" and not those who are "married" or "in a relationship." But Facebook has said this is not the case. After all, people often don't keep their relationship status up to date or don't use it in a serious way (in a complicated relationship with pizza, anyone?).

To help you meet offline and share interests, the service will also push other Facebook features, such as events and groups. For instance, if you and a match are both going to a concert, you can make plans to meet up there. (These options require you to intentionally activate them.)

You can also share your location with friends while on a date, a feature Facebook says has been popular in Colombia and Thailand.

But based on Facebook's history with users' private information, there's certainly a possibility that it won't, so prepare to be embarrassed.



# 'Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation' Rapidly Approaching 100,000 Schools Target'

**PRAKASH WAGHMARE**

**NEW YORK (TIP):** Considering Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation's ('EVF' or 'Ekal') profound impact and rapid growth at the grass-root level, PM Narendra Modi in 2017 gave 'Ekal'a unique goal of establishing 100,000 schools by 2022.

In India's history, 2022 has a very distinctive significance. It happens to be the 75th anniversary of India's Independence. On this front, the most exciting new development is that EVF is undoubtedly going to ring the 'target-bell' by early 2020 itself. As of this moment, Ekal already has 93,000 schools in the same number of villages that are grooming 2.55 million children & youth each year for life's major challenges. The most remarkable thing about these staggering numbers is, more than half of them are girls. Moreover, quite a few of its alumni have gone on to become high-caliber teachers, District Officers, company administrators and technocrats in their adult life. Although rooted in Education, Ekal has blossomed into healthcare, integrated village development and economic empowerment. Recently, 'United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) confirmed that, defying global trend, India is likely to meet 100% child enrolment and school completion target set by them, in 2030. This heartening affirmation is nothing but a consequential endorsement of EVF's educational mission in rural and tribal areas of India. This year, 'Ekal



Abhiyan Trust' (an umbrella Orgz for various off-shoots of Ekal) was bestowed with Iconic National Honor - "Gandhi Peace Prize" - by the Govt of India, for its contribution to Education in remote areas, with gender and social equality. 'EVF' is the largest literacy movement undertaken by the Indians and NRIs in dozen countries.

In last one year alone, Ekal has successfully added 20,000 schools. This meteoric rise has been partly due to high-end "Future of India" GALAs that Ekal has started hosting in various metropolitan areas since 2017. Last year, between October 6 -13, it hosted three Galas- Houston, Washington & New York - and raised over \$5 Million. This was in addition to \$6 Million it had already raised through its annual fund-raising concerts across USA in 55 cities.

This year, two Galas have been planned - one in Los Angeles (LA) area and another in New York City (NYC). LA-Gala is being hosted on Saturday, September 14 at 'Hyatt Regency' (200 South Pine Ave, Long Beach, CA), and NYC-Gala is taking place on Saturday, November 9 at the

majestic 'Gotham Hall' (1356 Broadway, NYC, NY 10018). For details of ticket purchase, sponsorship or special-project enquiry, please check [www.lagala.ekal.org](http://www.lagala.ekal.org) OR [www.nycgala.ekal.org](http://www.nycgala.ekal.org) for respective Galas. At LA-Gala, the keynote speaker is going to be 'Emily Church', Exec Dir of 'XPrize Foundation' with Bollywood heartthrob 'Vivek Oberoi' as the special guest. The entertainment at LA will be provided by Bollywood Comedian 'Omi Vaidya' which will be capped by a fusion-music Concert by 'Nauzad'. 'EVF' is a duly registered non-profit Charitable Organization 501(C) in USA and dispenses all its assistance in rural areas irrespective of recipient's religion, creed, caste and region. Its overhead is hardly around 10%.

Suresh Iyer, President of 'Ekal-USA', has confirmed that, so far this year, Ekal has raised almost \$5.5 Million. Attributing this stunning achievement to thousands of its devout Donors and dedicated volunteers, Suresh is confident that, with two Galas, Ekal, will once again cut through \$10 Million mark by the year's end. In 2017, Bajrang Bagra, CEO of 'Ekal Abhiyan Trust' initiated a special literacy project for 'troubled spots' in border region. He recently confirmed that as of now almost 6,000 Ekal schools are in operation in Jammu-Kashmir and that has resulted in establishing peace, tranquility, and life-normalcy in people's lives there. The schools there are run by the locals under Ekal's guidance.

## Five United States governors to visit India over next two months

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** Governors of at least five US states-New Jersey, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware and Indiana-are scheduled to visit India over the next few months to enhance economic ties with the country.

They will be leading high-powered trade delegations comprising top businesses from their respective states.

The unprecedented move of five American governors visiting India in quick succession is a part of the efforts by the Trump administration and the Modi government to enhance state-to-state relationship. The effort has been propelled by the current India's Ambassador to the US, Harsh Vardhan Shringla, who has travelled to 11 US states so far.

Noting that states played an important role in both the countries, Shringla said this is a very important initiative. "Increasingly, states have an important say in economic activities, investment, trade and people-to-people contact," Shringla told PTI in an interview.

"I'm happy to say that in the next two months, we will have five governors of US States visiting India," he said, days before New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy leaves on his maiden trip to India with a high-powered trade delegation.

In fact, he is the first governor of New Jersey-a state which has a sizeable population of Indian Americans-to visit India. Early this Summer, Murphy had hosted Shringla over a dinner.

Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson is scheduled to visit India from September 29 to October 6. This will also be the first-ever India visit by an Arkansas Governor. Hutchinson had a working lunch with Shringla early this summer.

Later this month, Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb would make his second trip to India, as part of his four-nation Asia sojourn, including China, Japan and South Korea.

In India in early October, Holcomb will watch Indians Pacers in Mumbai for the NBA's first games in India.

Similarly, Colorado Governor Jared Polis announced his decision to travel to India with a trade delegation in the presence of Shringla at a business roundtable in Denver this summer. He is slated to visit Mumbai, Bengaluru and New Delhi.

He will also participate in Global RE-Invest Expo, organized by India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, to be held between October 31 and November 2 in Greater Noida.

Delaware Governor John Carney is also scheduled to visit India this fall. In addition, Lt Governor Eleni Kounalakis of California is also scheduled to travel to India soon.

(Source: PTI)

## 'We meet everyone from Bernie Sanders to Steve Bannon': Ambassador Shringla on meeting with Steve Bannon

**WASHINGTON (TIP):** India's Ambassador to the U.S. Harsh Vardhan Shringla met with former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon at the latter's house in Washington DC. Their meeting included a discussion on India, Russia, China and domestic politics in the U.S, according to Mr. Shringla.

"He's someone who has high regard for India and wants to see strong relations [between the U.S. and India]," Mr. Shringla said. Mr. Shringla's comments to The Hindu were in the context of a tweet he had written summarizing the meeting. "A pleasure to meet the legendary ideology and 'Dharma' warrior @StephenBannon, an avid follower of the #Hindu epic the #BhagavadGita," the tweet, which was subsequently deleted, said.

"He's someone who has high regard for India and wants to see strong relations [between the US and India]," Mr. Shringla told The Hindu.

Mr. Bannon is a declared admirer of Prime Minister Modi and was, in 2015, considering setting up an Indian version of the far-right website he headed at the time, Breitbart, funded by conservative donor Rebekah Mercer, the Daily Beast reported. 'Too much being read into meeting' Too much was being read into



India's Ambassador to the U.S. Harsh Vardhan Shringla (right) with Steve Bannon

their meeting, Mr. Shringla told The Hindu, adding that some from 'across the border' [ an apparent reference to Pakistan] were imparting conspiratorial angles to it. "Don't look into it as a conspiracy," Mr. Shringla said. Some websites had linked the meeting to the tensions between India and Pakistan over Kashmir following India's August 5 abrogation of Article 370 ( special status for Kashmir).

"Don't look into it as a conspiracy," Mr. Shringla said. Apart from his role as former head of Brietbart, Steve Bannon's

involvement with Cambridge Analytica, the data analytics firm involved in a scandal around the unethical harvesting of Facebook profiles, and his work to mobilize populist parties across Europe have earned him a reputation for divisiveness that extends beyond the United States.

"We meet everyone from Bernie Sanders to Steve Bannon", he said, adding that in his role he had to meet people of different ideological views but it did not imply one subscribed to those views.

(Source: The Hindu)



## CONGRESS APPOINTS KUMARI SELJA AS HARYANA UNIT PRESIDENT

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** Congress leader Kumari Selja has been appointed as the new State party president of Haryana. She said that it's a huge responsibility and seeks everybody's support.

"It is a huge responsibility on my shoulders; all of us will have to work together. We are committed to the

Party's ideology," said Ms. Selja. Former Haryana Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Bhopinder Singh Hooda shared his views on being appointed as Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader and Chairman of the State Election Committee. He thanked Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi and said that Party has taken a decision and he respects it.



## Army to commission 1st batch of women soldiers in 2021

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** The first batch of 100 women soldiers in the Army is likely to be commissioned by March 2021, Army sources said on Wednesday.

They said the commissioning will take place after the first batch completes its training, which will commence in December this year.

The women soldiers will be commissioned into the Corps of Military Police of the Indian Army.

"The training period—of 61 weeks—is similar to that of male soldiers. Batches comprising similar number of soldiers will be trained and commissioned every year," said a senior Army official.

Officials said the cadre of women soldiers in the Corps of Military Police will be maintained at a fixed number of 1,700 corps. This number will be achieved by filling in the corps in batches.

Colonel Commandant of the Corps of Military Police, Lieutenant General Ashwani Kumar had last week interviewed Lieutenant Colonel Nandani for training instructor's position.

In the Corps of Military Police, women soldiers will take up duties of policing cantonments and other Army establishments. They will also work in co-operation with civil police of various state governments as well as the Centre, besides handling prisoners of war and maintenance of rules. They will also investigate cases of crime.

## India to participate in multi-nation war games with Pakistan, China armies

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** India will be taking part with armies from Pakistan, China among others in the exercises being held by Russia set to be kicked off from September 9.

"This year, invitations for participation have been extended to nine other countries. This year's Exercise TSENTR 2019 will be conducted by the Central Military Commission of Russia. Apart from host Russia, military contingents from China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan will also take part in this mega event," an official release from PRO Army said.

The exercise, scheduled to take place between September 9 to 23 at Donguz training ranges in Russia's Orenburg, aims at evolving drills of the participating armies and practising them in the fight against the scourge of international terrorism thereby ensuring military security in the strategic Central Asian region.

"The TSENTR-2019 strategic measures will focus on evaluating the level of troop preparedness, the acquisition of the required skills and raising the level of inter-operability and demonstrate the readiness of the participating armies," read the release.

# INX Media case: CBI court sends Chidambaram to Tihar jail till September 19

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** Former Union Finance Minister P Chidambaram was put behind bars today hours after a CBI court sent him to two-week judicial custody in the INX Media case in an unprecedented setback to the Congress veteran who even offered to surrender to the ED in a desperate attempt to be spared the ignominy of going to prison.

Chidambaram, a former Union Home Minister and who is just 10 days short of his 74th birthday, was taken in a blue police bus to Tihar prison from a special CBI court in Rouse Avenue—a distance of 18 km, and was ironically lodged in the same jail No.7 where his son was locked up for 12 days in the same case last year. Jail No.7 usually houses those facing Enforcement Directorate(ED) cases.

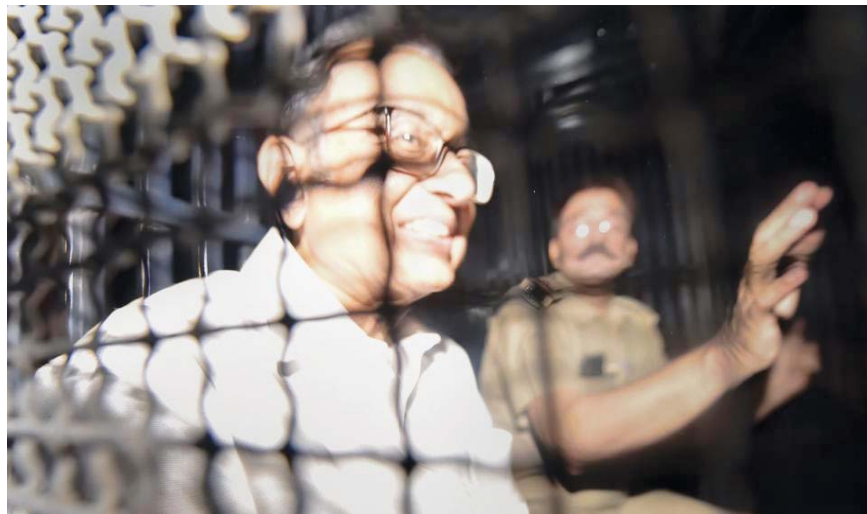
Chidambaram, who was accompanied by police personnel in the police bus, was put in a special cell in the Asia's biggest prison complex as per the orders of the CBI court.

As those assembled in his court waited with bated breath for his order after a 30-minute hearing, Special Judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar sent Chidambaram to judicial custody till September 19 in the corruption case filed by the CBI linked to INX Media. The judge pronounced the order one hour after the conclusion of the brief hearing.

With Chidambaram in jail he can now apply for regular bail.

Chidambaram, a Rajya Sabha MP, faced a fresh setback earlier in the day when the Supreme Court denied him anticipatory bail in the ED's money laundering case related to the media firm.

Holding that the ED case is "not a



Chidambaram, who was also the home minister during UPA 2, was sent to 14-day judicial custody on Thursday in the INX Media case.

fit case" to grant relief to Chidambaram, a bench of Justices R Banumathi and A S Bopanna said economic offences stand as a different class as they affect "economic fabric of the society" and "extraordinary power" of granting anticipatory bail has to be exercised sparingly in such cases.

With the top court's order in its favour, the ED had the option to arrest Chidambaram any time but it decided against making its move. As a result, judge Kuhar had the option of releasing him on bail or remand the lawyer-politician in judicial custody.

Chidambaram was produced before the judge on the expiry of his maximum 15-day CBI custody ordered in five spells after his arrest on the night of August 21 from his residence in upscale Jor Bagh where the probe agency personnel even scaled the boundary walls to gain entry.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered an

FIR on May 15, 2017, alleging irregularities in the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) clearance granted to the INX Media group for receiving overseas funds of Rs 305 crore in 2007 during Chidambaram's tenure as the Finance Minister.

Thereafter, the ED lodged a money laundering case in the same matter in 2017.

"INX Media and Aircel Maxis are non-cases. They (probe agencies) will never prepare a charge sheet. There is no evidence to charge us. For political reasons we have to go through this process. I have gone through this," Karti told reporters. Karti said he was confident his father will return home soon.

Allowing Chidambaram to carry his spectacles and prescribed medicines, Judge Kuhar said he should be provided western-style toilet. It also directed that he be kept in a separate cell in Tihar prison as he was a protectee under Z-category security.

