



KEEP SAFE

- Follow CDC guidelines
- Observe Social Distancing
- Wash Hands Frequently

KEEP AMERICA SAFE



US Defense Secretary opposes Trump move on troops to quell protests

WASHINGTON (TIP): US Defense Secretary Mark Esper said on Wednesday he does not support invoking the Insurrection Act

Defense Secretary Esper acknowledged the difficulty of deploying the military without entering the political fray

contd on page 32

GEORGE FLOYD REMEMBERED AT MEMORIAL SERVICE

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (TIP): Hundreds of mourners in Minneapolis on Thursday, June 4, remembered George Floyd, the black man whose death in police custody set off a wave of nationwide protests that reached the doors of the White House and ignited a debate about race and justice.

Philonise Floyd, one of Floyd's brothers, choking with emotion, told a memorial service at a chapel in the Minnesota city's North Central University that their family was poor.

"It's crazy man, all these people came to see my brother, it's amazing he touched so many hearts," said the brother, wearing a dark suit and a badge with a photo of his brother and the words "I can't breathe" on his lapel.

Floyd's death on May 25 has become the latest flashpoint for rage over police brutality against African Americans,

contd on Page 32



The Reverend Al Sharpton, a television political commentator and civil rights activist was among those at the memorial service for George Floyd (Inset)

Digital services taxes adopted by India and 10 countries a trade irritant with US

The US has already scrapped zero duty preference on some Indian imports



WASHINGTON (TIP): After the US scrapped zero duty preference on some Indian imports and arm-twisted India into purchasing shale oil, Washington has now started a probe into digital services taxes, either adopted or being considered by 10 countries including India.

The United States Trade Representative (USTR) will conduct the probe under Section 301 of the Trade Act. India, however, will get the opportunity to defend the tax.

contd on Page 32

India will have to take another setback in its stride when it attempts to sign a limited trade deal with the US, as indicated by the Indian Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu.

Photo / Jay Mandal-on assignment

Mahatma Gandhi's Statue outside Indian Embassy in DC Vandalized

BIDISHA ROY

NEW YORK (TIP): Mahatma Gandhi's statue outside the Indian Embassy in Washington DC was desecrated by some miscreants. The statue was allegedly spray painted with expletives. Soon after the incident took place, the statue was covered with protective cloth and an investigation was launched by United States Park Police.

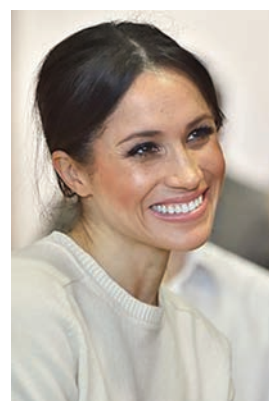
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The statue of Mahatma Gandhi was dedicated by the then Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, in the presence of the then US president Bill Clinton in 2000.

Soon after the incident took place, the statue was covered with protective cloth

Black lives matter says Meghan, calls US events "devastating"



The duchess, a former U.S actress and wife of Queen Elizabeth's grandson Prince Harry, said she wanted to say "the right thing" and was nervous her words would be "picked apart".

LONDON (TIP): Meghan, Britain's Duchess of Sussex, has spoken about events following the death of George Floyd saying she was sorry that children had to grow up in a world where racism still existed and that current events in the United States were "devastating", according to a Reuters report. "I know you know that black lives matter," Meghan said in a video she recorded for students graduating from her old high school in Los Angeles, which was aired on Wednesday, June 3.

The death of Floyd has become the latest flashpoint for long-simmering rage over police brutality against African Americans and led to nationwide protests,

contd on Page 32

Prayer Service for Astrologer Bejan Daruwala held in Ahmedabad, June 4



Renowned astrologer Bejan Daruwala (July 11, 1931 to May 29, 2020)

AHMEDABAD (TIP): A Prayer service for the world-renowned astrologer Bejan Daruwala who passed away here on May 29, at the age of 88, was organized by the family, June 4.

Several political, industry and community leaders attended the prayer meeting and paid their tributes to one of the precious jewels of India.

A practicing Zoroastrian, Daruwala was also a self-proclaimed Ganesha devotee.

Bejan Daruwala was known to combine the principles of Vedic and Western astrology, I-Ching, Tarot, Numerology, the Kabbalah and even Palmistry.

He was a regular contributor to the astrology column of The Indian Panorama. We will miss him.



NEW ZEALAND ON VERGE OF ERADICATING CORONAVIRUS

WELLINGTON (TIP): New Zealand is on the verge of eradicating the virus from its shores after it notched a 13th straight day with no reported new infections.

Only a single person in the nation of 5 million people is known to still have the virus, and that person is not hospitalized. However, it remains likely that the country will import new cases once it reopens its borders, and officials say their aim remains to stamp out new infections as they arise.

The country has already lifted many of its virus restrictions and could remove most of those that remain, including limiting crowd sizes, next week. Just over 1,500 people have contracted the virus during the outbreak, including 22 who died.

Australia to pledge \$207 mln for regional vaccine program

CANBERRA (TIP): Australia will pledge A\$300 million (\$207 million) to provide vaccines to children in the Indo-Pacific region at a Global Vaccine Summit on Thursday, its foreign minister said on the eve of the virtual meeting.

"Immunisation saves lives," Foreign Affairs Minister Marise Payne said in a statement. "The COVID-19 pandemic has served as yet another reminder that investing in vaccine access is critical to regional health security."

Prime Minister Scott Morrison will make the pledge at the virtual summit hosted by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson to raise funds for the GAVI vaccine alliance, a public-private global health partnership.

GAVI is backed by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, UNICEF and others, and arranges bulk buys to reduce vaccine costs for poor countries.

'Hunger or murder': Lockdown poverty exposes African sex workers to more violence

NAIROBI, KENYA (TIP): Peninah Wanjiru wasn't really one to take chances. Her friends said the 35-year-old Kenyan sex worker was careful how she conducted business at her home in Majengo, an informal settlement on the outskirts of Nairobi, where she only allowed clients in for a "quickie".

But on the night of May 7, a curfew imposed to stem the spread of the coronavirus forced Wanjiru to allow a client to stay over. Some hours later, she was found lying in a pool of blood. She died before help could arrive.

A post-mortem report found she had been stabbed multiple times in the chest and stomach and had suffered head injuries. Police are still investigating the crime.

Women engaging in sex work have always been more vulnerable to violence but a surge in physical attacks and killings of sex workers in Kenya since Covid-19 restrictions came into force has sent a chill through the community.

This spike in violence was attributed not only to clients attacking sex workers but also by the police and other community members who blame them for spreading the coronavirus.

US, Spain COVID-19 fatalities up with 6,702,699 global cases

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Thursday evening reported 1,842,101 cases of the new coronavirus, an increase of 14,676 cases from its previous count, and said that the number of deaths had risen by 827 to 107,029. According to the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU), the latest number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the US stood at 1,861,966 with 107,685 deaths.

The total confirmed cases globally stood at 6,702,699 with 393,212 fatalities, reflected the JHU website's data.

Amid ongoing protests against the alleged killing of George Floyd, a top US health official today said that protesters particularly in cities that have struggled to control the novel coronavirus should "highly consider" getting tested for COVID-19.

"Those individuals that have partaken in these peaceful protests or have been out protesting, and particularly if they're in metropolitan areas that really haven't controlled the outbreak...we really want those individuals to highly consider being evaluated and get tested," Robert Redfield, director for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, told a US House of Representatives committee.

Meanwhile, Spain's overall death toll from the coronavirus edged higher on Thursday, though discrepancies between regional and national data raised questions over the methodology used by the government to produce the tally.

The ministry has stopped providing a daily death toll but reported a total of 27,133 deaths, five more than on Wednesday. Confirmed cases climbed by 195 from the previous day to 240,660. Spain is implementing a new methodology for logging deaths and cases, leading to fluctuations in its statistics and frequent revisions of data, which officials say are likely to continue for some time.

Between Sunday and Tuesday, the ministry's official death toll remained unchanged at

TRACKING THE VIRUS

GLOBAL

Cases	Deaths
6,702,699	393,212

INDIA

Cases	Deaths
226,770	6,348



BRAZIL'S COVID-19 DEATH TOLL SURGES TO THIRD-HIGHEST IN WORLD

RIO DE JANEIRO (TIP): Brazil's death toll from the novel coronavirus has surged past 34,000 to become the third-highest in the world, surpassing Italy's, according to official figures released Thursday.

The South American country reported a new record of 1,473 deaths in 24 hours, bringing its overall toll to 34,021, behind only the United States and Britain.

Brazil has now confirmed 614,941 infections, the health ministry said -- the second-largest caseload in the world, behind the US. Experts say under-testing in Brazil means the real numbers are probably much higher. The latest figures underlined the grim toll the virus is taking in Latin America, the latest epicenter in the pandemic.

Brazil, a country of 210 million people, has been the hardest-hit in the region.

President Jair Bolsonaro has fiercely criticized coronavirus stay-at-home measures, even as the number of infections and deaths continues to soar.

The far-right leader has urged businesses to wage "war" on state governors who order business closures, arguing they are needlessly hurting Latin America's biggest economy.

Meanwhile, the clinical trial for a



vaccine conducted by experts at the University of Oxford will soon recruit 2,000 volunteers in Brazil. The university said that on Tuesday, the Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency approved the inclusion of Brazil in the clinical trials.

Scientists are resuming Covid-19 trials of the now world-famous drug hydroxychloroquine, as confusion continues to reign about the anti-malarial hailed by US President Donald Trump as a potential "game-changer" in fighting the pandemic. It follows widespread criticism of the quality of data in a study in The Lancet which found high risks associated with the treatment.

27,128 even though several regions reported new deaths.

The World Health Organization, however, put Spain's death toll at 27,940 on Thursday, more than 800 higher than the government's figure.

In England, face coverings will be compulsory for passengers on buses, trains, aircraft and ferries from June 15, as public transport use reportedly rises following the relaxation of coronavirus restrictions.

Britain's government has been reluctant to mandate the widespread use of face masks or coverings so far, but Shapps said the benefits were clearer on public transport, where social distancing is harder.