## IAF gets new firepower, inducts eight Apache attack helicopters

**PATHANKOT (TIP):** In a significant boost to India's combat capabilities, the Indian Air Force Tuesday formally inducted to its fleet eight latest-generation AH-64E(I) Apache attack helicopters. The helicopters, manufactured by Boeing, were part of a multi-billion dollar deal struck with the US government nearly four years ago, and were inducted at a function at the Pathankot Air Station.

Modified to specifically suit specific standards as demanded by the IAF, the Apaches not only add to its combat capability but also provide additional capabilities for operations in the plains of Punjab — the main theatre of all wars with Pakistan in the past. The first crew of the Apache helicopters was trained by Boeing along with the US Army.

"It is one of the most serious attack helicopters in the world," said Air Chief Marshal B S Dhanoa, chief guest at the occasion. "Alongside the capability to shoot fire and forget anti-tank guided missiles, rockets and other ammunition, the change that gets into the Indian Air Force is that it has air-to-air missile capability...for the first time in the history of the IAF," he said.

Among the most lethal attack helicopters in the world, the Apaches are capable of fielding a variety of weapons systems including air to ground Hellfire



missiles, 70 mm Hydra rockets and the air-to-air Stinger missiles, the Air Chief said, adding that they also carry one 30 mm chain gun with 1,200 rounds as part of area weapon sub system. It also comprises fire control radar, which has 360-degree coverage and a nose-mounted sensor suite for target acquisition and night vision systems, he said.



# Kartarpur: Final deal stalled over service fee from pilgrims, access to Indian officials

**ATTARI (TIP):** With India and Pakistan locked in a diplomatic faceoff over the recent developments in Kashmir, the two countries failed to iron out their differences over the Kartarpur corridor in a recent meet. The corridor is scheduled to open in November.

In a high-level meeting held over the construction and facilitation of corridor today between representatives of the two countries at Attari, while Pakistan agreed to visa-free year-round travel of pilgrims, irrespective of faith, to the Kartarpur Sahib Gurudwara, it continues to insist on charging a service fee.

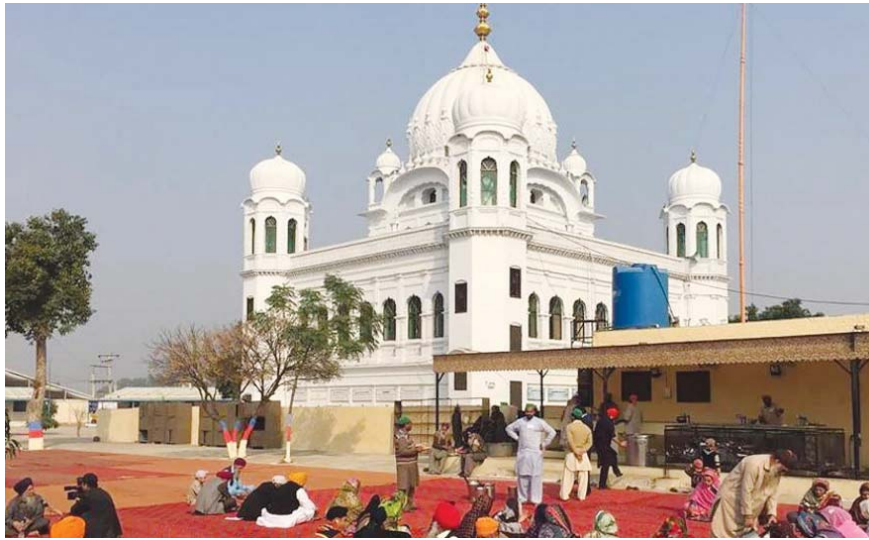
Home Ministry sources said it is also not agreeing to consular presence near the Gurudwara. India wanted consular presence near Gurudwara to help facilitate the visit of pilgrims and assist them in case they land in some kind of trouble in Pakistan.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Wednesday said Pakistan has agreed to allow 5,000 pilgrims to Kartarpur every day and more can visit on special occasions.

Pakistan has also agreed to the construction of a bridge on the zero line in the long run and make temporary arrangements for now, the MHA said.

"However, owing to certain differences on a few key issues, the agreement could not be finalised. Pakistan has insisted on charging a service fee for allowing pilgrims to visit Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib, which is not agreeable in the spirit smooth and easy access through the Corridor.

Pakistan has also shown its unwillingness to allow the presence of Indian Consular or Protocol officials at the Gurdwara premises.



Pakistan side was urged to reconsider its position," a statement from the MHA said.

The discussions were held between the Indian delegation led by an MHA Joint Secretary, and the Pakistan delegation led by Director General (South Asia and SAARC), Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

According to the MHA, it was agreed that the corridor will be operational throughout the year, seven days a week. Pilgrims can choose to visit as individuals or in groups, and on foot.

As many as "5,000 pilgrims can visit Holy Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib using the Corridor every day. Additional pilgrims, over and above the figure of 5,000, can visit on special occasions, subject to capacity expansion by Pakistan side. Pakistan has conveyed its solemn commitment to increase this number to the maximum possible," the MHA said.

Both sides have agreed upon emergency evacuation procedures, especially for medical emergencies, MHA said. A direct line of

communication between the Border Security Force and Pakistan Rangers will be used for the same, it added.

The decision arrived at the technical level meeting on August 30, 2019 regarding sharing of details of pilgrims using the corridor has also been endorsed by both the sides.

"Both sides agreed upon ensuring safe and secure environment for the movement of pilgrims. Pakistan has been requested, once again, to allow protocol officers from India to accompany pilgrims every day for facilitating their visit. The Pakistan side has agreed to make sufficient provision for preparation and distribution of 'Langar' and 'Prasad' for the pilgrims," the MHA statement said.

On the construction work achieved on the Indian side, MHA claimed that significant progress has been made to build state-of-the-art infrastructure, including a passenger terminal that can handle over 15,000 pilgrims in a day. The ministry said the terminal would be completed by October 2019.

## FAKE CASTE CERTIFICATE: FIR AGAINST FORMER CHHATTISGARH CM AJIT JOGI

**RAIPUR (TIP):** An FIR was registered on Thursday night against former Chhattisgarh chief minister Ajit Jogi for allegedly obtaining a fake caste certificate claiming himself to be a tribal, police said.

The case was registered at the Gaurela police station here following a complaint by Sameera Paikra, BJP candidate from the Marwahi seat in the 2013 Assembly polls, they added.

Jogi was booked under Indian Penal Code sections 420 (cheating), 467 (forgery of valuable security), 468 (forgery for purpose of cheating) and 471 (using as genuine a forged document or electronic record), Bilaspur Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal said.

According to Paikra, Jogi had allegedly obtained the fake caste certificate in 1967, he said.

Paikra lodged the case on the basis of a recently issued affidavit of a retired state government official, Patras Tirkey, the SP said, adding that further investigation into the matter is underway.

Tirkey stated in his affidavit that he was posted as the nayab tehsildar in Bilaspur in 1967-68 and he had never issued any caste certificate to Jogi, Paikra told reporters.

Tirkey has also stated that if Jogi produces any caste certificate containing his signature, it must be considered as false and fake, she added.

## Top court allows daughter to meet Mehbooba

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** The Supreme Court on Thursday permitted former J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti's daughter Iltija to meet her in private in Kashmir, but said she would have to take requisite permission from the state administration for moving around in Srinagar.

The PDP chief has been under detention in a hut at Chashmeshahi near the Raj Bhavan in Srinagar following the revocation of the state's special status on August 5.

A Bench led by CJI Ranjan Gogoi allowed Iltija to meet her mother after her counsel said she had no problem in going from Chennai to her Srinagar home, but had not been able to move freely in the city.

While advocate Nithya Ramakrishnan was making a submission that the petition was filed on behalf of Iltija seeking access to her mother as she has not met her for long time, Attorney General KK Venugopal and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said Mehbooba's mother Gulshan Ara and sister Rubaiyya Sayeed visited her on August 29 and September 3.

## Hindus doing puja at Ayodhya disputed site for years, Wakf board tells apex court

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** The Sunni Wakf Board on Wednesday admitted before the Supreme Court that Hindus have been doing puja at the disputed site in Ayodhya and idols were there at the Ram Chabutara which were later placed under the central dome of the mosque.

In a climbdown from its claim over the entire disputed site at Ayodhya, the board told a five-judge Constitution Bench, headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, that some portion may be given to Nirmohi Akhara even as it asserted that latter was only seeking right to manage and offer puja as 'Shebait' (devotee) and was not claiming title.

As senior counsel Rajiv Dhavan said he didn't dispute 'shebaiti' rights of Akhara, the Bench put to him, "If you accept that Akhara as 'shebait' then do you also accept that it was in possession of the outer courtyard?" Dhavan said Akhara's right as a devotee may be "fine", but that didn't change its juristic status and as a 'shebait' it was only seeking management rights and not the title.

## Protest after Cong leader Shivakumar's arrest

**BENGALURU (TIP):** Normal life was hit in parts of Karnataka's Ramanagara district following a bandh or shutdown called to protest the arrest of senior Karnataka Congress leader DK Shivakumar by the Enforcement Directorate in a money laundering case.

Sporadic protests were reported in various places, including Channapattanna and Ramanagara, since morning, while schools and colleges remained shut in the district, under which DK Shivakumar's assembly segment Kanakapura is located, the police said.

Shops and business establishments by and large were closed in response to the bandh or shutdown called by the local unit of the Congress and supported by its alliance partner in the previous coalition government - the Janata



Dal (Secular) or JD(S).

Supporters of the bandh or shutdown staged demonstrations and attempted to block roads at some places, but were dispersed by police as the protests continued for the third day.

With no buses plying in Kanakapura, office goers were seen stranded while in other parts of the district some vehicular movement was seen during the early hours. Police said they have made elaborate security arrangements

across the district to avoid any untoward incident.

A Delhi court on Wednesday evening had remanded DK Shivakumar, who was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in Delhi on Tuesday, to the agency's custody till September 13.

The Congress, which has dubbed the action by the Enforcement Directorate as "political vendetta", had staged protests in several parts of Karnataka on Tuesday night and on Wednesday against the arrest of Shivakumar, a key troubleshooter of the party, in connection with alleged tax evasion and hawala transactions worth crores.

Several top state leaders, including former chief ministers Siddaramaiah and HD Kumaraswamy (JDS), have condemned the arrest of Shivakumar.



## AS I SEE IT



By Ven Parameswaran

**“Prospects and potentials for India are unlimited. It is up to Prime Minister Modi how he takes advantage of the opportunity”, says the author.**

The Sino-USA economic and trade war has reached its climax for the worst. President Trump has ordered all American corporations doing business in China to quit and relocate to an alternate country. While I am writing this, the news has come in that Apple is pulling out of China.

The tug of war has been going on between the USA and China on trade and China's currency devaluation. It appears that Trump-Xi summitry is not working. Trump has almost declared a cold war with China when he asked publicly that American corporations in China must quit and find an alternative location.

### INDIA MUST SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY

India is the only alternative and it must seize the opportunity.

India has the human resources required. Half of India's population is under 25, two-thirds under 35. India has an oversupply of labor, engineers and other professionals.

India is the largest English-speaking country in the world, making it easier for Americans to operate in India. IBM is the second largest private employer in India after Tatas, employing 150,000.

# Make Hay While the Sun Shines

## US Offers India an Opportunity to Replace China



The bonhomie between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump can translate into big opportunities for India.

IBM has more employees in India than in any other location including its headquarters in New York.

India has a comparative advantage over China.

President Trump has branded India as CLOSEST ALLY OF THE USA on a par with the U.K. He has allowed India to transfer 100% of U.S. technologies without restriction. China never enjoyed this advantage and they were caught stealing.

To cite an example, President Trump has authorized Lockheed Martin to manufacture F-16, 18 planes in India. He has also encouraged Boeing, United Technologies, Raytheon to set up manufacturing in India. India has a huge comparative advantage over the USA in manufacturing most expensive and sophisticated military hardware.

When the U.S. went to China in 1980, China had nothing. Its economy was far

behind that of India's. Deng Xiaoping was a practical ruler. He decided to move closer to the USA. President Reagan offered help and full cooperation if China opened its economy and created necessary environment for investment and business.

There is no reason why India cannot liberalize and open the Indian economy to the USA. Such a bold move will create millions of new jobs year after year for the next twenty years. India's GDP, now less than 7% , could grow @10 to 12% if both countries cooperate in modernizing India.

### GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIA - PRIME MINISTER MODI MUST CAPITALIZE NOW

Prime Minister Modi must schedule a State visit for President Trump as soon as possible, preferably this year. I am sure Trump will take with him a delegation of 100 Fortune 500

**“Prime Minister Modi must schedule a State visit for President Trump as soon as possible, preferably this year. I am sure Trump will take with him a delegation of 100 Fortune 500 corporations. Finally, India will be able to build the required infrastructure it has been talking about for 25 years. Modi will create an economic revolution that will create 20 million new jobs every year for the next 20 years.”**

corporations. Finally, India will be able to build the required infrastructure it has been talking about for 25 years. Modi will create an economic revolution that will create 20 million new jobs every year for the next 20 years. Prospects and potentials for India are unlimited. It is up to Prime Minister Modi how he takes advantage of the opportunity.

*(The author is a senior advisor to Imagindia Institute, New Delhi . He can be reached at vpware@gmail.com)*



## GUEST COMMENT

# Big bank theory: On Public Sector Bank mergers

For its sheer magnitude, the scale and the ability to disrupt the status quo, the mega bank mergers announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday must go down as the most significant the banking industry has seen in the five decades since nationalization. The bottom line is clear: to create banks of global level that can leverage economies of scale and balance sheet size to serve the needs of a \$5-trillion economy by 2025. The jury is, of course, out on whether this strategy will succeed. Mergers are driven by synergies - in products, costs, business, geographies or technology and the most important, cost synergies. While there may be some geographical synergies between the banks being merged, unless they realize cost synergies through branch and staff

rationalization, the mergers may not mean much to them or to the economy. This is where the government's strategy will be tested. It is no secret that public sector banks are overstaffed. There is also bound to be overlap in branch networks such as in the Canara-Syndicate Bank merger, especially in Karnataka and a couple of other southern States. Ditto with Punjab National Bank and Oriental Bank of Commerce, both of which have strong networks in the north and the west. The success of these mergers, therefore, will hinge on how well these banks handle the sensitive issue of staff rationalization. The All India Bank Employees Association has already raised the red flag.