A World Without Childhood Blindness

Did you know that 80% of learning happens through vision? It all starts with vision exams. Often, a simple pair of glasses is enough to change the life of a child and allow for 75+ years of productivity. In some cases, children may need sight-saving surgery.

The Eye Foundation of America and Goutami Eye Institute provide all these services free of charge in Andhra Pradesh, India.

**Help save the a child's sight
by donating today via PayPal,
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Indian American Indra Nooyi Named Full-Term Member of MIT Board of Trustees



Indra Nooyi is among nine full-term members of The MIT Corporation

BOSTON (TIP): PepsiCo's former chairperson and CEO of Indian origin, Indra Nooyi is among nine full-term members of The MIT Corporation - the Institute's board of trustees. Elected nine full-term members will each serve for five years, effective July 1.

Nooyi received a bachelor's degree from Madras Christian College in 1974, an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management in Calcutta in 1976, and a master's degree in public and private management from Yale University in 1980. Nooyi served as the chairperson and CEO of PepsiCo from 2006 to 2019. In this role, Nooyi was the chief architect of Performance with Purpose, PepsiCo's pledge to do what's right for the business by being responsive to the needs of the world around us. She directed the company's global strategy for more than a decade.

Prior to becoming CEO, Nooyi served as president and chief financial officer beginning in 2001, when she was also named to PepsiCo's board of directors. Before joining PepsiCo in 1994, Nooyi spent four years as senior vice president of strategy, planning and strategic marketing for Asea Brown Boveri, a Zurich-based industrials company.

Indian American CEO of Google Sundar Pichai backs racial equality

Google and YouTube put a black ribbon on their home page in the US



Indian American CEO of Google Sundar Pichai is known to speak out boldly on issues

NEW YORK (TIP): Google stands in support of racial equality, the tech giant's Indian-American CEO Sunder Pichai has said, expressing solidarity with the African-American community in the US in wake of protests sparked by the death in police custody of African-American George Floyd. Google and YouTube on Sunday put a black ribbon on their home page in the US, showing solidarity for protests against the death of George Floyd, an unarmed black man, in police custody. "We stand in support of racial equality, and all those who search for it," the message read on the Google home page.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American Vivek Lall Named Chief of General Atomics Global Corporation

SAN DIEGO (TIP): Dr. Vivek Lall, probably the most known face in the Indian aerospace and defense industry and the most prominent Indian-American who played key roles in some major Indo-US defense deals between India and the US, will be the chief of General Atomics Global Corporation, based in California.

A formal statement from General Atomics said, "with Dr Lall's expertise, GA Global will expand its global footprint for managing sales, service, and international industrial collaboration in strategically important countries like Japan, Australia, the UAE, and others."

In his previous stint with the US major as chief executive of strategic development from Vivek Lall was instrumental in the drive to first market and then advance on the sales plan for missile-capable unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to Indian armed forces. It may be recalled that GA ASI in June 2017 had informed that the US government had approved a \$2 billion sale of 22 MQ-9B SeaGuardian UAVs to India for the Indian Navy.

Dr. Vivek Lall has been the major force



Dr. Vivek Lall is the most prominent Indian American who played key roles in some major Indo-US defense deals between India and the US

in concluding major Indian defense procurements including 24 MH-60R Multi-Role Helicopters from Lockheed Martin, 10 C17s worth \$4 billion, P-8I Anti-submarine warfare aircrafts (eight and then four) worth \$3 billion, 28 Apache helicopters and 15 Chinooks worth \$5 billion, and 22 Harpoon missiles worth \$200 million. An asset to both India and USA, Vivek has been influential in shaping US's defenses exports and fulfilling India's defiance needs. He was appointed to the US Federal Aviation Advisory Committee in 2018, where he represents the viewpoints of defenses technology organizations in the NextGen Advisory Committee of the

Department of Transportation. The Aviation Advisory Committee provides information, advice, and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on ensuring the competitiveness of the U.S. aviation industry and its capability to address the evolving transportation needs, challenges, and opportunities of the global economy.

Dr. Lall has been also recognized as one of the world's top scientists of the twentieth century by Cambridge. He was also the President of the Mathematical Association of America. He was also affiliated with the United Nations in New York to advise on Broadband and Cyber Security issues for challenges within the global community and provide services that will help address them. In India he was appointed the Chairman of the Indo-US Strategic Dialogue by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce in August 2011, was Distinguished Fellow at Observer Research Foundation and also served as Chairman of the Defense Committee of The Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).

Indian American Rahul Dubey Hailed as 'Hero' after Sheltering Protesters in DC



Rahul Dubey, the man who welcomed protesters into his home, gets a round of applause from protesters and supporters

WASHINGTON (TIP): Indian American Rahul Dubey emerged as an overnight hero in the US after he opened doors to people, who were protesting against George Floyd death, after a tear gas attack by police in Washington D.C on June 1 night.

According to a report by The New York Times, Dubey, who works in health care, opened the door as soon as he heard the flash bang and the thudding of shields and called for people to come in. A "tsunami" of demonstrators came barreling through his front door seeking shelter, he said, and protesters began scattering to all three floors of his home. Dubey told CNN affiliate WJLA that he was on his stoop and had let some of the protesters charge their phones inside and use his bathroom before police moved in. "There was a big bang and there was spray that my eyes started burning, screaming like I've never heard before, and I've described it as a 'human tsunami' is the best I could see for about a quarter of a block coming down the street," he told WJLA. He said he was yelling "get in, get into the house" for about 10 minutes. Dubey told WJLA that about 70 protesters got inside and it was "pandemonium and mayhem" for about an hour and a half while they tried to settle in and help people who'd been pepper sprayed. The protesters left Dubey's home when the district's new curfew ended at 6 am. The incident has turned Dubey into a local hero with a massive outpouring of praise on social media. He, however, told The New York Times, he does not think what he did was anything special. "If it is, we have a ton of work to do in this country", he said.

Indian American SAP Vet Abdul Razack Hired by Google Cloud for New Tech Solutions Role

NEW YORK (TIP):

Former SAP chief product officer Abdul Razack has been hired by Google Cloud for a senior executive role with its solutions engineering team. He is named vice president of technology solutions, a newly created position.

Razack is a technology leader known for his strategic vision and engineering expertise, with more than 25 years of experience in enterprise technology.

In his new role, Razack will be responsible for Google Cloud's solution strategy across its seven solution pillars, from infrastructure, to application modernization, to data analytics and cloud artificial intelligence (AI). He also will drive the application of the solutions among sellers and customer engineers helping customers digitally transform.

"My goal is to help Google Cloud customers unlock significant value from our solutions, bringing resiliency and scale to businesses in these uncertain times, and also helping them build a technology foundation for their future," Razack said in a statement. "I'm truly excited about the opportunity to leverage Google's technology to develop open, flexible solutions that serve our customers' most critical needs."

A 15-year SAP veteran, Razack served as chief product officer at SAP since March 2019, leading its cloud technology vision and efforts to build enterprise resource planning products.



Razack is a technology leader known for his strategic vision and engineering expertise, with more than 25 years of experience in enterprise technology

Indian Origin Film Director Krishnendu Majumdar Named Chair of BAFTA

LONDON (TIP): The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) appointed Krishnendu Majumdar as its new Chair. In doing so, Majumdar becomes the first person of color to be appointed to the role in BAFTA's 73-year history and the youngest chair in 35 years.

Majumdar has been Deputy Chair for one year and his tenure as Chair will run for the next three years - the newly extended term for all future BAFTA chairs.

Majumdar is an EMMY-winning and BAFTA-nominated television producer and director. He has been closely involved with BAFTA for 14 years, having been the Chair of the Learning and New Talent Committee (2006-2010), the Chair of the Television Committee (2015-2019) and a member of the Board of Trustees for nine years.

Majumdar has actively supported BAFTA's year-round program of learning and new talent initiatives, including BAFTA Breakthrough and BAFTA Elevate. Majumdar is also chairing BAFTA's Awards Review, convened in response to the lack of diversity in this year's Film Awards nominations. He has been a long-time supporter of greater diversity on and off screen throughout his career and has also been on the Board of Directors UK and the PACT Council.



Majumdar becomes the first person of color to be appointed to the role in BAFTA's 73-year history and the youngest chair in 35 years

Krishnendu Majumdar said: "It is a tremendous honor to be elected Chair of BAFTA and I'm lucky to be following Pippa Harris' outstanding tenure and I want to pay tribute to the resilient and dynamic leadership that Pippa has shown. This year has been a difficult and turbulent time for many in our industry, working with Pippa, BAFTA's talented and committed staff and membership, I want BAFTA to be at the heart of rebuilding the industry post-Covid. It is vital to ensure that we support people of all backgrounds, races and genders. Diversity and inclusion are crucial for the lifeblood of BAFTA, and we will continue to be a leader for real change across our

industry.

Krishnendu Majumdar co-founded the independent production company Me + You Productions in 2012, alongside Richard Yee. Since then, Majumdar has produced the critically acclaimed Dominic Savage drama series I Am for Channel 4 and the International Emmy-winning comedy, Hoff The Record. He has executive produced two series of the comedy drama Sick Of It, as well as the documentary series The Moaning of Life. Majumdar was also a showrunner on the BAFTA-nominated global hit franchise, An Idiot Abroad.?

Before co-founding Me + You, Majumdar worked as a freelance producer and director. His previous credits include BAFTA-nominated polemical film Who You Callin' A Nigger? for Channel 4 and the major political film Michael Howard: No More Mr Nasty for BBC Two.

Majumdar entered the industry by being the first and only person ever to be trained on both the prestigious ITN News Trainee and BBC Production Trainee schemes working across both ITN and the BBC at the outset of his career.

He was born in South Wales to Bengali parents who arrived in the UK from India in the 1960s. His father was a GP who worked for the NHS for over 40 years.

Indian American Led Researchers Develop Experimental Rapid COVID-19 Test



Dr Dipanjan Pan and his team developed an experimental diagnostic test for COVID-19 that can visually detect the presence of the virus in 10 minutes

NEW YORK (TIP): Scientists from the University of Maryland School of Medicine (UMSOM) developed an experimental diagnostic test for COVID-19 that can visually detect the presence of the virus in 10 minutes. It uses a simple assay containing plasmonic gold nanoparticles to detect a color change when the virus is present. The test does not require the use of any advanced laboratory techniques, such as those commonly used to amplify DNA, for analysis. The authors published their work last week in the American Chemical Society's nanotechnology journal ACS Nano.

"Based on our preliminary results, we believe this promising new test may detect RNA material from the virus as early as the first day of infection. Additional studies are needed, however, to confirm whether this is indeed the case," said study leader Dipanjan Pan, Ph.D. Professor of Diagnostic Radiology and Nuclear Medicine and Pediatrics at the UMSOM.

"The accuracy of any COVID-19 test is based on being able to reliably detect any virus. This means it does not give a false negative result if the virus actually is present, nor a false positive result if the virus is not present," said Dr. Pan. "Many of the diagnostic tests currently on the market cannot detect the virus until several days after infection. For this reason, they have a significant rate of false negative results."

Dr. Pan created a company called Vitruvian Bio to develop the test for commercial application. He plans to have a pre-submission meeting with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) within the next month to discuss requirements for getting an emergency use authorization for the test. New FDA policy allows for the marketing of COVID-19 tests without requiring them to go through the usual approval or clearance process. These tests do, however, need to meet certain validation testing requirements to ensure that they provide reliable results.

Indian-origin doctor Rajesh Gupta on COVID-19 frontline found dead in UK hotel



Dr Rajesh Gupta, a consultant anesthetist at the National Health Service. Source: Twitter.

LONDON (TIP): An Indian-origin doctor working on the frontline of the coronavirus pandemic at a UK hospital was found dead in the hotel he was staying in to isolate away from his family during the lockdown.

Dr Rajesh Gupta, a consultant anesthetist at the National Health Service (NHS)-run Wexham Park Hospital in

Berkshire, south-east England, was found dead earlier last week and the cause of his death is yet to be established.

"We are very sorry to pass on the sad news that our Frimley Health colleague Dr Rajesh Gupta has passed away," Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust said in a statement on Friday.

"Rajesh, who worked as a consultant at Wexham Park Hospital, was found on Monday afternoon in the hotel where he had been staying to protect his family while he worked with us during the coronavirus pandemic. At this stage the cause of his death is not known," the NHS Trust said.

Gupta was described as a "popular and well-known figure" by the Trust, which said that colleagues saw him as an "outstanding clinician with a passion for pain medicine".

He had recently been appointed to an important post at Wexham Park Hospital after working for a period as a locum consultant at Frimley Park.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Indian American Author Lilly Irani Wins Outstanding Book Award by International Communication Association

SAN DIEGO (TIP): Lilly Irani, Associate Professor, UC San Diego has been honored with Outstanding Book Award by International Communication Association for her book Chasing Innovation: Making Entrepreneurial Citizens in Modern India.

Lilly Irani is an Associate Professor of Communication & Science Studies at University of California, San Diego. She also serves as faculty in the Design Lab, Institute for Practical Ethics, the program in Critical Gender Studies, and sits on the Academic Advisory Board of AI Now (NYU). Her research examines the cultural politics of high-tech work and the counter-practices they generate, as both an ethnographer, a designer, and a former technology worker. She is a co-founder and maintainer of digital labor activism tool Turkopticon. Her work has appeared at ACM SIGCHI, New Media & Society, Science, Technology & Human Values, South Atlantic Quarterly, and other venues. She has a Ph.D. in Informatics from University of California, Irvine.

Her book is described as "A richly detailed, multi-year ethnography of the ways in which social entrepreneurship, design, and innovation work underscore national and global chains of value and power. The book marshals history and political economy around stories of everyday people who invested in impossible dreams that if they are more creative, they will achieve upward social mobility. Instead, innovation and human-centered design projects most benefited those already with social and economic capital. Precarious Indian citizens remained so despite their passionate aspirations. Deconstructing these rationalities and identities of entrepreneurialism in the context of development and governance in India, the book charts a new theoretical frame for understanding the entrepreneur as a figure of exploitation and a tool of nation-building. Dr. Irani asks critically "Who modernizes whom, and towards what horizon?" As such, the book de-Westernizes the figure of entrepreneur as a hero of teleological progress."



Lilly Irani is an Associate Professor of Communication & Science Studies at University of California, San Diego

International Archer who borrowed 'bow' to win global medal is no more

YASH GOYAL IN JAIPUR

JAIPUR (TIP): This is really called a passion to achieve his/her goals. A dedication to sports and competition to win medals. Can anyone believe that an Archer who had no sufficient money to purchase a new 'Dhanush-Ban' (compound bow) went to borrow it from his senior Olympian and had won a number of international medals to raise Indian flags on stadia.

It was India's archer Jayantilal Nanoma hailing from Dungapur in Rajasthan who borrowed the archery equipment from Olympian Archer Limba Ram and acclaimed many awards at many national and international archery competitions, recalls Satyaprakash Barendra, a national archer player, while talking to TIP.

But it was most unfortunate and saddened day on the intervening night of May 31 and June 1, thirty-four year old Jayantilal died in a cruel road accident when his SUV in which he was travelling along with a PTI Teacher at Varda in Rajasthan's Dungapur district turned turtle. Jayantilal was first rushed in a critical condition to a Sagwara hospital then to Udaipur's Geetanjali hospital where he succumbed to his wounds at 3:30 am. While Kantilal, PTI teacher is still in Udaipur's hospital getting treatment.

In shifting from one hospital to third



Jayantilal Nanoma

hospital in search of Oxygen availability, the patient died, an Investigation Officer if Vadra Police station Sagar Chand apprehended. This was not clear whether Nanoma's Scorpion turned turtle itself or after hit by another vehicle on Banswara-Dungarpur highway near Varda. The deceased player was riding the car during night while returning home.

Born in village Bilari of Dungarpur district Jayantilal was a very soft spoken and cool mannered personality. Getting graduation from Delhi University, Jayantilal was a struggler from his college days.

It was beyond reach of a newcomer player to buy Bow because in new



Coach Jayantilal Nanoma (center) with the Indian team that won five medals in the 2013 World Archery Youth Championships in China

century the wood made bow rate varied from Rs. 7000 to 10,000, a metal one Rs. Rs. 80K to 90K and the Compound bow was very costly from Rs. 2 lac to 3 lac, Satyaprakash said.

The compound archer had brought many laurels to the state winning medals internationally and nationally. He won silver in both individual and team events in the Asia Cup Grand Prix in Malaysia in 2010. In his career, he was part of Indian Compound teams which won several medals in Asia Cup GP events

held between 2003 and 2010. He also served as Indian coach in 2013 and 2015.

a coach in 2013 when India made an overwhelmed performance in World Archery Youth Championship in China, winning five medals in the compound archery discipline.

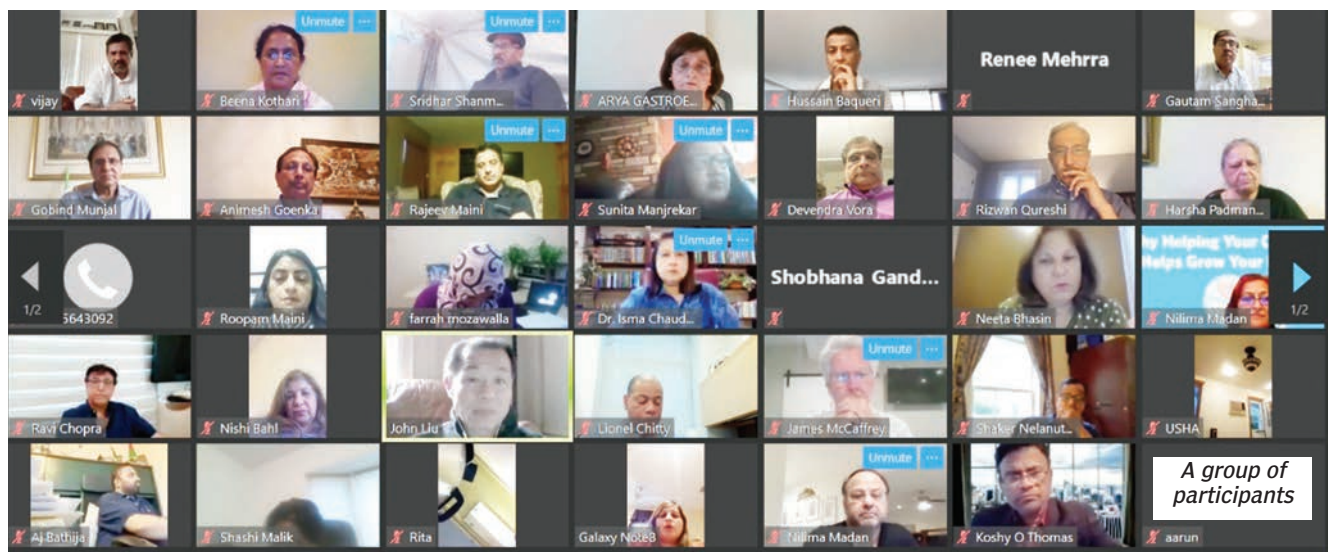
He was employed as a District Sports Officer in Dungarpur. He was coach in the Indian teams in international games. He was recipient of the prestigious 'Guru Vashistha' and Maharana Pratap State Sports Awards.

Nilima Madan & Beena Kothari organize Community Circle Zoom Call

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): Prominent South Asian Community leaders interacted with officials which included Senator John Liu, Town of Oyster Bay Deputy Commissioner James McCaffrey, Dr. Bobby Kumar Kalote Chairman at Human Rights Commission Nassau County and Minority Leaders of Nassau County supporting the Asian Community like Exec. Director of the Asian American Advisory Board, Farah Mozawalla, Executive Director of the Office of Minority Affairs, Lionel Chitty and Sunita Manjrekar. Deputy Commissioner for Public Assistance & Employment Services at Nassau County.