It was the Narasimham Committee in

the late 1990s that recommended consolidation through a process of merging strong banks. The issue has been the proverbial bee in the bonnet of successive governments since then. What the committee also recommended was shutting down the weaker banks and not merging them with the strong ones as is being done now. But this is obviously not an option politically even for a government with a brute majority in Parliament. The biggest plus of the mergers is that they will create banks of scale - there are too many banks in India with sizes that are minuscule by global standards with their growth constricted by their inability to expand. Yet, this advantage of scale cannot be leveraged without adequate reforms in governance and management of these

banks. To be sure, Ms. Sitharaman did announce a few measures to make managements better accountable to the board. But the key reforms to be made are at the board level, including in appointments, especially of government nominees. These are often political appointees, with little exposure to banking. Surely, such practices need to be curbed as the definition of global banks is not just about size but also professionalism in governance. The government will also have to manage the fallout of unleashing four mergers simultaneously which is bound to cause upheaval in the industry. Would it have been better if these mergers had been done one by one? The future will color the past. *(The Hindu)*



# Banking on the banks for expansion



By Pulapre Balakrishnan

**“ Presently, we are witnessing an interesting strategic interaction. The government accepts that the economy needs more growth but insists that this can only come via private investment and the private sector awaits an improvement in growth before deciding whether to invest. It is not clear whether the basis of the government’s insistence on private investment alone is ideological or based on fiscal considerations. Whatever it may be, it is clear that if it does not get proactive now, it could be left waiting for a private investment that may not be forthcoming.”**

In 2005, a Nobel laureate in economics claimed that the “... problem of depression-prevention has been solved”. He was exulting over an innovation in economic theory according to which fiscal policy, associated with profligacy, had no role whatsoever. Just a few years later, following the North Atlantic financial crisis, the U.S. fiscal deficit had to be raised three-fold, he responded, “I guess everyone is a Keynesian in the foxhole”, implying that in the face of an impending crisis it is alright to rely on fiscal policy after all. A similar pragmatism is absent from economic policymaking in India today.

By meeting industrialists for policy inputs so soon after the Budget for the year had been presented and then, via a press conference held a few weeks later rolling back some of the tax proposals in it, the government revealed its anxiety about the state of the economy. This is only to be expected of a party that came to power promising to transform it. Far from having significantly improved the performance of the economy in its first term in office it has been presiding over

*The government accepts that the economy needs more growth but could end up paying for its inaction.*

an economy in which growth has been declining for close to two-and-a-half years by now. So what did the Finance Minister offer in her press conference? And can we expect it to be game-changing?

Three sets of announcements pertain to concessions impacting upon the automobile sector, proposals for the banking sector and a change in a practice of the Income-Tax Department. Of the first it may be said that addressing the problems of any one sector when several are equally stressed is not fair governance. There have been reports of severe stress in the packaged foods industry for instance and we have long been aware that the agricultural sector has been troubled after demonetization.

Of the revision of the procedure adopted for issuing an IT notice, it can be said that it does address the issue of tax terrorism, but only a thorough social audit of the processes adopted by the tax authorities can establish whether it would be sufficient to ensure that honest firms are not hounded and that the government receives all the revenue due to it. Industrialists are under pressure to not speak out against high-handedness, and the compulsory retirement of income tax personnel for malpractice recently point to not everything being well within that department. That leaves us with the proposals for the banking sector. Of these it can be said right away that some of them are quite sound; but if the government's intention was to reverse the slowing of growth, they are unlikely to make much of a difference.

## Infusion without reforms

Most significant among the measures related to banking is the infusion of capital up to ₹70,000 crore into the public sector banks. This is expected to contribute to a potential ₹5 lakh crore expansion of credit. With this the government has frontloaded a provision already announced in the Budget. This transfer is now going to be made right away. This is a major step in the direction of taking the banking sector to a more solid foundation. There is also a proposal to ensure that loan decisions taken by bankers are treated as economic decisions and not as instances of corruption when a loan goes awry.

Public sector banking has been hobbled by the colonial attitude that India's public servants cannot be trusted, leading to a continuous surveillance that is not conducive to their exercising initiative in lending. At the same time, the present non-performing assets crisis points to the role of political pressure on banks in the past. Without addressing both these issues we can never transit to a strong banking sector. So the capital for the long-term infusion should have been accompanied by governance reforms that both enforce honest behavior and ring-fence the public banker from political pressure.



## Policy rate cuts

Finally, there was the announcement that public sector banks will pass on more of the policy rate cuts that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has effected in several rounds by now. The government's frustration at this not having happened is easily imagined but is the proposal for a near automatic adjustment sound by itself? It is tantamount to the lending rate of banks being determined by the RBI's actions. There is after all the risk premium that banks tack on to their prime lending rate, which itself depends on factors other than the policy rate. Overall, the move towards having commercial bank rates move in tandem with the repo rate by fiat is not advisable. The decision should be left to the banks.

Let us, however, assume for a moment that lending rates are set to be lowered whatever be the mechanism. Will this revive the economy? It is apparent from the Finance Minister's press conference that the government thinks this will happen. Generally, the potency of monetary policy in reversing sluggishness in the economy is considered to be weak. The belief among economists is that while a rise in the rate of interest can hold back a decision to invest by raising the cost of finance, an interest rate reduction can do little in the absence of an urge among investors to commit capital. A lack of understanding of the factors governing investment is evident in the suggestion often seen in the press that the government must 'revive animal spirits' in the economy. Animal spirits were originally imagined as the spontaneous urge to either undertake investment or hold back from it. The expectation of future profits is the key element here for potential investors. The government can have a role only if it can affect long-term profit expectations. Certainly not by lowering interest rates.

## Focus on private investment

Presently, we are witnessing an interesting strategic interaction. The

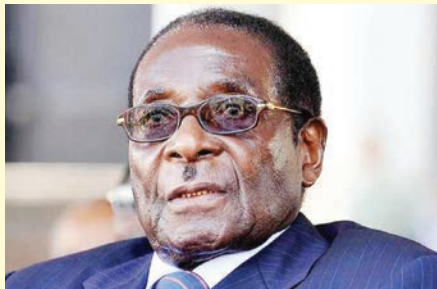
government accepts that the economy needs more growth but insists that this can only come via private investment and the private sector awaits an improvement in growth before deciding whether to invest. It is not clear whether the basis of the government's insistence on private investment alone is ideological or based on fiscal considerations. Whatever it may be, it is clear that if it does not get proactive now, it could be left waiting for a private investment that may not be forthcoming.

Our experience of the five years of very high growth over 2003-08, when the economy grew at its fastest ever, tells us that three factors had played a role in it. These were unusually high rates of agricultural growth, record levels of public investment and buoyant exports. The package announced by the Finance Minister on August 23 did not relate to any of these. Of course, exports depend to an equal extent on factors beyond India's control but the government could have addressed the other two factors. Notably, it had nothing for the rural sector which clearly needs attention. For a start an expansion of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, with attention paid to building assets that most strongly impact agricultural output, may be considered. As for public investment, it is the elephant in the North Block. The government is reluctant to step it up, harping on fiscal space, but fiscal space is for a smart government to make up. Instead this one shrunk the space for public investment by introducing an income scheme exclusively meant for farmers just before the elections and then expanding it soon after it returned to power. It was a case of rewarding political support rather than attending to the needs of an economy known to be slowing. When in the foxhole you imagine that you are on a mountain top, you end up paying for your fancy.

*(The author is Professor, Ashoka University, Sonapat and Senior Fellow, IIM Kozhikode)*



## Zimbabwe's former president Robert Mugabe dies at 95 in Singapore



**SINGAPORE (TIP):** Zimbabwe's former president Robert Mugabe has died aged 95, the country's President Emmerson Mnangagwa said on his official Twitter account.

Mugabe died in Singapore, where he had often received medical treatment in recent years, a source with direct knowledge of the matter told Reuters.

"It is with the utmost sadness that I announce the passing on of Zimbabwe's founding father and former President, Cde Robert Mugabe," a post on Mnangagwa's official presidential Twitter account said. Reuters

## 12 killed in Kabul suicide bombing

**KABUL (TIP):** A Taliban suicide blast in Kabul killed at least 10 civilians and two NATO soldiers on Sept 5, destroying cars and shops in an area near the headquarters of international military force and the US embassy.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack even as the insurgents and US officials have been negotiating a deal on a US troop withdrawal in exchange for Taliban security guarantees.

"At least 10 civilians have been killed and 42 injured were taken to hospitals," said Nasrat Rahimi, a spokesman for the interior ministry. The NATO-led Resolute Support mission said in a statement a Romanian and a US member of the force were killed in action in Kabul. A senior Afghan interior ministry official said the two soldiers were killed in the suicide bomb attack and their vehicle was the main target. — Reuters

## Private aircraft makes emergency landing at Kathmandu airport after engine fails

**KATHMANDU (TIP):** A small aircraft belonging to a private airline in Nepal on Sept 3 made an emergency landing at the Kathmandu airport after one of its engines failed, officials said.

There were only crew members on board the Sita Air flight, Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA) authorities said, adding that there was no injury or casualty.

PTI

# First Hindu girl inducted into Sindh Police in Pak

**ISLAMABAD (TIP):** For the first time, a Hindu girl has been inducted into Sindh Police after passing the provincial competitive examinations, a media report said on Sept 4. Pushpa Kolhi has been posted as the Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) in the province, Geo News reported.

The news was first shared by human rights activist Kapil Dev on his Twitter handle on Tuesday.

"Pushpa Kolhi has become the first girl from #Hindu community who has qualified provincial competitive examination through Sindh Public Service Commission and become Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) in Sindh Police. More power to her!" Dev tweeted.

In January, Suman Pawan Bodani, a Pakistani belonging to the Hindu



community, was appointed a judge to the civil and judicial magistrate.

Bodani who hails from Sindh's Shahdaktot area, stood 54th in the merit list for the appointment of civil

judge/judicial magistrate.

Speaking to BBC Urdu, Bodani said she belongs to an underdeveloped rural area of Sindh, where she has seen the poor struggling to cope with various challenges. She added that her family, including her father and siblings, had extended their full support to her and this had helped her in achieving her dreams to become a judge.

Hindus form the biggest minority community in Pakistan. According to official estimates, 75 lakh Hindus live in Pakistan. However, according to the community, over 90 lakh Hindus are living in the country. Majority of Pakistan's Hindu population is settled in Sindh province where they share culture, traditions and language with their Muslim fellows. PTI

## Pakistan to observe Defence Day as Kashmir Solidarity Day

**Tensions between India and Pakistan have spiked after New Delhi withdrew Jammu and Kashmir's special status and bifurcated it into two union territories on August 5.**

**ISLAMABAD (TIP):** Pakistan will commemorate its Defence Day on Sept 6 as "Kashmir Solidarity Day" after India revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, according to the Ministry of Interior.

Tensions between India and Pakistan have spiked after New Delhi withdrew Jammu and Kashmir's special status and bifurcated it into two union territories on August 5.

All offices throughout Pakistan will be closed at 15:00 (3pm) to commemorate the Defence Day of Pakistan, observe solidarity with the people of Kashmir and visit families of martyrs and monuments, said a notification issued by the Ministry of Interior on Wednesday.

Last month, Pakistan celebrated its 73rd Independence Day as Kashmir



Solidarity Day to express support to the Kashmiri people.

Asserting that abrogation of Article 370 was its internal matter, India has

strongly criticised Pakistan for making "irresponsible statements" and provocative anti-India rhetoric over issues internal to it. PTI

## Bangladesh bans mobile phone access in Rohingya camps

**COX'S BAZAR (TIP):** Bangladesh on September 3 ordered operators to shut down mobile phone services to almost one million Rohingya refugees living in camps in the country's southeast, an official said.

The move follows an outbreak of violence in recent weeks at the camps, most of whose residents fled into Bangladesh from Myanmar's Rakhine state two years ago following a military crackdown on the Muslim Rohingya minority.

It also comes after none of the refugees turned up in late August to return across the border to conflict-scarred Rakhine,

when a fresh push to repatriate the refugees to Myanmar fell flat.

Telecommunications operators have seven days to submit reports on the actions they have taken to shut down networks in the camps, said the spokesman for the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC), Zakir Hossain Khan. "Many refugees are using mobile phones in the camps. We've asked the operators to take action to stop it," saying the decision was made on "security grounds".

The order stunned the Rohingya, one of their leaders said on condition of

anonymity. He said the ban would hugely affect Rohingya life, disrupting communications between different camps scattered across the border district of Cox's Bazar.

"We won't be able to communicate with our relatives living in Myanmar or other parts of the world," the leader said.

"It will definitely make a positive impact. I believe criminal activities will surely come down," he said. On Sunday police said a fourth Rohingya refugee was shot dead in the fallout over the murder of local ruling party official Omar Faruk by suspected Rohingya criminals. AFP



## FORMER FIRST LADY OF HONDURAS SENTENCED TO 58 YEARS IN JAIL

**TEGUCIGALPA (TIP):** The former First Lady of Honduras Rosa Elena Bonilla, wife of ex-President Porfirio Lobo, was sentenced on Wednesday to 58 years in jail on charges of fraud and undue appropriation of funds, a spokesman for the nation's highest court said.



Bonilla, 52, has been in custody since February 2018.

Her defense attorney said Bonilla was innocent and an appeal would be filed with the Central American nation's Supreme Court.

That would be Bonilla's last chance to avoid serving out the sentence.

"The former first lady Rosa Elena Bonilla was sentenced to 58 years in jail for the crimes of undue appropriation of funds and fraud," said Supreme Court spokesman Carlos Silva.

Bonilla was accused of misusing the equivalent of \$7,79,000 in funds between 2010 and 2014 that came from international donations and public funds, and which were meant to be used for social programs, according to an investigation carried out by attorney general's office and a unit of the Organization of American States.

Bonilla used the money to pay for medical bills, jewelry, tuition for her children and construction work, according to the attorney general's office.

The court also sentenced Bonilla's close associate, Saul Escobar, to a 48-year jail sentence for embezzlement of public funds and fraud, said Silva.

Even if Bonilla and Escobar do not manage to overturn or reduce their jail sentences, they will only serve a maximum of 30 years, which is the maximum allowed by Honduran law, court sources said.

## Iran to release 7 Indians from seized tanker

**STOCKHOLM (TIP):** The owner of the British-flagged Stena Impero oil tanker held in the Persian Gulf by Iran says he was told by the Iranian authorities that seven of the 23-member crew will be released.

Erik Hanell, CEO of the Swedish shipping group Stena Bulk that owns the ship, says it wasn't immediately clear when they would be freed. His confirmation came shortly after Iran's foreign ministry said on Wednesday that seven crew members, all of whom are Indians, would be freed.

Hanell said, "Their ordeal may soon be over, and they may return, however, we cautiously await confirmation of their release date."

## UK nets largest ever heroin haul worth \$145 million

**LONDON (TIP):** An international operation has netted the largest ever heroin seizure in Britain, the National Crime Agency (NCA) said Wednesday, with nearly 1.3 tonnes recovered from a container ship.

Authorities raided the MV Gibraltar after it docked at the southern England port of Felixstowe on August 30, the NCA said.

British police had found out that the heroin, with a street value of around \$145 million (133 million euros) would be on the vessel when it docked en route to Antwerp.