Queens, Nassau and Suffolk residents participated and got valuable information on support available to all through Federal and State Government plans and from the community leadership during this difficult Covid 19 pandemic time to bring businesses back. The Community stepped up to provide meals, PPE, masks, etc. for needy people like senior citizens and the Frontline workers. Frontline leaders like Presidents, CEOs, Bank Managers and VPs who are connected with hundreds of people, even thousands of people who can network in multiple formats were participants on this virtual zoom meeting.

Dr. Bobby Kumar Kalote, Chairman at Human Rights Commission Nassau County and Chairman of Indian American Forum as well as Chairman and CEO at Friends for Good Health appreciated special services and efforts by Dr. Isma Habib Chaudhry, donation by Nargis Dutt Foundation by President Hussain Baqueri, Shammi Singh, multiple fruit boxes by Patel Brothers and PPE by Dr. UARYa. He commended the community



leadership of Indu Jaiswal, Beena Kothari, and Nilima Madan. He appreciated Business owner Animesh Goenka and his son Dr Anuj Goenka who runs 'Desi Next' wing of AIA.

Prominent members present in this virtual meeting were, Harish Thakkar President, AIA NY Chapter, Dr. Yash Pal AryaGastroenterologist, Sunil Hali Owner Radio Zindagi The Indian Eye, Rajesh Kumar Bengali Sweets, Anju Sharma Medical Billing, Nishi Bahl Event Organizer, Vijay Singh Trustee, Vedic Heritage, Gunjan Rastogi Past President IALI, Neelam Modi AIA, Sridhar Shanmugam, President Shaneeshwara Temple, Shaker Nelanuthala IT Business, Finance consultant, Dr Raj Modi Ophthalmologist, Arjen Bathija Rotary

Club Hicksville South, Shobhna Doshi-Gandhi and Ushajit Vora of Jain Senior Group, Rachana Shahdarpuri VP Rotary Club of Jericho Sunrise, Koshy O Thomas, Devendra Vora, Harsha Padmanabhan IALI, Dr. Usha Bansal Pediatrician, Purvi Shah, Flushing Bank, Tony & Madhu Kapoor, Mariyyah Sulaiman, Shaheen Khan, Judy Ng, Onkar Singh, Jyoti Jikharia, Arun Madan, Rita, Anju Sharma, Abhinav Goyal and Dolly Kakwani

Media partners present were, Sunil Hali, Owner Radio Zindagi & The Indian Eye; Dr Renee Mehrtra of T V Asia - Broadcaster and community activist; Ashok Vyas of Heramb Studio and Parekh Worldwide - ITV Gold.

New Jersey to Enter Stage Two of Restart and Recovery on June 15th

NEWARK (TIP): As part of his restart and recovery plan, "The Road Back: Restoring Economic Health Through Public Health," Governor Phil Murphy June 3 announced that New Jersey will enter Stage Two on June 15, 2020.

Guided by strict protocols from the New Jersey Department of Health, as well as input from the Governor's Restart and Recovery Commission and complementary Advisory Councils, Stage Two will include outdoor dining for restaurants and indoor, non-essential retail as of June 15th. Beginning on June 22nd, barber shops and salons will be able to reopen. In the period to follow, New Jersey will work toward the gradual opening of personal care, gyms, and health clubs, at reduced capacities as the stage progresses. All of these activities will be allowed pursuant to strict health and safety guidelines that will be issued in the coming days. New Jersey ended maximum restrictions and moved to Stage One on May 18, 2020.

"As we move through Stage One of our strategic restart and recovery process,



Gov Phil Murphy at daily briefing on coronavirus

File photo

public health data continues to demonstrate our collective success in flattening the curve of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations," said Governor Murphy. "It is with these favorable metrics, coupled with expanded testing capacity and contact tracing, that we can

responsibly enter Stage Two of our multi-stage approach to recovery."

STAGE 2:

Restrictions are relaxed on activities that can be easily safeguarded.

Phased-in businesses and activities,

with adherence to safeguarding and modification guidelines, include:

- Outdoor dining (beginning on June 15th)
- Limited in-person retail (beginning on June 15th)
- Hair salons and barber shops (beginning on June 22nd)
- Youth summer programs (beginning on July 6th)
- In-person clinical research/labs
- Limited fitness/gyms
- Limited in-person government services (e.g. - Motor Vehicle Commission)
- Museums/libraries

But Murphy, speaking during a Thursday news conference, signaled that actually he's still not ready to say when important parts of the state's business and tourism industries like malls, casinos, pools, gyms and the Motor Vehicle Commission will be ready to go. He made these statements as he said that the coronavirus outbreak continues to decline in New Jersey, announcing 603 new cases on Thursday (June 4) and 92 more deaths.

Whitestone Man Seen On Viral Videos Attacking Black Lives Matter Protesters Charged With Attempted Murder In Queens

QUEENS, NY (TIP): Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz announced the arrest of a 54-year-old Queens man who was allegedly observed on viral videos attacking peaceful demonstrators on Tuesday afternoon in Whitestone, Queens. The nonviolent gathering on the overpass above the Cross Island Parkway turned into a frenzied scene with the defendant hopping out of his vehicle and allegedly chasing protesters while wearing a glove infused with 4 long, serrated-edged blades. Then the defendant allegedly got back behind the wheel of his SUV and mounted the sidewalk nearly running down the marchers. The defendant is now charged with attempted murder, attempted assault, menacing and other crimes.

District Attorney Katz said, "In a burst of anger and rage, this defendant allegedly sought to kill protesters who were peacefully assembled and exercising their right to free speech. No one at any time should infringe upon another's Constitutionally protected freedoms and doing so with the intent to injure and maim is criminal. This defendant is alleged to have yelled out 'I will kill you' to the peaceful crowd. He is accused of brandishing a multi-bladed glove and then chasing after individuals on foot and then continuing the pursuit in a 2-ton vehicle. It is amazing that no one was injured in the melee. The defendant is in custody and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

The District Attorney identified the defendant as Frank Cavalluzzi, 54, of 166th Street in the Whitestone neighborhood of Queens. The defendant is arraigned before Queens Criminal Court Judge Mary Berjarano on a complaint charging him with attempted murder in the second degree, attempted assault in the first and second degree, reckless



Queens DA Melinda Katz

endangerment in the first degree, menacing in the second degree, endangering the welfare of a child and criminal possession of a weapon in the fourth degree. Judge Berjarano set bail at \$100,000 and ordered the defendant to return to Court on July 2, 2020. If convicted, Cavalluzzi faces up to 25 years in prison.

According to the charges, said District Attorney Katz, at approximately 3:45 p.m. at the intersection of Clintonville Street and the Cross Island Parkway service road on June 2, 2020, a group of about a dozen peaceful demonstrators held up signs and posters calling for justice in the death of George Floyd. The defendant was one of the many drivers to pass by the demonstration. Cavalluzzi, however, began yelling at

the protesters. Then, he pulled over, got out of the SUV wearing a device harnessed at his wrist with 4 serrated-edged blades protruding from a glove. The defendant allegedly began chasing a young man in a threatening manner with the knives and shouted in anger at him.

Continuing, said District Attorney Katz, according to the complaint, the defendant rushed toward others on the overpass threatening them with the multi-bladed glove. He allegedly yelled out in sum and substance to the demonstrators "I will kill you" just prior to driving onto the sidewalk and accelerating toward the protesters.

According to the complaint, the defendant revved the engine and maneuvered to go between a fence and street light pole aiming to run down protesters. The crowd of demonstrators quickly disbursed running in all directions to get away from the defendant.

After videos of the incident were shared on social media, police began to conduct an investigation. The defendant surrendered himself to police this morning at the NYPD's 109th Precinct.

The investigation was conducted by Detective Justin Hubbard of the New York City Police Department's 109th Precinct Detective Squad.

Assistant District Attorney Christina M. Stephens, of the District Attorney's Career Criminal and Major Crimes Bureau, is prosecuting the case under the supervision of Assistant District Attorneys Shawn Clark, Bureau Chief, and Michael Whitney, Deputy Bureau Chief, and under the overall supervision of Executive Assistant District Attorney for Major Crimes Daniel A. Saunders.

It should be noted that a criminal complaint is merely an accusation and that the defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.



By Subir Roy

"It is idle to think that global companies will shift out of China to India just on Donald Trump's say-so. They will do so only if the state of India's infrastructure and logistics is better than China's. Right now, it is way behind", says the author.

India's economy has just received not one but several blows. First, in the just ended quarter (Q4 2019-20), GDP grew by a mere 3.1 per cent, the lowest in any quarter since 2004. Consequently, in the whole year, the economy grew by 4.2 per cent, down from 6.1 per cent in the previous year.

The second blow is that this is not a freak quarter. The quarterly growth rate has been falling for over two years now, not having recovered from the twin blows dealt to it by the confusion resulting from demonetization and introduction of GST thereafter.

It is crucial to ask why factories shifting out of China have till now been going to Vietnam, and, in the case of garments, Bangladesh.

The third blow is that things are going to get much worse. The last quarter figures included just one week of lockdown. In the current quarter, at least two of three months have been totally washed out by the lockdown. It is only now being slowly relaxed and there is no knowing when or how fast the economy will pick up. The RBI has predicted that

AS I SEE IT

Why India is not the first choice

The state of our infrastructure and logistics is way behind China's

the economy will contract in the current year and Goldman Sachs has put a number on the contraction - 5 per cent.

The only positive indication is that agriculture will hold out and grow by around the trend rate. Perhaps the best news is that the monsoon has hit Kerala right on time and look robust. The only two sectors that held forth in the last quarter were agriculture and government spending, and this is likely to be the pattern in the current year.

Private consumption, which has been severely hit by loss of income because of the lockdown, will recover very slowly. It will be the same story with private investment, which will not be forthcoming unless demand picks up, and that will not happen unless the government spends more and banks lend more.

The government can, and plans to, rev up public investment, which is the right thing to do. The US got its highway network, when in the 1930s, the government spent to get the economy out of the Great Depression. But the government is also in a great mood to disinvest and keen to use private initiative as the enabler of growth. Right now, it will be tough getting private investment into infrastructure, even on a PPP basis.

Additionally, the government is obsessed with maintaining its fiscal deficit at conservative levels. This, when a cross-section of economists has been exhorting the government not just to spend (give quick help to small businesses) but actually give cash to migrant workers trudging across the country, so they do not starve. The high demand for MGNREGS work must be met and quickly paid for.

But let us assume the best. The coronavirus pandemic will die down, with people maintaining social distancing, and hopefully, a vaccine will be ready by the year-end. That will take us back to where we were for the most part of last year.

The key issue before us is how to get back to the high growth phase unleashed by the economic liberalization and briefly interrupted by the financial crisis of 2008. That helped reduce poverty



China's infrastructure and logistics is way ahead of India's

rapidly and brought India into the middle-income group of countries.

One positive development is the reforms that the government promised while delivering the stimulus package. Particularly noteworthy are the reforms for agriculture that have been described as Indian agriculture's 1991 moment. If all goes well, agricultural efficiencies will go up, better marketing of agricultural produce will reduce the farm gate-to-fork markup and nutrition levels may well go up without people having to spend much more on food.

But good agricultural performance will not be sustainable if water deficiency is not addressed. A fresh set of reforms is needed to change farm practices so that the outdated water and energy guzzling Green Revolution is discarded for a new model of sustainable agriculture.

But there is no scope for being similarly optimistic about manufacturing. 'Make in India' is a good slogan but for higher domestic value addition in manufacturing, India has to go up the global competitiveness league table by reducing the cost of doing business and critically improving workers' skills. It is necessary to ask why factories shifting out of China have till

now been going to Vietnam, and, in the case of garments, Bangladesh.

What will not help is upping tariff barriers which a nationalist-minded government has been doing in response to pressure from domestic business lobbies that are part of its constituency. You become competitive by having to survive against cheap and easy imports, not by keeping them out. It is idle to think that global companies will shift out of China to India just on Donald Trump's say-so. They will do so only if the state of India's infrastructure and logistics is better than China's. Right now, it is way behind.

That leaves us with services which account for around half of the value added in India's GDP. The services sector rides on the rest of the economy and India's services sector is already efficient. To get services to contribute more on their own, hope must rest on sectors like software doing even better. Plus, healthcare and education can, and should, grow much faster.

It is difficult to see how the economy can get back to high growth even if coronavirus imposes only a one-time cost.

(The author is a senior economic analyst)

GUEST COMMENT

Trump's proposal a recognition of India's growing influence

Keen on a bigger league of nations to corner China over the coronavirus crisis, US President Donald Trump wants India, Russia, Australia and South Korea on board the expanded Group of Seven (G7). Desperate to put his re-election campaign back on track, Trump is under immense pressure - domestically as well as internationally - to turn the screw on China for its alleged mishandling of the pandemic that has

ravaged America. The fact that he has picked India among the potential entrants shows that New Delhi, with its ever-growing clout in the global arena, has a key role to play in the post-pandemic world order. With China resorting to muscle-flexing along the Line of Actual Control, the US sees India as a 'natural' ally. But India can't expect long-term gains if it is included in this comity of nations solely for the purpose of isolating China. New Delhi should watch its own interests first and insist on a mutually beneficial as well as sustainable engagement. It is vital for India to be recognized as a significant

G7 EXPANSION

force not only by the US but also by the other G7 members - UK, France, Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan.

Trump's wish to bring Russia back in the group is consistent with his repeated acknowledgement of Moscow's global strategic importance and an inclination to shed the Cold War baggage. Russia had been expelled from the then G8 in 2014 after it annexed the Crimea region from Ukraine. With the territory still under Russian control, America will find it tough to build consensus within G7 on the country's readmission. As Sino-Russian ties are skewed in China's favor,

Washington senses an opportunity to mend fences with Moscow and possibly gain the upper hand in the current global tussle for supremacy.

Whether India and Russia become part of the group or not, the two traditional friends - who are also China's neighbors - should strengthen their relationship. It's a cause for concern that India and Russia are emerging as the new Covid-19 hotspots in the world. This development makes it all the more imperative for both nations to enhance cooperation and help each other weather the storm.

(Tribune, India)

A chill in U.S.-China relations



By Vijay Gokhale

“Both sides are acutely aware how closely their economies are tied together: from farm to factory, the U.S. is heavily dependent on supply chains in China and the Chinese have been unable to break free of the dollar. If Mr. Trump’s wish is to disentangle China’s supply chains, Mr. Xi is equally determined to escape from the U.S. ‘chokehold’ on technology. To what extent the de-coupling is possible is yet to be determined, but one thing is inevitable, India will become part of the collateral damage.”

A slew of recent announcements on China by U.S. President Donald Trump is a clear indication that the competition between the U.S. and China is likely to sharpen in the post-COVID world. On May 29, the Trump administration said it would revoke Hong Kong’s special trade status under U.S. law. The administration also passed an order limiting the entry of certain Chinese graduate students and researchers who may have ties to the People’s Liberation Army. The U.S. President has also ordered financial regulators to closely examine Chinese firms listed in U.S. stock markets, and warned those that do not comply with U.S. laws could be delisted.

Complicit in China’s rise

Americans have had a strange fascination for China ever since the early 1900s when Protestant missionaries decided that it was God’s work to bring salvation to the Chinese. Books like *The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck and *Red Star Over China* by Edgar Snow in the 1930s romanticized the country. Even after the Chinese communists seized power, the Americans hoped to cohabit with Mao Zedong in a world under U.S. hegemony. The Chinese allowed them to believe

A binary choice between the U.S. and China is likely to test India's capacity to maintain strategic and decisional autonomy

this and extracted their price. U.S. President Richard Nixon gave China the international acceptability it craved in return for being admitted to Mao’s presence in 1972; President Jimmy Carter terminated diplomatic relations with Taiwan in order to normalize relations with China in 1978; President George H.W. Bush washed away the sins of Tiananmen in 1989 for ephemeral geopolitical gain; and Bill Clinton, who as a presidential candidate had criticized Bush for indulging the Chinese, proceeded as President to usher the country into the World Trade Organization at the expense of American business. All American administrations since the 1960s have been complicit in China’s rise in the unrealized hope that it will become a ‘responsible stakeholder’ under Pax Americana.

Disguising its real purpose

The Chinese are hard-nosed and unsentimental about the U.S. They have always pursued America with a selfish purpose, albeit couched in high principle. They have spoken words that the Americans wanted to hear - anti-Soviet rhetoric during the Cold War and market principles thereafter - to disguise their real purpose of thwarting U.S. hegemony. Ever since Cold Warrior John Foster Dulles spoke in 1958 of weaning China and other “satellites” away from the Soviets through regime change, known as “peaceful evolution”, every Chinese leader from Chairman Mao to President Xi Jinping has been clear-eyed that the U.S. represents an existential threat to the continued supremacy of the communist regime. Mao put it best, when he told high-ranking leaders in November 1959, that the “U.S. is attempting to carry out its aggression and expansion with a much more deceptive tactic... In other words, it wants to keep its order and change our system.” (Memoirs, Chinese leader Bo Yibo). The collapse of the Soviet Union only reinforced this view and strengthened China’s resolve to resist by creating its own parallel universe. China is building an alternate trading system (the Belt and Road Initiative); a multilateral banking system under its control (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, New Development Bank); its own global positioning system (BeiDou); digital payment platforms (WeChat Pay and Alipay); a world-class digital network (Huawei 5G); cutting-edge technological processes in sunrise industries; and a modern military force. It is doing this under the noses of the Americans and some of it with the financial and technological resources of the West.

Voices of caution have been few and far between, among them political scientist John Mearsheimer, who wrote in 2005 that the rise of China would not be peaceful at all, but the world chose to believe General Secretary of the



US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping- Estranged relations

Communist Party of China Hu Jintao’s assurances about “peaceful rise”. When satellite evidence showed that China was building military installations in the South China Sea, China’s Southeast Asian neighbors and the U.S. preferred to believe assurances to the contrary given by Mr. Xi on the lawns of the White House in 2015.

It is only under Mr. Trump that the Americans are finally acknowledging the uneasy fact that the Chinese are not graven in their image. He has called China out on trade practices. He has called China out on 5G. It was Mr. Trump’s 2017 National Security Strategy document that, perhaps for the first time, clubbed China along with Russia as a challenge to American power, influence and interests. His recent China-specific restrictions on trade and legal migration are, possibly, only the beginning of a serious re-adjustment.

A full-spectrum debate on China is now raging across the U.S. Former White House Chief of Staff Steve Bannon declared that the U.S. is already at war with China. Others like diplomat Richard Haass and former president of the World Bank, Robert Zoellick, warn that a new Cold War will be a mistake. Scholar Julian Gewirtz, in his brilliant essay, ‘The Chinese Reassessment of Interdependence’, talks about a similar process under way in Beijing. Both sides are acutely aware how closely their economies are tied together: from farm to factory, the U.S. is heavily dependent on supply chains in China and the Chinese have been unable to break free of the dollar. If Mr. Trump’s wish is to disentangle China’s supply chains, Mr. Xi is equally determined to escape from the U.S. ‘chokehold’ on technology. To what extent the de-coupling is possible is yet to be determined, but one thing is inevitable, India will become part of the collateral damage.

The Hong Kong question

Will Hong Kong become a game-changer in the post-COVID world? China’s decision to enact the new

national security law for Hong Kong has been condemned in unison by the U.S. and its Western allies as an assault on human freedoms. Why is this significant? The points of divergence, even dispute, between them have so far been in the material realm. With Hong Kong, the U.S.-China rivalry may, possibly, be entering the ideological domain. For some time now there are reports about Chinese interference in the internal affairs of democracies. Countries in the West have tackled this individually, always mindful of not jeopardizing their trade with China. Hong Kong may be different. It is not only a bastion for Western capitalism in the East, but more importantly the torchbearer of Western democratic ideals. Think of it as a sort of Statue of Liberty; it holds aloft the torch of freedom and democracy for all those who pass through Hong Kong en route to China. This is an assault on beliefs, so to speak.