"The smugglers had hidden the drugs within a coverload of towels, stitching the 1kg blocks of heroin inside some of the towels," said Jenny Sharp, Border Force Assistant Director at Felixstowe.

"In total it took my officers nearly six hours—working in the early hours of Saturday morning—to remove the drugs."

The container was then put back on the boat as it set off for Antwerp.

# UK plans another vote to push for snap election

**LONDON (TIP):** The UK government said on Thursday that the members of Parliament will get another chance to vote for an early election on Monday.

The move comes after the House of Commons rejected Prime Minister Boris Johnson's plan for a snap election on October 15 in a vote on Wednesday. Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell said Labour Party wanted an election, but its priority was stopping a no-deal Brexit.

Johnson on Thursday said he would "rather be dead in a ditch" than delay Brexit beyond next month, as he urged opposition lawmakers who oppose his plan to support an early election.

MPs in the House of Commons this week passed a Bill that could stop Johnson taking Britain out of the European Union without a divorce deal with Brussels.

But they also rejected his call for a snap election to resolve the political deadlock that has characterised the past three years since the 2016 referendum vote for Brexit.

In a speech in northern



Boris Johnson

England, Johnson said: "We must come out of the EU on October 31," the Conservative leader said.

UK Cabinet Minister Jacob Rees-Mogg told parliamentarians he would put forward a "motion relating to an early parliamentary election" to be voted on Monday evening.

Johnson wants an election on October 15 in order to stick to the Brexit deadline of October 31. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister expressed regret about his brother Jo's resignation as a junior universities minister a few

## PM's brother resigns as minister, lawmaker

■ British PM Boris Johnson on Thursday suffered another blow, this time closer to home, as his younger brother Jo Johnson quit as a minister in his Cabinet and also resigned as an MP of the Conservative Party

■ "In recent weeks I've been torn between family loyalty and the national interest — it's an unresolvable tension and time for others to take on my roles as MP and Minister," Jo said. He voted Remain in the 2016 Brexit referendum



Jo Johnson

hours earlier, which only reinforced the sense of a government in crisis.

## Canada names new China envoy amid damaged relations

**TORONTO (TIP):** Canada on Wednesday announced the appointment of a prominent businessman as its new ambassador to China amid damaged relations following the arrest of a top Chinese tech executive.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced Dominic Barton, the former global managing director of the influential consulting firm McKinsey & Co, as the new envoy. Barton is head of the Trudeau government's economic advisory council.

Beijing's embassy in Ottawa said China has accepted the nomination of Barton and said the Chinese side "expects him to play a positive role in promoting the bilateral relations back to the right track." Trudeau fired the previous ambassador after he said it would be "great" if the US dropped its extradition request for Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou.

The arrest of the daughter of the founder of Huawei at Vancouver's airport December 1 severely damaged relations between China and Canada.

The US wants her extradited to face charges that she committed fraud by misleading banks about Huawei's business dealings in Iran. China detained Canadians Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor on December 10 in an apparent attempt to pressure Canada to release Meng. China has stopped importing certain Canadian products like canola and meat, and it also re-sentenced a convicted Canadian drug smuggler to death after the Meng arrest as part of an apparent campaign of intimidation and retribution against Canada.

Barton worked in Asia for 12 years as well as serving on the board of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada and worked as an adjunct professor at Tsinghua University in Beijing, according to online biographies.



Dominic Barton

## UK TEEN 'BLINDED' AFTER 7-YEAR DIET OF FRENCH FRIES, WHITE BREAD

**LONDON (TIP):** A teenager in the UK has gone blind and deaf after living off a diet of chips, crisps and sausages for up to a decade in a case believed to be the first of its kind in the country.

The 17-year-old, who has not been named, ate only chips, Pringles, sausages, processed ham, French fries and white bread, making him malnourished, Bristol Live reported.

According to the teenager's mother, her son began going off his meals when he was about seven years old and used to eat only junk food.

He told doctors he did not like the "texture" of fruits and vegetables.

The case came to light after it was written about by Dr Denize Atan, from the University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust, in the Annals of Internal Medicine journal.

The boy began to lose his hearing at the age of 14. His eyesight also quickly deteriorated and he has now been left with no job and no social life as a result, said his mother. The woman said that when her son was in primary school, he used to come back home with his packed lunch untouched. "I would make him nice sandwiches and put an apple or other fruit in and he wouldn't eat any of it. His teachers became concerned too.

"His brother and sister have never stopped eating. They love everything. But he was just as fit and healthy as them. He has always been skinny so we had no weight concerns. You hear about junk food and obesity all the time—but he was as thin as a rake," said the woman.





## Kriti Sanon: Glad to be part of female-centric film 'Mimi'

Actress Kriti Sanon is happy to be part of "Mimi" where she plays a young surrogate mother, which will also be her first woman-centric film.

Directed by 'Luka Chuppi' fame Laxman Utekar, Kriti considers the project a huge responsibility.

"I am quite nervous. But nervousness is what is so exciting. The fact that I haven't done something like this before, the fact that it's so away from me and it's got emotions I have never experienced, is what is challenging.

"But at this point of time, I want to do something different, take a risk and push the envelope. I'm glad that 'Mimi' is going to be my first female-centric film," she said.

According to Kriti, 'Mimi' has its heart in the right place.

"It makes you smile, laugh, weep, feel good, everything," she added. "Laxman sir has a knack of understanding emotions and presenting it in an entertaining manner with a lot of situational humour and characters that you take back home."

# IT'S NEVER TOO LATE, SAYS SUSHMITA SEN AS SHE LEARNS TO SKIN DIVE AT 43

Actress Sushmita Sen is learning how to 'skin dive' at 43 and says it is never too late to learn something. The former beauty queen was in the ocean skin diving — a form of underwater diving that relies on breath-holding until resurfacing rather than the use of breathing apparatus such as scuba gear.

Sushmita on Monday shared a video. "Learning to Skin Dive at 43! It's never too late for anything or anyone, a single step, a leap of faith, is all that is needed to get started, the rest naturally follows! "I kept diving into the ocean until I learnt to dance my way back up! Thank you Hussain Hassam for teaching me the strength of a single breath!"

She also shared a string of photographs and videos along with her beau Roman Shawl and daughter Alisah from Maldives. They are all seen learning the techniques. She captioned it: "To the bravest 10-year-old I know and take pride in being her mother! This is what I gifted her for her 10th birthday. Alisah was only 5 years old when Renee and I got certified as PADI Open Water Scuba Diver, and she was most annoyed that the minimum age for scuba diving was 10 years old. She waited five birthdays for this day." "And of course did her first scuba dive in Maldives, just like her mom and sister. She was amazing, logging in 41 minutes and 9 meters/ 29 feet in the Indian Ocean."

Sushmita said her godchild Aaliyah, 16, also did her first scuba dive with Alisah and she couldn't be prouder of both of them.



## ANANYA PANDAY STUNS IN LATEST, JUNGLE-THEMED MAGAZINE

Bollywood actor Ananya Panday, who recently stole the limelight with her outfit at the Lakme Fashion Week, left hearts fluttering as the cover girl of Grazia magazine's September issue.

Set in the backdrop of a jungle, the actor can be seen spreading her magic in a yellow panelled dress by Fendi, accessorizing it with gold plated earrings. Her metallic green smokey eyes made the look a lot more edgier.

The 20-year-old actor shared the cover on her Instagram page which she captioned as, "King of the jungle." She also shared other pictures from the photoshoot in which she is seen donning a sequined cheetah dress with black high heels.

The actor recently uploaded a video on Instagram in which she spoke about how she is being trolled in the name of nepotism.

"They wrote you are too thin... You have no talent and you are too tall. They wrote you are flying on your father's money... You are a product of nepotism. They wrote you need implants... They call me 'overacting ki Dukan' and a fashion disaster. They wrote about my mom, my dad and even about my younger sister and my friends. They accused me of being a liar," she said.

On the work front, Ananya is shooting

with Kartik Aaryan for her next film Pati Patni Aur Woh and she is also set to star in Khaali Peeli alongside Ishaan Khatter.

### Takes a break from Pati Patni Aur Woh shoot

Since the past few weeks, Pati Patni Aur Woh remake stars Kartik Aaryan, Ananya Panday and Bhumi Pednekar have been shooting in the city of Lucknow in UP for their film. While shooting, often we get to see some behind-the-scenes photos and videos which are shared by Kartik, Ananya or Bhumi on social media. However, it seems Ananya has taken a break for the day and is out for shopping in the city of Lucknow. The young actress often shares fun photos and videos while hanging out with Pati Patni Aur Woh co-star Kartik.

Ananya took to her Instagram story to share two boomerang videos. Dolled up for a shopping spree, Ananya looked pretty. In one of the videos, Ananya can be seen trying to avoid the sun rays with her hand while in another one, the young star is elated to take a break from Pati Patni Aur Woh remake's shooting and head out for some retail therapy. Ananya can be seen dressed in a yellow kurta and is flaunting her nose pin in the videos.







## Singer Selena Gomez working on new music

Singer-actor Selena Gomez is planning to release new music soon. The former Disney star shared pictures behind-the-scenes Boomerangs of a soundboard on her Instagram story.

"Just so you know, I see your comments and I'm working on it," she captioned one post that featured a black-and-white image of a soundboard. Gomez also shared a picture of herself flashing a peace sign as she sits next to a keyboard.

The artiste's last song, 'Back to You', came out in 2018. The 27-year-old star has not yet revealed the release date of her new music.

# KRISTEN STEWART WAS TOLD TO TONE DOWN HER SEXUALITY TO 'GET A MARVEL MOVIE'

Actor Kristen Stewart has said that she was told to tone down her sexuality if she wanted 'to get a Marvel movie'. Kristen spoke to Harper's Bazaar about growing up in the limelight, and her much publicised relationship with fellow Twilight actor Robert Pattinson.

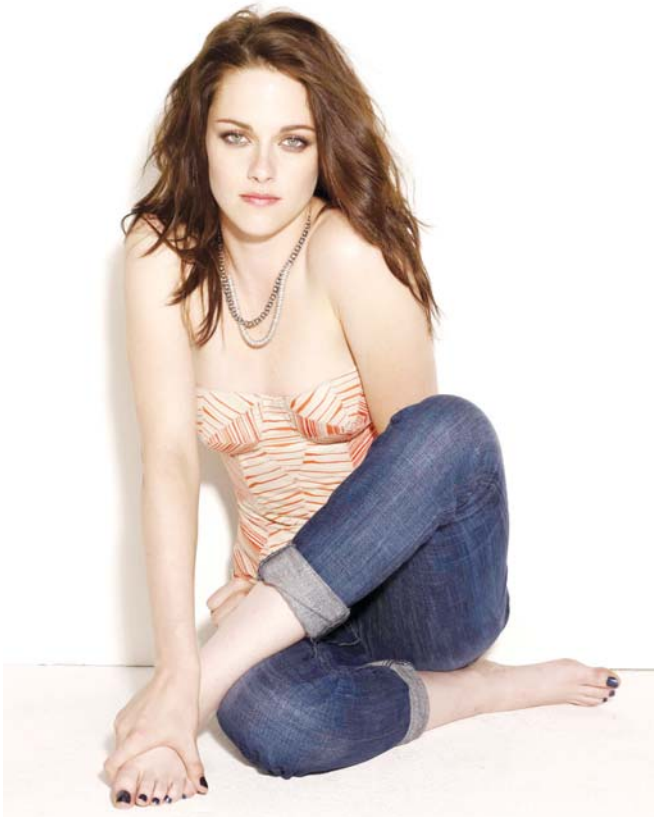
"When me and Rob were together, we did not have an example to go by," she said about why they never publicly spoke about their relationship. "So much was taken from us that, in trying to control one aspect, we were just like, 'No, we will never talk about it. Never. Because it's ours.'"

Kristen and Robert broke up when she was caught in an affair with her Snow White and the Huntsman director Rupert Sanders. She offered a public apology for her behaviour.

"Well," she continued, "I think I just wanted to enjoy my life. And that took precedence over protecting my life, because in protecting it, I was ruining it."

Speaking about her bisexuality, she said, "I have fully been told, 'If you just like do yourself a favour, and don't go out holding your girlfriend's hand in public, you might get a Marvel movie.' I don't want to work with people like that."

She added, "Like what, you can't go outside with who you're with? You can't talk about it in an interview? I was informed by an old school mentality, which is - you want to preserve your career and your success and your productivity, and there are people in the world who don't like you, and they don't like that you date girls, and they don't like that you don't identify as a quote unquote 'lesbian', but you also don't identify as a quote unquote 'heterosexual'. And people like to know stuff, so what the f\*\*k are you?" She said that she appreciates the fact that 'we're all becoming ambiguous'.



## SALMA HAYEK SHARES BIKINI PIC ON 53RD BIRTHDAY



Actor Salma Hayek has shared a picture in celebration of her 53rd birthday, leaving fans gaping in disbelief. The picture shows Salma in a turquoise blue bikini, with dark glasses and a fierce expression on her face. "Tomorrow I turn 53," she wrote in the caption, and added, "So?"

"Happy Birthday to all of you September babies," she added. Several people, celebrities and common-folk alike, left comments under the post. Singer Lenny Kravitz commented, "And it never looked so good." Former James Bond actor Pierce Brosnan wrote, "Happy birthday dear Salma." Jennifer Lopez wrote in Spanish, "Y la

más divina de todas!! (And the most divine of all!)." And actor Zoe Saldana wrote, "Wowowowow." Her post has been 'liked' over 1.5 million times.

Salma was recently announced as one of the cast members in Marvel's upcoming superhero film, The Eternals. She will appear as the leader of the Eternals, opposite a cast that includes Angelina Jolie, Richard Madden, Kit Harington, Kumail Nanjiani, and Josh Brolin, who is rumoured to be returning as Thanos. Speaking at the recent D23 expo in Anaheim, Salma said that she'd known about her casting for a while, and found it hard to keep it a secret.



## CHARLIZE THERON'S CIPHER DITCHES DREADLOCKS FOR 'FAST & FURIOUS 9'

Hollywood star Charlize Theron has released her first look as Cipher from the upcoming ninth installment in the 'Fast and Furious' franchise. The 44-year-old actor made her debut as Cyberterrorist Cipher in 'Fast & Furious 8' and her return to the new film was confirmed by star Vin Diesel back in July.

Theron shared her look on Instagram on Monday night in which she is flaunting a razor-sharp cut rather than the neat and blonde dreadlocks she

sported in the previous film. "She is back," the actor captioned the post, alongside the hashtag: "#Fast9."

The film also stars Helen Mirren, Michelle Rodriguez, Jordana Brewster, Tyrese Gibson, Chris 'Ludacris' Bridges, Nathalie Emmanuel and John Cena. Justin Lin is directing the movie from a screenplay penned by Dan Casey. Lin and Alfredo Botello have written the story.