This comes on the back of not unreasonable demands that China should come clean on its errors of omission in the early days of COVID-19, when greater transparency and quicker action might have prevented, or at least mitigated, the pandemic. In the months ahead, more information may become public, from sources inside China itself, about the shortcomings of the regime, that will further fuel a debate on the superiority of the Chinese Model as an alternative to democracy. Will this form the ideological underpinning for the birth of a new Cold War? That will depend on who wins in Washington in November; on whether profit will again trump politics in Europe; and on how skillfully the Wolf Warriors of China can manipulate global public opinion. The lines are beginning to be drawn between the Americans on the one side and China on the other. A binary choice is likely to test to the limit India’s capacity to maintain strategic and decisional autonomy.

(The author is a former Foreign Secretary of India and a former Ambassador to China)

Pak-based terror outfits JeM, LeT trafficking fighters into Afghanistan

KABUL / UNITED NATIONS (TIP): Pakistan-based terror outfits Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-Taiba are engaged in trafficking fighters into Afghanistan, who trains and specialises in improvised explosive devices, threatening to derail the peace process in the war-torn country, according to a UN report.

Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) have masterminded several terror attacks against India, including the 2008 Mumbai attack and the 2019 Pulwama attack. The 25th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities, submitted to the Security Council, said Afghan officials have noted that there were several groups that, based on their operational activities and permanent presence in Afghanistan, "posed a security threat".

"Those groups were also deemed capable of presenting a future threat to peace and security should the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban reach a ceasefire," it said.

The report said among those groups posing a security threat, Afghan officials highlighted Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, JeM and LeT, on which the Monitoring Team had written in previous reports.

The presence of these groups was centred in the eastern provinces of Kunar, Nangarhar and Nuristan, where they operate under the umbrella of the Afghan Taliban, it added.

According to Afghan interlocutors, JeM and LeT "facilitate the trafficking of terrorist fighters into Afghanistan, who act as advisers, trainers and specialists in improvised explosive devices. Both groups are responsible for carrying out targeted assassinations against government officials and others".

The report noted that LeT and JeM were stated to have approximately 800 and 200 armed fighters, respectively, co-located with Taliban forces in Mohmand Darah, Dur Baba and Sherzad districts of Nangarhar Province.

Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan also maintains a presence in Lal Pura District, near the border area of Mohmand Darah, Pakistan. In Kunar Province, LeT retains a further 220 fighters and JeM has a further 30, all of whom are dispersed within Taliban forces. The report said Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan is led by Noor Wali Mehsud and his deputy Qari Amjad, not listed as designated terrorists by the UN. The group is thought to have approximately 500 fighters in Kunar and about 180 in Nangarhar.

One-member state reported that the total number of Pakistani nationals fighting with terrorist groups in Afghanistan might be as high as 6,000 to 6,500, it noted. PTI

Pakistan surpasses China in Covid-19 cases

Infections surge to 85,246

ISLAMABAD (TIP): Pakistan on Thursday surpassed China, the first epicentre of the coronavirus, after a record 4,688 new cases were registered during the last 24 hours to take the tally to 85,246.

China with 84,160 patients has been placed at 18th position, one step lower than Pakistan, according to the data of Johns Hopkins University.

On Thursday, the Ministry of National Health Services said till now Pakistan has witnessed the deaths of 1,770 patients with COVID-19, including 82 in the last 24 hours.

The country registered 4,688 new COVID-19 cases during the period, the highest in a single day, the ministry said.

Another 30,128 had recovered.

Sindh so far reported 32,910 patients of coronavirus, Punjab 31,104, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa 11,373, Balochistan 5,224, Islamabad 3,544, Gilgit-Baltistan 824 and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir reported 285 cases of the viral disease.

On the positive side a record 20,167 tests were done in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of tests conducted so far to 615,511.

As the number of infections continue to go up, Minister for Planning Asad Umar said an effective media campaign is being launched across the country to create awareness and to educate the masses for voluntary compliance of



Standard Operating Procedures.

Chairing a meeting of the National Command and Operation Centre, Umar said there should be a clear message conveyed to the masses that the government is going to spearhead stringent actions to ensure social distancing and compliance of safety guidelines in public places and high risk areas, Radio Pakistan reported.

He said administrative actions would be initiated across the country against the violators of standard operating procedure put at place to contain the spread of COVID-19.

The coronavirus epidemic, which originated in the central Chinese city of Wuhan last year, has infected over 6,511,000 people and killed over 3,86,000 across the world. — PTI

Suicide bomber injures at least three in Kabul mosque compound



KABUL (TIP): A suicide bomber blew himself up inside a large mosque compound near a high-security diplomatic district in Kabul on Tuesday, government officials said, adding that at least three people were injured in the blast. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the blast, which took place near homes and offices belonging to dozens of international organisations and embassies.

The bomber blew himself up in the part of the compound where worshippers wash before entering the main complex to pray, interior ministry and police officials said as they rushed teams to the spot.

Last week, Islamic State fighters blew up a private bus carrying employees of a private news company in Kabul. One journalist and a technician were killed and six people were injured. Reuters

First Rohingya dies from coronavirus in Bangladesh

DHAKA (TIP): An elderly Rohingya refugee has become the first person to die from coronavirus in the camps in southern Bangladesh, officials said on Tuesday. The man, aged 71, died on May 31 while undergoing treatment at the camp's isolation center, said Bimal Chakma, a senior official of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commission.

"Today we got the confirmation that he tested positive for COVID-19," he said.

At least 29 Rohingya have tested positive for the virus so far since the first case was detected in the camps on May 14. Officials said 339 tests have been conducted among Rohingya in the camps so far. Bangladesh has reported 52,445 coronavirus cases and 709 deaths.

Aid workers have warned of a potential humanitarian disaster if there is a significant outbreak in the refugee camps outside Cox's Bazar, the coastal district where the camps housing over a million Rohingya — members of a mostly Muslim minority who fled a brutal military crackdown in Myanmar — are located.

"We are all working round the clock to ensure that testing is available to refugees," said Louise Donovan, spokesperson for UN refugee agency UNHCR in Cox's Bazar. (Reuters)

Albert Baldeo rises to give "Little Guyana/India" historic shot at securing first seat in government

QUEENS, NY (TIP): After 58 years, Hope and Change is coming to the State Assembly District 24-Richmond Hill, Hollis, Queens Village, Jamaica Estates, Briarwood, Fresh Meadows, Bellerose, Floral Park, Jamaica and Glen Oaks. ALBERT BALDEO is running for this seat, hoping to unseat David Weprin, whose family has held the seat since 1962. Due to Baldeo's efforts, voters now have a chance to ensure their diversities are represented for the first time in the primary set for June 23, 2020.

Voters can also vote now by absentee ballot without going to go to the poll sites, by filling out and returning the absentee applications and ballots being sent out by the Board of Elections. Those who did not receive an absentee ballot in the mail, can apply for one online at nycabsentee.com. "Albert Baldeo's triumph over injustice, hate and bigotry is a beacon of hope and enlightenment in these times for our neglected communities in AD 24," Rabbi Garth Marchant said. "The present Assemblyman has been missing in action, and failing to help his constituents in these crises."

"The shocking fact that David Weprin gave priority to pushing legislation in Albany just this week, one that he himself sponsored, to free violent murderers and rapists, instead of securing unemployment insurance, saving small businesses, assisting constituents with PPE, food and survival funds and resources, and helping us to overcome this pandemic, is the result of a token, recycled politician being too long in office, and clearly unaware of what are the pressing issues his constituents face. He cannot be found, and cannot continue to serve us," Rev. Etwaroo and a group of Sikh leaders said.

"The residents and leaders of this district have been encouraging me to right the injustices and evil we face every day. The pandemic and George Floyd tragedies are only part of the problems here. They want fresh ideas, vigor and resolve, and understand that this crisis will get worse without the bold and strong leadership I will bring to the table. They are demanding their fair share, now more than ever! I am best suited to represent the changing demographics and dynamics of this district, which is a majority-minority district. Guyanese, Trinidadians, Latinos, Bengalis, Punjabis, Sikhs and African-Americans are the backbone of this district. Everyone deserves representation. I will also be a voice for the restoration of democracy in Guyana," Baldeo said.

In support of his candidacy, the United Communities Democratic Alliance, a large, broad-based organization that consists of diverse members of the district said, "Everyone, including our leaders, want Albert Baldeo in our State Assembly seat! Albert has always fought for us! We need him! He is our hero,



Albert Baldeo has fought for everyone's civic rights and condemned prejudice anywhere and everywhere

champion and fighter. He has given us a choice we never had before. In previous elections, every challenger was kicked off the ballot by the machinery, and voters never had a choice.

Albert Baldeo has been a trailblazer, a transformational leader, a Civil Rights Leader, a Community Advocate, a Reformer and a former Democratic District Leader, who was cheated out of a State senate seat by the Queens Democratic County Old Boys Club a few cycles ago by a narrow margin. During this pandemic, Albert delivered health safety PPE, like masks, gloves and shields to frontline workers and citizens alike, and food, medicine, sanitizers and other scarce items from his own pockets, while the present Assemblyman was missing in action. Albert stepped up to do Weprin's job, and help seniors, the homebound, the disabled, essential and health care workers and the needy.

All his life, Albert Baldeo has championed many grass roots and labor issues, and has continued to inspire, empower and uplift communities all across Queens, especially in health care, unemployment insurance benefits, workers' rights and benefits, better jobs and wages, small businesses, education, health care, civil rights, immigration, the environment, housing, employment, public safety, police relations and government services," they explained.