The film is scheduled to be released on May 22, 2020 by Universal Pictures.



**"One of the most widely expected consequences of 9/11 has so far been averted. Though Islamic terrorists have engaged in successful attacks in the West since 9/11, including the 2002 Bali bombings, the 2004 Madrid train bombings, and the 2015 attacks in Paris, there has been no attack on the scale of 9/11. Instead, it is countries with large Muslim populations that have seen a rise in terrorist attacks.**

**Yet the West still pays the price for its militant and militarised response to terrorism through the weakening of democratic norms and values. The unleashing of US military power that was supposed to intimidate terrorists has diminished America's might, creating a key precondition for Donald Trump's promise to restore American greatness."**

Eighteen years after the Al Qaeda struck the iconic World Trade Centre twin towers in New York City and the Pentagon, the memories of the ghastly event, which killed almost 3,000 and wounded 6000 others, and permanently wounded the psyche of the American people, the scars remain.

Every year, on 9/11, the American nation remembers the horrific incident, prays for the fallen and salutes the first responders and saviours of human life.

On September 11, 2001, 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda hijacked four airplanes and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two of the planes were flown into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Almost 3,000 people were killed during the 9/11 terrorist attacks, which triggered major U.S. initiatives to combat terrorism.

On September 11, 2001, at 8:45 a.m. on a clear Tuesday morning, an American Airlines Boeing 767 loaded with 20,000 gallons of jet fuel crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. The impact left a gaping, burning hole near the 80th floor of the 110-story skyscraper, instantly killing hundreds of people and trapping hundreds more in higher floors.

As the evacuation of the tower and its twin got underway, television cameras broadcasted live images of what initially appeared to be a freak accident. Then, 18 minutes after the first plane hit, a second Boeing 767-United Airlines Flight 175-appeared out of the sky, turned sharply toward the World Trade Center and sliced into the south tower near the 60th floor. The collision caused a massive explosion that showered burning debris over surrounding buildings and onto the streets below. It immediately became clear that America was under attack. Less than 15 minutes after the terrorists struck the nerve center of the U.S. military, the horror in New York took a catastrophic turn

# The 9/11 Nightmare

**"Although many of the issues confronting us today have very long roots, the world we live in has been indelibly shaped by 9/11 and its aftermath."**

when the south tower of the World Trade Center collapsed in a massive cloud of dust and smoke.

As millions watched the events unfolding in New York, American Airlines Flight 77 circled over downtown Washington, D.C., before crashing into the west side of the Pentagon military headquarters at 9:45 a.m. Jet fuel from the Boeing 757 caused a devastating inferno that led to the structural collapse of a portion of the giant concrete building, which is the headquarters of the U.S. Department of Defense.

All told, 125 military personnel and civilians were killed in the Pentagon, along with all 64 people aboard the airliner.

A total of 2,996 people were killed in the 9/11 attacks, including the 19 terrorist hijackers aboard the four airplanes. Citizens of 78 countries died in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

Meanwhile, a fourth California-bound plane-United Flight 93-was hijacked about 40 minutes after leaving Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey. Because the plane had been delayed in taking off, passengers on board learned of events in New York and Washington via cell phone and Airphone calls to the ground.

The passengers fought the four hijackers and are suspected to have attacked the cockpit with a fire extinguisher. The plane then flipped over and sped toward the ground at upwards of 500 miles per hour, crashing in a rural field near Shanksville in western Pennsylvania.

At the World Trade Center, 2,763 died after the two planes slammed into the twin towers. That figure includes

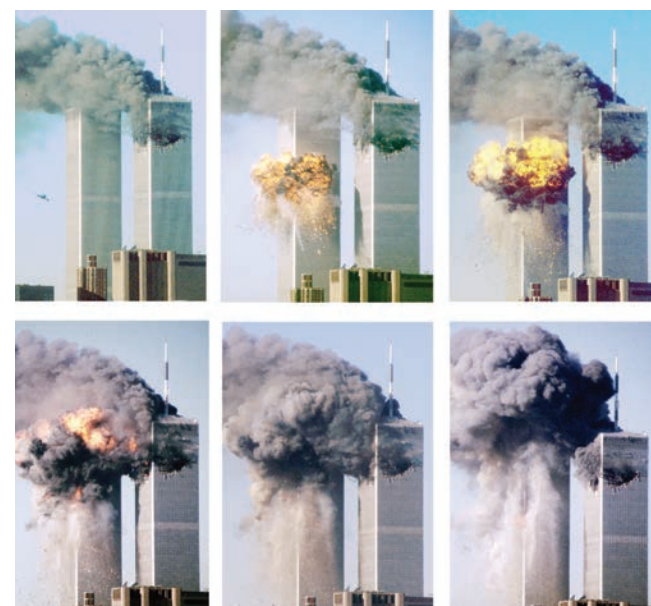
343 firefighters and paramedics, 23 New York City police officers and 37 Port Authority police officers who were struggling to complete an evacuation of the buildings and save the office workers trapped on higher floors.

At the Pentagon, 189 people were killed, including 64 on American Airlines Flight 77, the airliner that struck the building. On Flight 93, 44 people died when the plane crash-landed in Pennsylvania.

Thousands of first responders and people working and living in lower Manhattan near Ground Zero were exposed to toxic fumes and particles emanating from the towers as they burned and fell. By 2018, 10,000 people were diagnosed with 9/11-related cancer.

The hijackers were Islamic terrorists from Saudi Arabia and several other Arab nations. Reportedly financed by the al-Qaida terrorist organization of Saudi fugitive Osama bin Laden, they were allegedly acting in retaliation for America's support of Israel, its involvement in the Persian Gulf War and its continued military presence in the Middle East. Operation Enduring Freedom, the American-led international effort to oust the Taliban regime in Afghanistan and destroy Osama bin Laden's terrorist network based there, began on October 7. Within two months, U.S. forces had effectively removed the Taliban from operational power, but the war continued, as U.S. and coalition forces attempted to defeat a Taliban insurgency campaign based in neighboring Pakistan.

The 9/11 Commission (charged with investigating the events that lead up to September 11th) Report was released on July 22, 2004. It named Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the accused mastermind behind 9/11, "the principal architect of the 9/11 attacks." Mohammed led propaganda operations



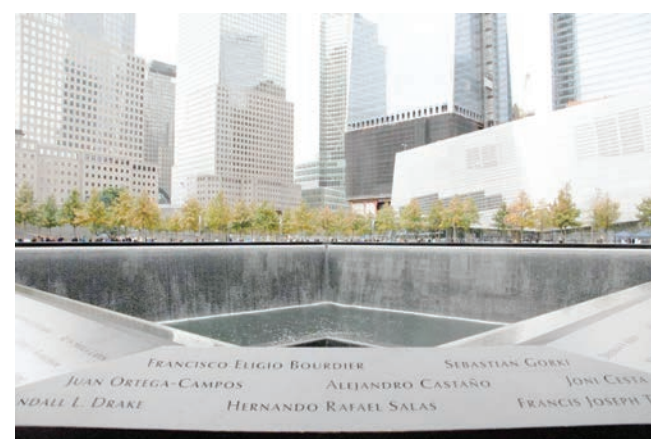
*The iconic World Trade Center twin towers were hit on September 11, 2001.*



*The Pentagon, the nerve center of the U.S. military, was struck by the American Airlines Flight 77*



*Pedestrians scramble for safety in front of City Hall in New York as the first World Trade Center tower collapses after being hit by an aircraft*



*World Trade Center 9/11 Memorial in New York City*

for al-Qaida from 1999-2001. He was captured on March 1, 2003 by the Central Intelligence Agency and Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence and interrogated before being imprisoned in Guantanamo Bay detention camp with four other accused terrorists charged with 9/11-related war crimes.

Osama bin Laden, the mastermind behind the September 11 attacks, remained at large until May 2, 2011, when he was finally tracked down and killed by U.S. forces at a hideout in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

Even though Osama bin Laden and many other Al Qaeda leaders have been eliminated, there always is a threat to America from terrorists. Americans must remember, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty".

*(TIP Bureau with inputs from History.com)*



# UTTARAKHAND: SNUGGLED IN THE LAP OF HIMALAYAS

Uttarakhand is one of the most beautiful northern states of India located on the southern slope of the Himalayan range. Mighty Himalayan peaks and glaciers are on its north where it borders Tibet. Nepal is on its east, Indian state of Uttar Pradesh is on south and Himachal Pradesh lies on its west and northwest. 65% of its area is covered by dense forests that are home to Royal Bengal tiger, leopards and many other endangered animal and plant species. The glaciers of two of the most important rivers—Ganga and Yamuna—are located here.

It has something to offer to every kind of traveller. For wildlife lovers, Jim Corbett National Park—the oldest national park of the Indian subcontinent is a must visit. Many rare Himalayan birds can also be spotted here besides Pangot and Sattal. For adventure seekers there are some of India's best trekking trails like Valley Of Flowers, Roopkund, and Chopta-Chandrashila. It also provides immense opportunities for adventure sports, such as skiing at Auli and white water rafting at Shivpuri. Popularly known as the 'Land of Gods', it is home to numerous holy places like Gangotri, Yamnotri, Kedarnath, Badrinath, Rishkesh and Haridwar. Therefore, thousands of pilgrims throng the state every year. Amazing hill stations like Chakrata, Mukteshwar, Dhanaulti and Munsiyari make Uttarakhand a sought after tourist destination for leisure trips. Here's a list of destinations in Uttarakhand that every nature lover would love to visit.

## CHAKRATA

Having breakfast with the view of snow-covered Himalayan peaks on a lazy morning while soft rays of winter sun embrace your body and soul while cool breeze kisses you is something city people always crave for. Chakrata located at a distance of 330 km from Delhi, is a tiny hamlet which is a perfect place to do so. There are two routes to drive from Delhi to Chakrata, one is via Panipat and Kurukshetra and the second one is via Loni and Saharanpur, which supposedly is more beautiful and has less traffic.

Chakrata is a small cantonment town in Dehradun district resting at an elevation of about 7500 ft. The town gets a magnificent view of the snow covered Himalayas and is covered in deodar, Himalayan oak and rhododendron forest. Many day trips to places like Deoban, Koti, Kanasar can be done with Chakrata as base. There are some easy treks also around Chakrata that your hotel guys can arrange for you. There are not many hotels in the area so make sure to book your accommodation in advance. Chakrata is a year round destination; the winter season is perfect to experience snow, greenery is at its best during the monsoon season and the summer season too is quite pleasant.

## AULI

Auli is one of the most beautiful places of Uttarakhand. Bordered by snow-covered Himalayan peaks, Auli is enveloped in dense golden oak and pine



forest with green meadows and slopes ranging from a height of 2519 m to 3049 m. It is considered to be a world-class spot for skiing. GMVN winter resort here provides skiing facility, besides ski training for aspirants. Almost from everywhere in Auli, you can enjoy stunning views of the lofty mountain ranges—Nanda Devi, Mana Paravat and Kamat.

The golden rays of sun on the snow-laden peaks fill the atmosphere with a divine glow. The 3rd highest peak of the world—Nanda Devi gleams like the crown of the region. There is an open cable-car to go up to the spot where

skiing is done. Even if you do not want to ski, you have plenty of things to do. Climb up the slopes, play with snow, ride a sledge and who knows you might feel like trying skiing too. The best time to visit Auli is in between December and March.

## CORBETT

Spread across an area of 520.8 sq km, Jim Corbett National Park is located in Nainital district of Uttarakhand. It is the oldest national park, and is named after Jim Corbett who was the main person behind this establishment. The park is divided in 5 zones—Bijrani, Jhirna,

Durgadevi, Dhikala, Sitavani—and is inhabited by royal Bengal tiger, leopard, jungle cat, barking deer, hog deer, cheetal, sloth bears, otters, Himalayan goral, Indian pangolins, langur and many other wild animals. Many rare birds can also be spotted in the region.

Gorgeous Corbett National Park is one of the favourite destinations equally for wildlife lovers and weekenders. It is just 235 km away from capital city and can be reached in couple of hours. It features splendid landscapes and offers a good amalgam of hills, rivers, forests, marshlands and grasslands. The park is open from the months of November through June. The park is kept closed in the monsoon season as the roads inside the park get washed away due to rain. After the monsoon season, repair work starts and ends only by November.

## MUKTESHWAR

Staying in middle of fruit orchards in tents and eating garden fresh meals while looking at the Himalayan peaks covered in fresh snow are a few of the many beautiful memories I have of Mukteshwar. You can walk through the dense pine forest and enjoy stunning views of the mighty mountains. Situated at an altitude of 7500 ft in the lap of Kumaon hills, Mukteshwar is an ideal nature get away from Delhi. It just takes 7 hrs from Delhi to reach Mukteshwar via Gajraula, Rampur, Haldwani and Bhowali. Summer months (March to July) are the best months to visit Mukteshwar. If you want to experience snow, visit during Jan or Feb when the whole area is covered in snow and looks stunningly beautiful. If you happen to visit this place around the month of June, the harvesting season, you'd find many fruits like peaches, plum and apricot. And if you still did not have your fill, Mukteshwar has many fruit orchards and you might get lucky to get offered the fruits just plucked from the trees by villagers. The taste of crunchy fresh peaches plucked from a road side tree of an orchard that belonged to a generous local who gladly offered us to pluck as many as we want, is still fresh in my mouth. Mukteshwar has recently got very popular among those looking for holidays in offbeat destinations and hence there is a wide range of options to stay starting from camps to budget hotels to boutique hotels.

## KAUSANI

Kausani is a quiet little town in the Kumaon region of Uttaranchal, 420 km away from Delhi. It offers breathtaking panoramic views of the snow-capped peaks of Panchchuli, Nandakot, Nanda Devi, Trishul, Nanda Gunti and Chaukhamba. If weather is favorable you might witness the best sunrise of your life here with soft golden light of morning sun creating magic over the peaks. This can be best witnessed from the GMVN guesthouse some 2 km away from the main town. There are many attractions close by of which Anasakti Ashram, Tea Estate and factory, Rudhradhari Falls and caves, and Burha Pinnath are the prominent ones.



# AMAZING BENEFITS OF BANANA FOR SKIN, HAIR AND HEALTH

Bananas not only taste delicious, but they're also packed with potassium, antioxidants, vitamins, biotin and minerals that nourish your hair and skin. Here are some of the many benefits of bananas.

## Get a Boost of Energy

Need a little pick-me-up during the middle of the day? Bananas have a combination of complex carbs, amino acids, natural sugars and other minerals that provide a natural energy boost.

Bananas are the secret to well moisturized skin. The vitamin A in bananas restores moisture and repairs dry skin. Mash a ripe banana and apply it to dry skin, avoiding contact with your eyes. Leave on for 20-25 minutes, then wash off with lukewarm water for instantly moisturized skin.

## Condition Hair

Bananas offer many natural benefits to keep your hair looking fabulous, like folic acid that makes hair shine, while also keeping it moisturized and well hydrated. Try making our two-ingredient deep-conditioning hair mask for super soft strands.

## Treat Dry Feet

The moisturizing benefits of bananas are also great for treating dry, cracked heels. Mash two ripe bananas and apply to clean, dry feet. Leave on for 10 minutes, then rinse feet with lukewarm water. The nourishing banana pulp will give you soft feet.

## Relieve Tired and Puffy Eyes

Banana peels can be used to reduce puffy eyes. Enjoy a banana for breakfast, lie down and gently place the banana



peels on your eyes. Let sit for 15-20 minutes, remove the peels and rinse with cool water for a bright, refreshed look.

## Relieve Itchy Mosquito Bites

The sugars in the banana peel help draw the fluid out of itchy mosquito bites. Sanitize the affected area first, then rub the inside of the peel on the

bite. Banana peels also help relieve the itch from poison ivy when used the same way.

## Treat Acne

Bananas have anti-inflammatory properties which reduce the appearance and redness of acne. There's been some success treating acne blemishes by



## Top 5 Benefits

- Skin moisturizer. Rich in potassium and moisture, it will hydrate and moisturizes dry skin, making it soft and supple.
- Oil control. If you've got oily greasy skin, use a simple banana face mask with lemon juice and honey.
- Anti-aging effects.
- Treats acne.
- Lightens dark spots.

gently rubbing the affected area with the inside of a banana peel for a few minutes, rinsing with cool water and repeating a few times a day.

## Sleep Better

Try eating a banana before bed if you're having trouble falling asleep. The potassium and magnesium in bananas help relax muscles and promote sleep.

## Whiten Teeth

Ripe banana peels can also be used to help whiten teeth. Cut off a piece of the peel and gently rub the inner part over your teeth for a couple of minutes. Wait about 10 minutes before you brush with toothpaste. Repeat 1-2 times for best results.

## 'SLEEP DIVORCE' IS A THING, AND HERE'S WHAT IT COULD MEAN FOR YOUR RELATIONSHIP

What's a sleep divorce, you might ask? Simply put, it's sleeping in a different bed or bedroom from your partner or spouse, allowing you both to sleep peacefully on your own schedule and in the environment that suits your needs best.

It might sound extreme (and a little like an old-fashioned sitcom trope), but it turns out that sleeping on your own might be the key to getting the best night's rest ever, and a new survey of 3,000 Americans shows that around 31% of us actually want to get a sleep divorce. For starters, getting consistent quality sleep is important for our health and well-being, and if you're not getting enough sleep, you're likely struggling in ways you may not even realize.

There are many reasons why you might love your partner but hate their sleeping habits. For example, if you run on different schedules, or if you prefer to hit the sheets early and your partner stays up to watch TV. Snoring, body heat, and the



dreaded night kicking could also lead to sleepless nights, which means that come morning, you're tired, irritable, or downright cranky.

And with more research proving that sleep is a crucial part of your health, a sleep divorce just might be the remedy needed for happier days spent with your significant other.

But what if you feel like sleeping separately might lead to a lack of time spent doing other, more sexy things in between the sheets? It's totally possible for couples to sleep in separate beds and still maintain a good sexual connection. They get enough rest and they feel like they are able to hear each other out and get their needs met.

## FOOD CORNER

### Chilli Garlic Noodles

#### Ingredients

Noodles - 1/2 cup, cooked  
Onions - 1/2 cup, chopped  
Carrot - 1/2 cup, grated,  
Ginger Garlic Paste - 1 tblsp  
Chilli Paste - 1/2 tblsp,  
Coriander Leaves - handful, chopped,  
Oil - 2 tblsp, Salt - as per taste

#### Method

- Heat oil in a pan over moderate flame.
- Add the onions, carrot, ginger garlic paste, salt and chilli paste.
- Stir to mix well.
- Add the noodles and mix well to combine all ingredients.
- Garnish with coriander leaves.





# SLEEPING TOO MUCH OR TOO LITTLE 'CAN UP RISK OF HEART ATTACK'

Experts at the University of Colorado Boulder have analysed genetic information, self-reported sleep habits, and medical records of 461,000 people and followed them for seven years.

Accordingly, they discovered that people who slept fewer than six hours a night were 20 per cent more likely to have a heart attack during the study period, while those who slept more than nine hours were 34 per cent more likely.

"This provides some of the strongest proof yet that sleep duration is a key factor when it comes to heart health, and this holds true for everyone," said senior author Celine Vetter.

Vetter and co-authors at the Massachusetts General Hospital and the University of Manchester analysed the data from the 2006-2007 UK Biobank study and 461,000 participants aged 40 and 69 who had never had a heart attack.

They also found that getting six to nine hours of sleep each night can cut heart attack risk by 18 per cent in people with a genetic predisposition to heart disease.

"It's kind of a hopeful message, that regardless of what your inherited risk for heart attack is, sleeping a healthy amount may cut



that risk just like eating a healthy diet, not smoking, and other lifestyle approaches can," added lead author Iyas Daghlas.

In addition, they reported that the farther people fell outside of the six to nine hour range, the

more their risk increased, as people who slept five hours per night had a 52 per cent higher risk of heart attack than those who slept seven to eight, while those who slept 10 hours nightly were twice as likely to have one.



## WHY WOMEN GET HEART ATTACKS LATER THAN MEN

Although women develop coronary artery disease (CAD) almost 10 years later than men as scientists have attributed this decade-long delay to the protective effects of sex hormones, the heart disease finally catches up with women owing to the presence of "fat-absorbing" XX hormones.

There is a lot of evidence that hormones like estrogen and progesterone protect the heart, but scientists had little data on the influence of the genetic component -- the X chromosome -- on the heart.

New research at the University of Kentucky has confirmed that the presence of XX sex chromosomes increases the amount of fat circulating in the blood, which leads to narrowing of the arteries and ultimately a higher risk of heart attacks and coronary artery disease.

The team looked at lipids absorbed from the diet and made in the liver.

"We looked at how our X sex chromosomes were influencing the levels of lipids in the blood and in the arteries," said Lisa Cassis, a researcher in the UK College of Medicine, in a paper published in the journal Nature Communications.

What they found is that an XX sex chromosome combination promotes efficient use of fat.

Women need fat to bear and feed babies, Cassis explained.

## SOFT DRINKS CAN INCREASE RISK OF EARLY DEATH

Consumption of soft drinks—whether sweetened with sugar or artificial sweeteners—may be associated with an increased risk of premature death, according to a study.

The study, involving over 4,50,000 participants from 10 European countries, found that those who drank two or more glasses of soft drinks, including sugar-sweetened and artificially sweetened soft drinks, per day had a higher risk of mortality from all causes than those who consumed less than one glass per month.

Specific associations were also observed between artificially sweetened soft drinks and deaths from circulatory diseases and sugar-sweetened soft drinks with mortality resulting from digestive diseases, researchers said.

The study, published in the journal JAMA Internal Medicine, surveyed participants on their food and drink consumption between 1992 to 2000 and followed up an average of 16 years later.

# Mouthwash use could negate benefits of exercise

The blood pressure-lowering effect of exercise is significantly reduced when people rinse their mouths with antibacterial mouthwash rather than water, according to a study which shows the importance of oral bacteria in cardiovascular health.

The study, published in the journal Free Radical Biology and Medicine, suggests that health professionals should pay attention to the oral environment when recommending interventions involving physical activity for high blood pressure.

"Scientists already know that blood vessels open up during exercise, as the production of nitric oxide increases the diameter of the blood vessels (known as vasodilation), increasing blood flow circulation to active muscles," said Raul Bescos, from the University of Plymouth in the UK.

"What has remained a mystery is how blood circulation remains higher after exercise, in turn triggering a blood-pressure lowering response known as post-exercise hypotension," Bescos said.

Previous research has suggested that nitric oxide was not involved in this post-exercise response -- and only involved during exercise -- but the new study challenges these views.

"It's all to do with nitric oxide degrading into a compound called nitrate, which for years was thought to have no function in the body. But research over the last decade has shown that nitrate can be absorbed in the salivary glands and excreted with saliva in the mouth," said Bescos.

Twenty-three healthy adults were asked to run on a



treadmill for a total of 30 minutes on two separate occasions, after which they were monitored for two hours.

On each occasion at one, 30, 60 and 90 minutes after exercise they were asked to rinse their mouths with a liquid—either antibacterial mouthwash (0.2 per cent chlorhexidine) or a placebo of mint-flavoured water.

Their blood pressure was measured and saliva and blood samples were taken before exercise and at 120 minutes after exercise.

The study found that when participants rinsed with the placebo, the average reduction in systolic blood pressure was 5.2 millimetres of mercury (mmHg) at one hour after exercise.

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## IPHONE BUG ALSO ACCESSED WHATSAPP, TELEGRAM CHATS: GOOGLE

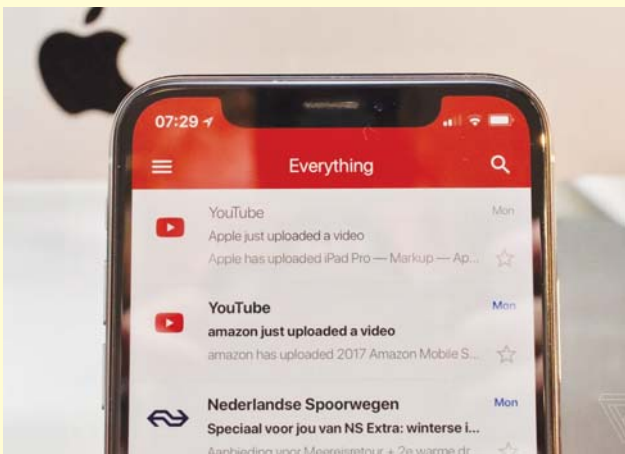
Google researchers have identified a vulnerability that accessed all the database files on the victim's iPhone used by end-to-end encryption apps like WhatsApp, Telegram and iMessage.

In one of the biggest attacks against iPhone users, researchers working in Google's Project Zero team earlier discovered several hacked websites that used security flaws in iPhones to attack users who visited these websites.

The malicious websites may have compromised personal files, messages, and real time location data of iPhone users. After they reported their findings to Apple, the Cupertino-based tech giant patched the vulnerabilities.

Later, they also revealed that the users' chats in WhatsApp and Telegram were also compromised.

"In the earlier posts, we examined how the attackers gained 'unsandboxed' code execution as root on iPhones." "The implant has access to all the database files (on the victim's phone) used by popular end-to-end encryption apps like WhatsApp, Telegram and iMessage," said Ian Beer from Google's Project Zero.



## YOU CAN FINALLY BLOCK IMAGES IN THE GMAIL APP ON IPHONE AND IPAD

Google rolled out an update for the Gmail app on iOS this week that allows users to choose whether or not they want external images to load automatically when they open an email. This might not sound like a huge deal, but as former Twitter executive Mike Davidson revealed in a blog post back in July, attached images can double as email trackers, and some can even tell the sender exactly where you were when you opened the message.

You can now choose to be asked before external images are displayed automatically.

To enable this for new incoming messages, go to Settings > specific account > Images and select Ask before displaying external images.

This setting was previously only available to desktop users, but now all iPhone and iPad owners can up their privacy game as well. As The Verge notes, the setting is accessible on personal Gmail accounts, but does not appear to have migrated to G Suite accounts quite yet. Hopefully Google will clarify that soon.

# CHANDRAYAAN-2 MOVES CLOSER TO MOON, COMPLETES SECOND DE-ORBITING

Chandrayaan-2 completed yet another feat in its journey to Moon this morning when it successfully performed the second de-orbiting. In a press release about the development, Isro said the manoeuvre was performed successfully as planned within nine seconds.

"The second de-orbiting maneuver for Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft was performed successfully today (September 04, 2019) beginning at 0342 hrs IST as planned, using the onboard propulsion system. The duration of the maneuver was 9 seconds," Isro said in a press release.

As of today (Sept 3), the orbit of Vikram Lander is 35km X 101km.

Isro said Chandrayaan-2 continues to orbit the Moon in an orbit of 96 km x 125 km. It said both the Orbiter and Lander are healthy.

Chandrayaan-2 is arguably Isro's most sophisticated project till date. It plans to land a rover on the far-end or dark face of the Moon. What also distinguishes the mission is that it aims to soft-land the rover on



Moon's surface, a feat achieved only by three other countries so far.

Speaking about the development Isro said, "With this manoeuvre the required orbit for the Vikram Lander to commence its descent towards the surface of the Moon is achieved. The Lander is scheduled

to powered descent between 0100 - 0200 hrs IST on September 07, 2019, which is then followed by touchdown of Lander between 0130 - 0230 hrs IST."

The first de-orbiting was performed successfully on September 03.

## FB ROLLS OUT FACE RECOGNITION, KILLS TAGGING OPTION

In a much-needed relief for 2.41 billion users, Facebook is rolling out Face recognition feature to all which will replace the earlier "Tag Suggestions" settings that notified you if someone uploaded a photo and automatically tagged you in it.

People who are new to Facebook or who previously had the "Tag Suggestions" setting will have the face recognition setting by default and will receive information about how it works.

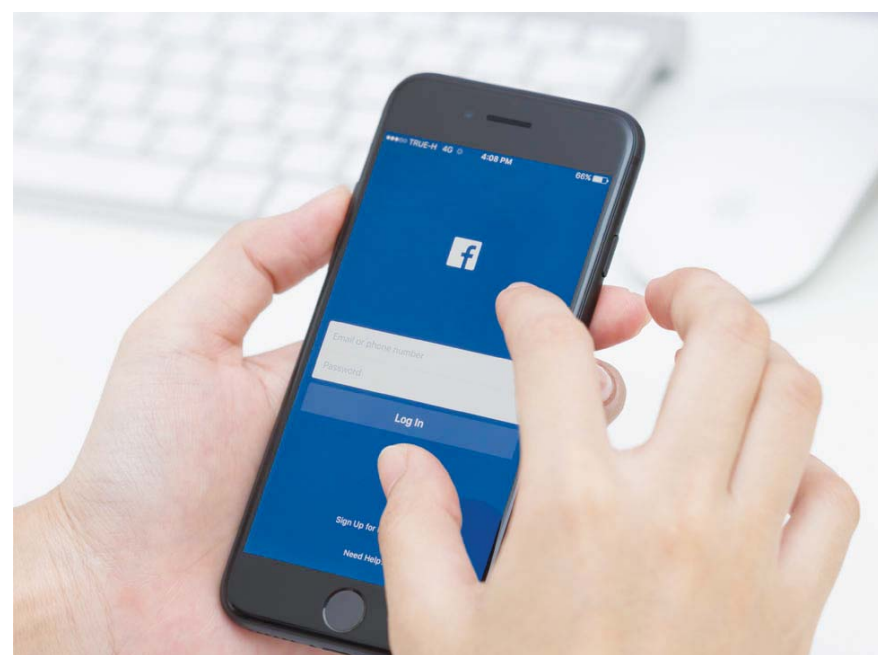
"The Tag Suggestions setting, which only controls whether we can suggest that your friends tag you in photos or videos using face recognition will no longer be available," Srinivas Narayanan, Applied Research Lead, Facebook AI, said in a statement on Tuesday.