Albert Baldeo is a veteran fighter. He has received numerous proclamations from Presidents, including Bill Clinton, Barak Obama, Dr. Cheddi Jagan, the US Congress (4 times), Governors, Mayors, the UN and from many other prestigious and grassroots organizations in our community, for his community, labor and legal advocacy. See www.albertbaldeo.com; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zs8ZoiYd_OE&t=7s

He has received numerous proclamations from Presidents, including Bill Clinton, Barak Obama, Dr. Cheddi Jagan, the US Congress (4 times), Governors, Mayors, the UN and from many other prestigious and grassroots organizations in his community, for his stellar civil rights, labor and legal advocacy, memorialized on his website: www.albertbaldeo.com/Awards; <https://www.kaieteurnews.com/2012/03/17/remarkable-people-albert-baldeo/>; <https://www.aaldef.org/news/guyanese-americans-rally-together-to-keep-richmond-hill-and-south-ozone-park-together/>; <https://www.thewestindianonline.com/federal-prosecutors-must-be-reined-in-also/>; <https://www.thewestindianonline.com/modern-day-slavery-in-america-how-americas-prison-factory-works/>

When the Republican State senators, led by Serf Maltese, sponsored racial profiling legislation against people of color, Albert Baldeo nipped it in the bud, and led the fight to vote them out of office, ensuring that we remain patriotic and united, as proud Americans. Albert has stood up to President Trump and condemned his failed policies, especially in immigration and in handling the pandemic: <https://www.theindianpanorama.news/other-stories/open-letter-president-trump-stop-using-americas-children-pawns-extend-daca/>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PrGR6gEXtyc>; <https://www.gothamgazette.com/index.php/elections/4048-in-queens-a-race-to-control-the-senate>

When banks started to squeeze homeowners out of their homes, Albert Baldeo fought for legislation to protect the American dream of home ownership, and assisted tenants against slumlords, forcing them to effect repairs, provide heat, and stop harassing tenants: <https://qns.com/story/2010/10/31/baldeo-has-plans-to-restore-financial-health-of-district/>; <https://www.caribbeanlifenews.com/action-to-protect-civil-liberties-is-vital/>

When the MTA tried to close our subways, bus and students' metro cards, Albert Baldeo fought back and defeated them, and got the first subway elevator installed at the Lefferts/Liberty Avenue stop: https://www.qchron.com/editions/south/elevator-finally-in-service-at-lefferts/article_44bf9018-0356-5a46-8242-20e32dd4e849.html

When the City tried to close our firehouses, high schools, close senior centers, slash library hours and school funding, senior centers and parks, Albert Baldeo led the fight to defeat that injustice: <https://www.caribbeanlifenews.com/action-to-protect-civil-liberties-is-vital/>

When the DOT wanted to close/restrict Liberty and Hillside Avenues and other

commercial routes, Albert Baldeo told them that it would stifle the local economies, forcing them to keep them open: <https://www.theindianpanorama.news/unitedstates/immigration/whos-looking-out-for-immigrants-asks-community-leader-albert-baldeo/>

When Sikhs, Muslims, Bengalis, gays and other minority groups were harassed for their beliefs, Albert Baldeo put a stop to this illegal discrimination, and led protests against hate. Albert also got Mayor DeBlasio to install the first police outpost in Ozone Park, where Bengalis were constantly attacked, beaten and robbed, and ensured better police relations in all neighborhoods: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdlDvROHF3o&t=71s>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lo2lCueoK5k&t=60s>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWIPGOIkMj4&t=18s>; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hpZPrcCccE4>

The Queens Justice Center said, "Albert Baldeo is a beacon of hope, a profile in courage, the embodiment of triumph of good over evil, and a hero who has, and will always, fight for us. He is tried and tested, and is our fighter for any crisis, a man for all seasons!" <https://www.caribbeanlifenews.com/we-demand-justice-for-albert-baldeo/>; <https://www.caribbeanlifenews.com/federal-prosecutors-must-be-reined-in-also/>; <https://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2007/07/05/in-queens-a-fight-to-challenge-a-veteran-state-senator/>

The Interfaith Alliance, in enthusiastically supporting Baldeo, said that, "When the Republican State senators sponsored racial profiling legislation, Albert Baldeo nipped it in the bud, and led the fight to vote them out of office, ensuring that we remain patriotic and united, as proud Americans. Albert has stood up to President Trump and exposed the failed Republican policies. When the banks started to squeeze homeowners out of their homes, he fought for legislation to protect the American dream of home ownership, and assisted tenants against slumlords, forcing them to effect repairs, eradicate rodents, provide heat, and stop harassing tenants, notably Rochdale Village. When the MTA tried to close our subways, bus and students' metro cards, Albert fought back and defeated them, and got the first subway elevator installed at the Lefferts/Liberty Avenue stop," Rev. David Kayode and Pandit Swasti Doobay remembers. <https://www.kaieteurnews.com/2010/11/21/albert-baldeo%E2%80%99s-city-council-run/>

The Business Leaders Network of the district, led by Tony Shafiek, are supporting Albert Baldeo's candidacy. "When the City tried to close our firehouses, high schools, close senior centers, slash library hours and school funding, senior centers and parks, Albert Baldeo led the fight to defeat that injustice.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Floyd's killing: New charges against 4 Minneapolis policemen as protests continue

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (TIP): Prosecutors on Wednesday, June 3, leveled new criminal charges against four Minneapolis policemen implicated in the death of a black man pinned by his neck to the street during an arrest that sparked more than a week of nationwide protest and civil strife.

The added murder charge filed against one officer already in custody and the arrest of three more accused of playing a role in the killing of George Floyd, 46, came as several nights of escalating unrest gave way to mostly peaceful protests.

Thousands of demonstrators massed near the White House lit up their cellphone flashlights and sang along to the 1970s soul tune "Lean on Me," before resuming a chorus of anti-police chants.

In a further display of self-policing seen in Washington and elsewhere this week, a number of protesters urge some of their more provocative cohorts to stop taunting police and leave.

Several major cities scaled back or lifted curfews imposed for the past few days. But not all was calm.

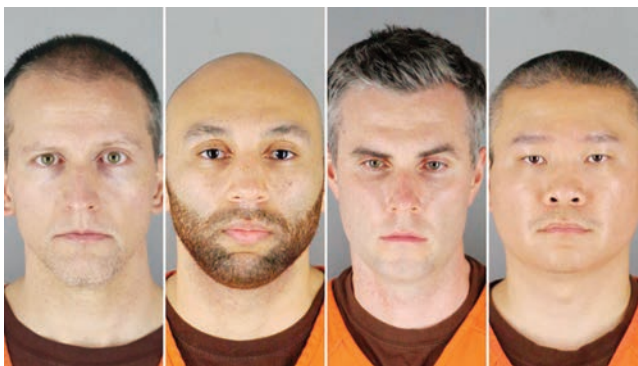
In New York City's Brooklyn borough, police in riot gear charged into a crowd of about 1,000 protesters defying a local curfew, albeit peacefully, near an outdoor plaza, and clubbed demonstrators and journalists as they scurried for cover in a downpour of heavy rain.

The confrontation in Brooklyn seemed to be the biggest exception to a calmer night, hours after the new charges in Minneapolis.

Derek Chauvin, jailed Friday on charges of third-degree murder and manslaughter, was newly charged with second-degree murder. The added charge, defined under Minnesota law as unintentionally causing another person's death in the commission of a felony offense, can carry a sentence of up to 40 years, 15 years longer than the maximum sentence for third-degree murder. Chauvin, 44, was the white officer seen in widely circulated video footage kneeling on Floyd's neck for nearly nine minutes as Floyd gasped for air and repeatedly groaned, "Please, I can't breathe."

Floyd, whom police suspected of trying to pass a counterfeit bill to pay for cigarettes, was pronounced dead at a hospital shortly after the May 25 encounter.

Three fellow officers fired from the Minneapolis police department along with Chauvin the next day were charged on Wednesday - each with aiding and abetting both second-degree murder and manslaughter.



Minneapolis police officers Derek Chauvin, J. Alexander Kueng, Thomas Lane and Tou Thao face charges in the death of George Floyd.

The three men -- Thomas Lane, J. Alexander Kueng and Tou Thao -- have also been taken into custody. Aiding and abetting second-degree murder carries the same maximum punishment as the underlying offense -- 40 years in prison.

Floyd's death has become the latest flashpoint for long-simmering rage over police brutality against African-Americans, propelling the issue of racial justice to the top of the political agenda five months before the US presidential election on Nov. 3.

The spectacle of city streets flooded with angry though mostly peaceful protesters -- punctuated by scenes of arson, looting and clashes with police -- have fueled a sense of crisis. The upheavals have flared following weeks of social lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic, which has forced millions of Americans out of work and disproportionately affected minorities.

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison, a black former US congressman, has requested bail of \$1 million for each of the four former officers charged in the Floyd case.

"This is a significant step forward on the road to justice, and we are gratified that this important action was brought before George Floyd's body was laid to rest," Benjamin Crump, attorney for the Floyd family, said in a statement.

Ellison told a news conference winning a conviction "will be hard," noting that Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman, whose office filed the original charges against Chauvin, is the only prosecutor in the state to have successfully convicted a police officer for murder.

Fully investigating the case "is going to take months," he



A peaceful protest in Washington

said.

Protests erupted in Minneapolis the night after Floyd's death and quickly spread to dozens of cities large and small across the United States.

In many cities, demonstrators defying nighttime curfews have been met by police in riot gear firing tear gas, mace and rubber bullets to disperse unruly crowds. National Guard troops have been activated in several states to assist local law enforcement.

Authorities and some protest organizers have blamed much of the lawlessness on outside agitators and criminal elements.

Republican President Donald Trump has said justice must be done in Floyd's case but also touted a hard line against violent protests, threatening to use the military to restore order.

Defense Secretary Mark Esper said he did not back deploying troops to patrol the country.

"The option to use active duty forces in a law enforcement role should only be used as a matter of last resort and only in the most urgent and dire of situations. We are not in one of those situations now," he told a news briefing.

At the south Minneapolis street corner where Floyd was arrested, a crowd of hundreds stood in a vigil on Wednesday, some with their fists in the air, some weeping.

"These are baby steps," Kenneth Williams, 54, a black US Navy veteran who lives nearby, said of the newly announced criminal charges in the case. "Somebody should have stepped up and done something at the scene that day." "Cops have been getting away with this for years, but now we have cameras," he added.

(With inputs from Reuters)

UBER STANDS WITH THE BLACK COMMUNITY

Let me start by saying I wish I never had to send this email.

I wish that the lives of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and countless others weren't so violently cut short. I wish that institutional racism, and the police violence it gives rise to, didn't cause their deaths. I wish that all members of our Black community felt safe enough to move around their cities without fear. I wish that I didn't have to try to find the words to explain all of this to my two young sons.