If you have Face Recognition turned on, Facebook will notify you if someone uploads a photo of you, even if you aren't tagged.

In December 2017, Facebook introduced a new setting for some people called face recognition.

"Our face recognition setting lets you manage not only whether Facebook uses face recognition technology on photos of you in order to suggest tags; it provides an easy on or off switch for a broader set of uses of face recognition, such as helping you protect your identity on Facebook," explained Narayanan.

People who still have the tag



suggestions setting will begin to see a notice in their News Feed.

The notice will include information about the new features and options to learn more about how Facebook uses face recognition, along with a button to turn it on or keep it off.

"If you do not currently have the face recognition setting and do nothing, we will not use face recognition to recognise you or suggest tags," said the social media giant. In addition, features like Photo Review, which lets users know when they appear in photos

even if they are not tagged, as long as they have permission to see the post based on its privacy setting, will not be activated.

"People will still be able to manually tag friends, but we won't suggest you to be tagged if you do not have face recognition turned on. If you already have the face recognition setting, you won't receive a notice," the company added.

"We don't share your face recognition information with third parties. We also don't sell our technology," it noted.



# CRISIL cuts India's GDP growth this fiscal to 6.9%

**MUMBAI (TIP):** Describing the slowdown as "deeper and more broad-based than suspected", domestic rating agency Crisil today sharply slashed its GDP forecast for FY20 to 6.3% from 6.9% earlier.

The downward review comes days after GDP growth slowed down to a 25-quarter low of 5% in the June quarter which significantly is even lower than Pakistan's 5.4% growth and is due to the slump in private consumption and a near stalling of manufacturing activities, the agency said.

The expected growth is based on the assumption of a pick-up from the second quarter due to low base effect and more importantly, if the economy can maintain the same speed through the rest of the year, the note said.

"We expect growth to get some lift from the low base effect of 6.3% in the second half of the FY19," it said.

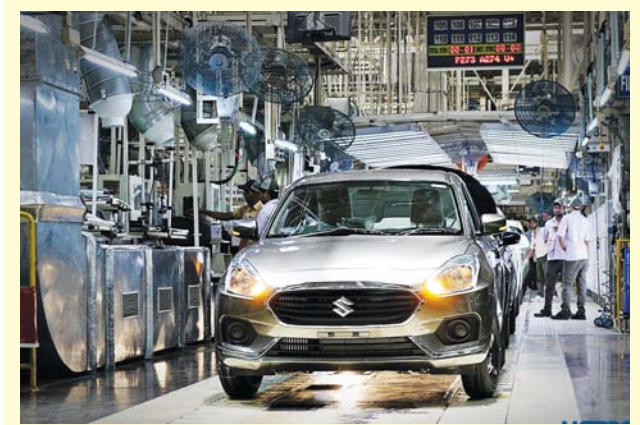
Other factors, including easing monetary policy with faster transmission and also consumption getting a boost from the farmers following the minimum income support scheme, will also help revive growth, it said. Having set an



ambitious target of nearly doubling the economy to \$5 trillion over the next five years, the government has taken some measures, including easing foreign investment norms in select sectors, early recapitalisation of the nearly crippled state-run banks and also clearing vendor payments on time.

But the Crisil note says these

moves will at best address some "pain points" apart from supporting the sentiment. Elaborating on its not-so-pleasing outlook on the economy, Crisil said private consumption demand, which has been the bulwark of growth for the last few decades, grew by a pale 3.1% in the first quarter as against 7.2% growth in the preceding quarter.



## OUTPUT DOWN, MARUTI TO SHUT OPS FOR 2 DAYS

**GURUGRAM (TIP):** Amid mounting woes over slowdown in the automobile sector, country's biggest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India has decided to halt production for two days reportedly owing to a pending inventory.

The company said it would halt manufacturing operations at its two manufacturing facilities on September 7 and 9.

"Maruti Suzuki India Limited has decided to shut down the passenger vehicle manufacturing operations of two Gurugram plant and Manesar plant in Haryana for two days, on September 7 and 9, 2019," the company said.

Senior company officials said Maruti Suzuki had cut its production by one-third (33.99%) in August, making it the seventh straight month of reduction for the carmaker.

## Link lending rate to repo: RBI

**MUMBAI (TIP):** The RBI today asked banks to link all new floating-rate loans for housing, personal and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to specified external benchmarks, including repo, for faster transmission of reduction in interest rate to borrowers.

It has been observed that due to various reasons, the transmission of policy rate changes to the lending rate of banks under the current marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) framework has not been satisfactory, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in a statement.

"The RBI therefore has today issued a circular making it mandatory for banks to link all new floating rate personal or retail loans and floating rate loans to MSMEs to an external benchmark effective October 1, 2019," it said.

The interest rate under external benchmark shall be reset at least once in three months, it said.

## AUSTRALIAN ECONOMIC GROWTH HITS 10-YEAR LOW

**T**he Australian economy has recorded its weakest annual growth in a decade, official data released Wednesday showed, expanding just 1.4 percent in the year to June.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics reported the economy grew 0.5 percent between April and June compared with the previous quarter, a small increase driven by mining exports and government spending.

"The external sector drove GDP growth this quarter, while growth in the domestic economy remains steady," chief economist Bruce Hockman said.

Australia has avoided recession for almost 28 years but Wednesday's figures will fuel concerns about the economic outlook with growth falling to its lowest levels since the global financial crisis in 2009.

No other OECD nation has enjoyed such a prolonged uninterrupted period of economic growth, in part thanks to a mining boom in the 2000s on the back of strong demand for resources from China.

Shane Oliver, chief economist at AMP Capital, said the current risk of a recession "cannot be ignored", with conditions in some pockets of the economy already feeling "recession-like".

"With consumer spending still struggling to lift noticeably, falling residential construction, moderate business investment growth, the private sector side of the economy will likely remain weak," he said.

## Cabinet approves Rs 9,300-crore capital infusion in IDBI Bank

**NEW DELHI (TIP):** The government approved Rs 9,300-crore fund infusion in IDBI Bank to help improve the bank's capital base and turn it profitable.

Briefing media about Cabinet decisions, Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said it will help in completing the process of IDBI Bank's turnaround and enable it to return to profitability and normal lending, and giving government the option of recovering its investment at an opportune time. Of the Rs 9,300 crore needed, LIC would meet 51% (Rs 4,743 crore), he said. The remaining 49%, amounting to Rs 4,557 crore, is proposed from the government as its share on one-time basis, he added. The shareholding of the government was reduced to 46.46% from 86% while LIC stake in the bank increased to 51% in January this year.

LIC acquired controlling 51% stake in the bank, making it the lender's majority shareholder in January this year.

After this infusion, IDBI Bank expects to be able to subsequently raise further capital on its own and expects to come out of RBI's Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework sometime next year, he said.



## CHINA SAYS TRADE NEGOTIATORS HEADING TO US IN EARLY OCTOBER



**C**hina announced that its trade negotiators will travel to Washington early next month for talks with U.S. counterparts, boosting the chances for a resolution to the tariff war after weeks of uncertainty and escalation.

Vice Premier Liu He agreed to the visit in a phone call on Thursday morning Beijing time with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, according to a statement from China's commerce ministry. Lower-level officials will have "serious" discussions this month to prepare for the talks, which had originally been expected to take place in September.

The prospect of talks may raise hope of some progress in the more than year-long trade war, though clear differences between the two sides on the substantive issues remain. Both sides raised tariffs on Sept. 1 in the latest round of retaliation, the U.S. plans to add more tariffs on Oct. 1., and then both nations will increase them again on Dec. 15 unless there is some breakthrough.

S&P 500 Index futures climbed on the news, gaining 0.7%. The offshore yuan advanced, while havens such as the yen and gold declined.

Commerce Minister Zhong Shan, People's Bank of China Governor Yi Gang and Ning Jizhe, the deputy head of the economic planning commission, were also on the call, the statement said.



cond from page 1

## India, Russia begin...

A Memorandum of Intent was signed on Wednesday, September 4 between India and Russia for the development of maritime communications between the ports of Chennai and Vladivostok in Russia's Far East Region.

"We are starting a new era of cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region," Modi said, adding that the partnership between India and Russian in the development of the Far East will make it a "confluence of open, free and inclusive Indo-Pacific".

The Far East, Modi said, will become the bedrock of strong Indo-Russia ties, which is based on the principles of "rules-based order, sovereignty, respect for territorial integrity and is against engaging in the internal matters of other countries".

India, the US and several other world powers have been talking about the need to ensure a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of China's rising military maneuvering in the region.

China has been trying to expand its military presence in the Indo-Pacific, a biogeographic region comprising the Indian Ocean and the western and central Pacific Ocean, including the South China Sea.

China claims almost all of the South China Sea. Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have counter claims over the sea.

Earlier in the day, Modi met his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe on the sidelines of the Eastern Economic Forum. Both the countries agreed to further deepen cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

In November last year, India, the US, Australia and Japan had given shape to the long-pending Quadrilateral coalition to develop a new strategy to keep the critical sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of Chinese influence.

China is engaged in hotly contested territorial disputes in the East China Sea too with Japan. Beijing has built up and militarized many of the islands and reefs it controls in the region.

Both areas are stated to be rich in minerals, oil and other natural resources. They are also vital to global trade (Source: PTI)

## Pompeo declines to sign...

a media report said Wednesday, September 4. Pompeo is "declining to put his name to the deal" that has been hammered out by Special US Representative on Afghan reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad after nine rounds of talks with the representatives of the Taliban in Doha, the Time magazine reported on Wednesday, September 4.

"It doesn't guarantee the continued presence of US counterterrorism forces to battle al-Qaeda, the survival of the pro-US government in Kabul, or even an end to the fighting in Afghanistan," reported Time magazine, which based its report on unnamed senior Afghan, European Union and Trump Administration officials.

"No one speaks with certainty. None," said an Afghan official taking part in briefings on the deal with Khalilzad.

"It is all based on hope. There is no trust. There is no history of trust. There is no evidence of honesty and sincerity from the Taliban," and intercepted communications "show that they think they have fooled the US while the US believes that should the Taliban cheat, they will pay a hefty price."

According to Time magazine, the Taliban has asked for Pompeo to sign an agreement with the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, the official name of the government founded by the Taliban in Afghanistan in 1996.

"Having the Secretary of State sign such a document would amount to de facto recognition of the Taliban as a legitimate political entity, and he declined to do so," the report said, quoting the Afghan officials.

Pompeo's office declined to comment.

If the deal is signed, the US has agreed to withdraw some 5,400 US troops, roughly a third of the present force, from five bases within 135 days. (Source:PTI)

## Half-truths, untruths...

factually incorrect information that is disseminated in the media, primarily in the United States. Purpose of my conversation is really to bring to you the facts," he said.

Seeking to counter what he called speculation, half-truths and untruths peddled in the media, primarily the U.S. media, Shringla said 91 percent of the Kashmir Valley is restriction-free and there is no communication gap. Rejecting reports of disruption in medical services in the valley due to the restrictive measures imposed by the government, Shringla said seven hundred thousand people had availed of OPD services in the month of August alone.

The administrative reorganization of Jammu and Kashmir and the abrogation of Article 370 are India's internal matter and do not impinge on the country's external boundaries or the Line of Control, Shringla said. Article 370 was meant to be temporary in nature and should have been abrogated a long time ago, he explained, adding that due legislative process was followed by the government in doing away with the provision. He said that the reason why

these measures were taken was to "ensure that the positive steps of the government should not be scuttled due to incitement and vested interests from across the border."

## 400 million Facebook...

as well as the gender listed by some accounts and their geographical locations, technology website TechCrunch reported.

The server was not password protected, meaning anyone could access the databases, and remained online until late Wednesday when TechCrunch contacted the site's host.

Facebook confirmed parts of the report but downplayed the extent of the exposure, saying that the number of accounts so far confirmed was around half of the reported 419 million.

It added that many of the entries were duplicates and that the data was old.

Following the 2018 Cambridge Analytica scandal, when a firm used Facebook's lax privacy settings to access millions of users' personal details, the company disabled a feature that allowed users to search the platform by phone numbers.

The exposure of a user's phone number leaves them vulnerable to spam calls, SIM-swapping-as recently happened to Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey-with hackers able to force-reset the passwords of the compromised accounts. (Source: Agencies)

## British Parliament...

an alliance of opposition parties and rebels expelled from Johnson's Conservative party voted to force him to seek a three-month delay to Brexit rather than leaving without a deal on October 31, the date now set in law.

Behind the sound and the fury of the Brexit crisis, an election now beckons for a polarized country.

The main choices on offer are Johnson's radical insistence on leaving the EU on October 31, come what may, and Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's hard-left socialist vision, coupled with a promise of a fresh referendum with an option to stay in the EU.

"Boris will argue that it is now time for the people to decide after parliament has failed them, so we can resolve this once and for all," a spokesman for the prime minister said.

"Jeremy Corbyn continues not only to block Brexit but is now also stopping the people having their say by refusing a General Election."

The opposition Labour Party cast Johnson's language - including calling Corbyn a "chicken" - as pathetic, said he was trying to act like US President Donald Trump, and compared him to a 3-year-old toddler having a tantrum.

An election adds a new twist to a

Brexit crisis that has for three years overshadowed European Union affairs, eroded Britain's reputation as a stable pillar of the West and seen sterling twitch in tune to the probability of a 'no-deal' exit.

Johnson, the face of the 2016 Vote Leave campaign, has pushed for an election on October 15, two weeks before the United Kingdom is due to leave the EU, though opposition parties are debating which date they would accept.

"We are saying, yeah, bring on a General Election, of course," said John McDonnell, the Labour Party's second most powerful man.

"We will ensure that happens after we have got the legislation to protect against a 'no-deal' Brexit. But we will consult and do it on at the date on which we will think will have maximum advantage against a 'no-deal'," he said.

While sterling rose on Parliament's bid to block a no-deal exit, an election before Brexit would allow him, if he won, to repeal the blocking bill, which was passed by 329-300 and then 327-299 in the House of Commons on Wednesday. The law will pass the upper house, the Lords, by Friday evening.

Johnson's finance minister, Sajid Javid, opened up the possibility of a change to the Oct. 15 date but said the government could strike a renegotiated Brexit deal with Brussels and get it through parliament before October 31.

But the EU, and Germany and France in particular, have repeatedly called on Britain to make specific proposals on how it wants to change the agreement struck by Johnson's predecessor, Theresa May, in November.

Diplomats said an election campaign would halt any Brexit talks with the EU and expressed frustration with the turmoil of British politics at such an important juncture in European history.

"The UK side continues to produce chaos and it is very hard to predict anything," said one EU diplomat.

(Source: Agencies)

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# KAILASANATHAR TEMPLE

The Kanchi Kailasanathar temple is the oldest structure in Kanchipuram. Located in Tamil Nadu, India, it is a Hindu temple in the Dravidian architectural style. It is dedicated to Lord Shiva, and is known for its historical importance. The temple was built from 685-705AD by a Rajasimha ruler of the Pallava Dynasty. The low-slung sandstone compound contains a large number of carvings, including many half-animal deities which were popular during the early Dravidian architectural period.

The Kailasanathar Temple (meaning: "Lord of the Cosmic Mountain"), is built in the tradition of Smartha worship of Shiva, Vishnu, Devi, Surya (Sun), Ganapati and Kartikeya, in Hinduism, a practice which replaced the Buddhism.

Temple construction is credited to the Pallava dynasty, who had established their kingdom with Kanchipuram (also known as "Kanchi" or "Shiva Vishnu Kanchi") as the capital city, considered one of the seven sacred cities under Hinduism. There was an interregnum when the Chalukya rulers defeated the Pallavas and occupied Kanchipuram. However, the Pallavas regained their territory and started expanding their capital city of Kanchipuram and built many temples of great magnificence. The only temple of this period which is extant is the Kailsahanathar Temple.

The temple was built during 685-705AD. It is the first structural temple built in South India by Narasimhavarman II (Rajasimha), and who is also known as Rajasimha Pallaveswaram. His son, Mahendravarman III, completed the front façade and the gopuram (tower). Prior temples were either built of wood or hewn into rock faces in caves or on boulders, as seen in Mahabalipuram. The Kailasanathar temple became the trend setter for other similar temples in South India. According to local belief, the temple was a safe sanctuary for the rulers of the kingdom during wars. A secret tunnel, built by the kings, was used as an escape route and is still visible.

The temple has gone by other names such as Kachipettu Periya Thirukatralli (meaning: Stone Temple of Kachipettu, the old name for the present day Kanchipuram) when Rajaraja Chola I of the Chola Dynasty paid a visit to this temple. Inspired by the architecture of



this temple, he built the Brihadeeswarar Temple in Thanjavur. Currently, Kanchi Kailasanathar Temple is maintained by Archaeological Survey of India.

### What makes it unique?

Unlike other temples, this compound wall is not just a wall! It has a small cell like shrines that constitutes the outer wall. So, you have to keep your eyes wide open even before entering the temple complex. Each cell has carved sculptures depicting the Somaskanda reliefs (mythological tales of Shiva and Parvati).

Inner Sanctum Common to any Shiva Temple, the inner sanctum has a granite Shiva Linga with a Nandi facing it. Rajasimha was a great devotee of Shiva and hence we can find many stone carvings of Shiva here.

We can also notice several sculptures of Nandi (Bull) and Lion. Historical texts suggest that the Bull was the emblem of Pallava Dynasty. Hence we can see the importance given to Nandi. Interestingly, the carving of lions can be seen in many parts of the temple. It just indicates to the interest or love for some animals which the sculptor or the king possessed.

There are also sculptures of several other gods like Vishnu, Brahma,



Ganesha, Durga and so on inside the temple.

### Interesting Facts About Kailasanathar Temple

A circumambulatory passage is there inside the shrine. One has to crawl inside the passage and climb several steps to

reach the exit. It is believed that this passage is symbolic of life and death.

The most famous Brihadeshwara Temple in Thanjavur is inspired by Kailasanathar Temple. Though, Kailasanathar Temple is the oldest shrine in Kanchipuram, it is not as famous as other temples in Tamil Nadu.



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**"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."**



# Kohli eclipses Dhoni to become most successful Indian Test captain

**KINGSTON (TIP):** Virat Kohli has surpassed Mahendra Singh Dhoni to become India's most successful Test skipper after the team recorded its 28th win under his leadership, a 257-run hammering of the West Indies here.

The 28 wins have come from 48 matches for Kohli as captain. His predecessor Dhoni led India to 27 wins from 60 Test matches during his tenure.

Sourav Ganguly and Mohammad Azharuddin are third and fourth in the list of successful Indian Test skippers with 21 and 14 wins, respectively.

Overall, former South Africa skipper Graeme Smith remains the most successful skipper in the world with 53 Test wins, followed by ex-Australia captain Ricky Ponting, who recorded 48 Test wins in his captaincy tenure.

India have made a superb start to the World Test Championship and the win in the second match not only helped them sweep the series 2-0 but also put them on top of the championship points table.

With 120 points from two games, India lead the nine-team table even though Pakistan, Bangladesh and South Africa are yet to begin their bilateral campaigns in the



championship.

Under Kohli, India have achieved some memorable victories in both India and abroad. Earlier this year, India clinched their maiden Test series in Australia, beating the hosts 2-1 in their own backyard.

In the match here, India entered the fourth day needing eight wickets to win and Kohli's men completed the task after lunch, dismissing the hosts for 210 in 59.5 overs in their chase of a near-impossible target of 468. The bowling quartet of Ishant Sharma (2/37 in 12 overs), Mohammed Shami (3/65 in 16

overs), Jasprit Bumrah (1/31 in 11 overs) and lone spinner Ravindra Jadeja (3/58 in 16.5 overs) were relentless in their pursuit of keeping the home team batsmen on a tight leash. Such was India's dominance in the two Tests that West Indies couldn't even cross 250 in any of their four innings and the only half-century was scored by Shamarh Brooks (50) in this game.

It was one of the most satisfying tours for skipper Kohli as his team claimed dominating triumphs in all three formats (3-0 in T20Is, 2-0 in ODIs, and 2-0 in Tests).

## ENG NIGHTMARE SMITH BACK, IN CHARGE

**MANCHESTER (TIP):** Steve Smith continued his outstanding Ashes form, striking an unbeaten 60 as Australia recovered from another failure by their openers to reach 170/3 at the close of the rain-affected first day of the fourth Test against England at Old Trafford here today. Rain caused a delay of over two hours after lunch but plans to extend play to regain that lost time were abandoned after rain came in again during the break for tea.

The afternoon delay did little to disrupt Smith, though, who returning from missing the last Test due to concussion, made his eighth straight Ashes half-century.

The series is tied a 1-1 with two Tests remaining and victory for Australia would ensure they retain the urn.

Smith and Marnus Labuschagne put on 116 for the third wicket before the latter was bowled by a beautiful delivery from Craig Overton for 67. It was a much-needed stand after England, on a high after their remarkable comeback win in Leeds, made a great start, bringing their supporters to their feet with just the fourth ball of the day. Stuart Broad claimed the wicket of David Warner for the fifth time in this series with the left-hander caught behind as he made a belated decision to leave the ball but gave a thin outside edge to Jonny Bairstow.

Australia found themselves at 28/2 when Broad rapped the pads of Marcus Harris and, after some consideration, umpire Kumar Dharmasena raised his finger and his verdict was upheld by video review. Australia's openers have averaged 15.14 — not since 1888 have their top two contributed less during an Ashes series.



## RUTHLESS SERENA GRABS 100TH US OPEN WIN

**NEW YORK (TIP):** Serena Williams earned her 100th win at the US Open with a brutal 44-minute demolition of Wang Qiang, firing an ominous warning to rivals in her pursuit of a record-tying 24th Grand Slam title.

Six-time US Open champion Williams on Tuesday dismantled Chinese 18th seed Wang 6-1, 6-0 in a complete mismatch that was the quickest at this year's tournament to set up a semi-final clash with Ukrainian trailblazer Elina Svitolina.

Williams brought up a century of US Open wins to move to within one of the all-time leader Chris Evert.

"It's really unbelievable, literally. From when I first started here, I think I was 16, I didn't think I would ever get to 100. I didn't think I would still be out here," Williams said.

The 37-year-old American is seeking a 24th major title to match Margaret Court's longstanding record, and smacked 25 winners against first-time Slam quarter-finalist Wang, who failed to hit a single one.

The 27-year-old Wang had not lost a set during her best Slam run that included a defeat of reigning French Open champion Ashleigh Barty in the last 16, but she was powerless to stop a Williams onslaught at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

## Bothered by back, Federer loses US Open QF to 'Baby Fed'

**NEW YORK (TIP):** Grigor Dimitrov stepped out of Roger Federer's shadow on Tuesday to claim a spot in the US Open semifinals with a shock 3-6 6-4 3-6 6-4 6-2 win over the wounded Swiss.

Coming into the US Open, the 78th ranked Dimitrov, dubbed "Baby Fed" because of the similarities between his game and Federer's, did not look much of a threat, posting just one win from his last eight matches. But the Bulgarian, who had been ranked as high as No. 3, has found some form on the New York hardcourts and claimed his first win in eight meetings with the 20-time Grand Slam winner.

Dimitrov will now face Daniil Medvedev on Friday for a place in the final, the Russian advancing to the last-four with a 7-6(6) 6-3 3-6 6-1 win over another Swiss, Stan Wawrinka.

While not as crushing as his five-set loss to Novak Djokovic in the Wimbledon final, it was another bitterly disappointing missed opportunity for Federer to add to his Grand Slam haul.

After a sputtering start to the US Open that saw him drop the first set in his opening two matches in an astonishingly submissive style,



Grigor Dimitrov, of Bulgaria, right, shakes hands with Roger Federer, of Switzerland, after a quarterfinal of the U.S. Open tennis tournament Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2019, in New York.

Federer had looked more like the silky smooth Swiss maestro fans have come to expect.

He was virtually flawless in his next two contests, dropping just nine games total in straight-set wins, setting the tennis world buzzing about a possible Grand Slam Big Apple final showdown with old rival Rafa Nadal.

"Just disappointed it's over because I did feel like I was actually playing really well after a couple of rocky starts," said Federer. "It's just a missed opportunity to some extent that you're in the lead, you can get through, you have two days off after. It was looking good. But you got to take the losses. They're part of the game."





### 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@bejandaruwala.com](mailto:info@bejandaruwala.com) and on phone **011-91-8141234275** [www.bejandaruwala.com](http://www.bejandaruwala.com)

The Indian Panorama brings you Weekly and Birthday Horoscope from the World's most trusted astrologer Bejan Daruwalla. Latest correct prediction: Modi's historic victory

## Weekly Horoscope - September 9 - September 15, 2019

**ARIES:** Ganesha says there is a lot on your plate in terms of work and social commitments. You realise the need for both effort and ingenious thought to make a go of it. In financial affairs, you will take audacious risks to maximise your profits. There will be a happy mix of fun and work, hectic activity and a lot of hustle and bustle. But it will all be well worth the effort.

**TAURUS:** There are also many expenses and possibly a new love in your life. If single, you could take this to the next level. But astrology never compels and these are mere generalisations. Ganesha will take care of you. There is a lot on your plate and you could have bitten off more than you can chew.

**GEMINI:** There could be overt and hidden stresses to cope with. There could be a kind of rebellion against you at the workplace. There may be colleagues you have hurt and there could be a lot of hidden resentment. There could be secret transactions, hush-hush deals, surreptitious meetings and tie-ups. It may all sound like a Bond espionage film but this is real life.

**CANCER:** You could feel a strong desire to flout social norms in your desire to taste new thrills and experience. You must look for true happiness, says Ganesha. That is the only way. Make space for new spiritual insights and look for rest, relaxation and inner peace. That is most important in these troubled times. Do not squander your gains away through hurtful words and actions.

**LEO:** There is a lot of upward mobility in your affairs. You are committed, sober, responsible and respectable. You have had your thrills and now want to settle down to a more regular way of life as this is the real you. There will be more happiness this way, you feel more centred. You turn to domestic affairs, to the house and home, family and property matters. Happy makeovers will definitely be the theme this period in all spheres of activity.

**VIRGO:** You will see success in buying / selling, shopping for goods and assets, even investments on the stock market. Just remember always that Ganesha is with you. You are filled with confidence. You feel that you have got the knack of accomplishing whatever you have set your sights on. You want a sense of daring or bravado to enter your psyche now and influence your activities and approach to life.

**LIBRA:** The focus will be on finance. You will have to deal with funds, joint-finances and loans, and a fair amount of buying and selling which may also include acquiring property. There may be a house shift, or renovation or redevelopment on the cards. There will be gains of different kinds.

**SCORPIO:** You will see the 3 P's - promotion, position and power. There will also be, quite naturally, added work and accountability. There will also be genuine bonding with loved ones. You will make some very beautiful and powerful intimacy happen. Ganesha blesses as always. In this period you realise that you are smart enough to know what is required and are convinced that you will make your way through all the boulders.

**SAGITTARIUS:** You know that your skill at handling people will be vital. You will be doing a lot of public relations work and interacting with distinguished or influential people in the hot seat or in position of power. This will be an important new trend and your work, projects, plans will move smoothly. You are in the mood to be a really good caregiver.

**CAPRICORN:** Pets and dependents will also need attention and care along with children, extended family and relatives who look to you for guidance and support. Marital and personal bonding will be stronger and more meaningful and a source of great joy. Ganesha wishes you well.

**AQUARIUS:** You take stock of your life. You have worked hard and very sincerely to get your professional and personal commitments in order. All your efforts now start to yield dividends. There is success, happiness and achievement. You will do well at the workplace and have a contented, fulfilled family life. There also monetary gains in addition to love and laughter, good times and romance, marriage, friends, partnerships, companionships and collaborations.

**PISCES:** You will also be very creative and those in the arts, literary fields, even technology, research, the whole of the world of information, will be at their best. There will be plaudits and kudos, rewards and awards. Those in the electronic and print media will shine. Ganesha blesses you. There is more stability now and more progress too.

### Birthday Horoscope September 9 - September 15, 2019

#### Sept 9:

The Moon is accompanied by challenges. Whether you crave change or someone else introduces it, the relationship applecart gets upset. The challenge is to welcome the new yet maintain harmony.

#### Sept 10:

Sometimes acquiring something new is all that's needed to feel good, and this morning could be one of those times. Still, it's better to be conservative regarding money, as well as other things.

#### Sept 11:

The best way to go about your business today will be to be a bit secretive. You and others may be obsessed about what you want to do, and that can make agreeing on things a bit awkward.

#### Sept 12:

The desire to please can be noble, but not today. Don't ignore flaws in order to appease. Watch your health and what you expose yourself to.

#### Sept 13:

Following your intuition can give you financial leverage. It takes not just skill and knowledge, but also imagination, to make money.

#### Sept 14:

Today's stabilizing trend can help you to settle things down, not just at home, but also elsewhere. Organize domestic affairs to your liking.

#### Sept 15:

This is a great day for expansion. Rewards, or the promise of them, can be yours. Take an idea that has potential and nurture it with your enthusiasm.



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