But I've been given hope this week by hundreds of thousands of peaceful protestors demanding change. I am committed to being part of that change.

As a company, we believe that everyone has the right to move freely, no matter where they live or the color of their skin. We're proud of how Uber has helped improve transportation equity over the last decade. But the reality remains that Black

Americans often don't feel safe to move freely in many places around our country. And they still face enormous barriers that others do not.

This is a reality we should not perpetuate or accept. We must do better.

We know there is no easy solution to the problems we have faced for centuries. We also know that we need to devote our time, energy and resources toward making a difference. That's why we're making a number of commitments that we will uphold not just this week, but for years to come:

We are committed to driving lasting change through criminal justice reform. On Sunday, we announced a \$1 million donation to the Equal Justice Initiative and Center for Policing Equity to support their important work in making racial justice in America more than just a promise.

We are committed to creating a community that treats everyone equally

and with dignity. We do not tolerate discrimination, harassment or racism on our platform, as outlined in our Community Guidelines. We will hold everyone who uses Uber accountable to these standards of basic respect and human decency. I respectfully ask anyone not willing to abide by these rules to delete Uber.

We are committed to supporting the Black community. As a starting point, we will use Uber Eats to promote Black-owned restaurants while making it easier for you to support them, with no delivery fees for the remainder of the year. And in the coming weeks, we will offer discounted rides to Black-owned small businesses, who have been hit hard by COVID-19, to help in their recovery.

We are committed to making Uber a diverse and inclusive place for people of color to work and thrive. While we have more work to do, we have tied our senior



:"Let me speak clearly and unequivocally: Black Lives Matter: Dara Khosrowshahi, CEO, Uber

executives' pay to measurable progress on our diversity goals, and will continue to publish data on our workforce so the public can hold us accountable. We're also committed to expanding opportunities for drivers and delivery people, including through education opportunities and skills training.

We know this isn't enough. It won't be enough until we see true racial justice. But we plan to workday in and day out to improve, learn, and grow as a company.

Lastly, let me speak clearly and unequivocally: Black Lives Matter.

James Mattis denounces President Trump, describes him as a threat to the Constitution

WASHINGTON (TIP): James Mattis, the esteemed Marine general who resigned as secretary of defense in December 2018 to protest Donald Trump's Syria policy, has, ever since, kept studiously silent about Trump's performance as president. But he has now broken his silence, writing an extraordinary broadside in which he denounces the president for dividing the nation, and accuses him of ordering the U.S. military to violate the constitutional rights of American citizens.

"I have watched this week's unfolding events, angry and appalled," Mattis writes. "The words 'Equal Justice Under



In an extraordinary condemnation, the former defense secretary backs protesters and says the president is trying to turn Americans against one another.

United States Supreme Court. This is precisely what protesters are rightly demanding. It is a wholesome and unifying demand-one that all of us should be able to get behind. We must not be distracted by a small number of lawbreakers. The protests are defined by tens of thousands of people of conscience who are insisting that we live up to our values-our values as people and our values as a nation." He goes on, "We must reject and hold accountable those in office who would make a mockery of our Constitution."

(Source: The Atlantic)

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IRS Chief Counsel goes virtual with national Settlement Days; Helps dozens of taxpayers settle their Tax Court cases

WASHINGTON (TIP): The Internal Revenue Service Office of Chief Counsel is expanding its Virtual Settlement Days program after the tremendous success achieved by three offices that took Settlement Days events virtual in May 2020.

Settlement Days events are coordinated efforts to resolve cases in the United States Tax Court (Tax Court) by providing taxpayers not represented by counsel the opportunity to receive free tax advice from Low Income Taxpayer Clinics (LITCs), American Bar Association (ABA) volunteer attorneys and other pro bono organizations. Taxpayers can also discuss their Tax Court cases and resolve related tax issues with members of the IRS Office of Chief Counsel, the Independent Office of Appeals and Collection. By doing so, unrepresented taxpayers are often able to amicably settle their tax disputes without a trial.

In response to office closures and social distancing requirements, the Office of Chief Counsel quickly shifted its Settlement Days event to a virtual environment. Settlement Days events have traditionally been held in-person, requiring LTC staffers, pro bono attorneys and taxpayers to travel to a designated meeting location. Virtual Settlement Days events take advantage of WebEx audio-visual conferencing software to allow taxpayers to join events from any location, including their homes.

The Office of Chief Counsel first announced its shift to Virtual Settlement Days on May 5, 2020. (See IR-2020-87.) As part of that, Virtual Settlement Days events were held on May 9 in Detroit in conjunction with the University of Michigan Law School LTC, and on May 21 in Atlanta in conjunction with the North Georgia Low Income Taxpayer Clinic.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

No need for U.S. intervention, says China on border row with India

Beijing and New Delhi "capable" of resolving the issue, observes Foreign Ministry

NEW YORK (TIP): China's Foreign Ministry on Wednesday, June 3, said there was "no need for third party intervention" on the border row with India and both nations were "capable" of resolving the issue. This comes a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Donald Trump discussed the border situation in a telephone call.

New Delhi on Tuesday, June 2 said the border situation was discussed by the two leaders, during which Mr. Trump also spoke of expanding the Group of Seven to include India and invited Mr. Modi for the next summit to be held in the U.S. The other members are Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the U.K.

Last week, Mr. Trump offered to mediate between India and China amid the ongoing border tensions and New Delhi appeared to reject the offer, with officials saying that India and China remained "engaged" through diplomatic and military channels in Delhi and Beijing and at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in order to resolve the situation along the boundaries in Ladakh and Sikkim. They noted that the matter was being discussed bilaterally. "We are fully engaged with the Chinese side to peacefully resolve the issue," said Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Anurag Srivastava.

On Wednesday, China's Foreign Ministry said, "there is no need for third party intervention" and that bilateral channels were open to resolve the tensions along the LAC. "China's position on the border issue is consistent and clear," said Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian.

"We have earnestly implemented the important consensus reached between the leaders of the two countries and have strictly abided by the relevant agreements between China and India, and committed to upholding national territorial security and sovereignty and also to upholding peace and stability in the border region. Now the situation is

overall stable and controllable. China and India have a full-fledged border related mechanism and communication channel. We have the capability to resolve this issue through dialogue and negotiations. There is no need for third party intervention", he stated.

CHARGE AGAINST TRUMP: After Mr. Trump's offer, China's State media accused him of trying to "drive a wedge between China and India". After first making the offer in a tweet, Mr. Trump reiterated it to reporters on May 29. "They have a big conflict India and China. Two countries with 1.4 billion people. Two countries with very powerful militaries. India is not happy and probably China is not happy," he said. "I can tell you; I did speak to Prime Minister Modi. He is not in a good mood about what is going on with China."

Indian officials then unusually denied Mr. Trump's May 29 claim that he had spoken to the Prime Minister. The call finally happened on June 2.

The Global Times, a Communist party-run newspaper, said in a commentary that "a conflicting China-India relationship serves [U.S.] interests". "Washington believes the combined strength of Beijing and New Delhi could impair its interests in Asia and beyond. An opportunist U.S. has never given up its attempt to drive a wedge between China and India... the Trump administration emphasizes India as a major pillar in its much-touted Indo-Pacific concept."

China says situation at border with India 'stable and controllable'

The newspaper, which noted that last year "India turned down Trump's offer to 'help' and 'mediate' between India and Pakistan over Kashmir", mocked Mr. Trump for his knowledge about India and China. "It seems Trump finally knows that China and India, the two largest Asian powers, share borders.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

India Relaxes Visa & Travel Restrictions for Foreign Nationals

WASHINGTON (TIP): Government of India has considered the matter regarding relaxation of the visa & travel



restrictions for certain categories of foreign nationals who need to come to India. It has been decided to permit the following categories of foreign nationals to come to India: -

- Foreign businessmen coming to India on a Business visa (other than on B-3 visa for sports) in non-scheduled commercial/ chartered flights.
- Foreign Healthcare professionals, health researchers, engineers and technicians for technical work at Indian health sector facilities, including laboratories and factories. This is subject to a letter of invitation from a recognized and registered healthcare facility, registered pharmaceutical company or accredited University in India.
- Foreign Engineering, Managerial, Design or other Specialists travelling to India on behalf of foreign business entities located in India. This includes all manufacturing units, design units, software and IT units as well as financial sector companies (banking and non-banking financial sector firms).
- Foreign Technical specialists and engineers travelling for installation, repair and maintenance of foreign-origin machinery and equipment facilities in India, on the invitation of a registered Indian business entity. These could be for equipment installation, or is under warranty, or for after sales servicing or repair on commercial terms.

The above categories of foreign nationals would have to obtain a fresh Business visa or Employment visa, as applicable, from the Indian Missions/ Posts abroad. Foreign nationals holding a valid long-term multiple entry Business visa [other than B-3 visa for sports] issued by the Indian Missions/ Posts abroad would have to get the Business visa re-validated from the Indian Mission/ Post concerned. Such foreign nationals would not be permitted to travel to India on the strength of any electronic visa obtained earlier.

India's COVID-19 tally reaches 2,26,770 with record spike of 9,851 cases

NEW DELHI (TIP): India saw a record single-day jump of 9,851 coronavirus cases and 273 deaths on Friday, pushing the nationwide infection tally to 2,26,770 and the death toll to 6,348, according to the Union health ministry.

The number of active COVID-19 cases stood at 1,10,960, while 1,09,461 people have recovered and one patient has migrated, it said.

"Thus, around 48.27 per cent patients have recovered so far," a senior health ministry official said.

The total confirmed cases include foreigners.

Of the 273 deaths reported since Thursday morning, 123 were in Maharashtra, 44 in Delhi, 33 in Gujarat, 16 in Uttar Pradesh, 12 in Tamil Nadu, 10 in West Bengal, six each in Telangana and Madhya Pradesh, four each in Karnataka, Bihar and Rajasthan, three each in Andhra Pradesh and Kerala, two in Uttarakhand and one each in Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana and Jharkhand.

Of the total 6,348 fatalities, Maharashtra tops tally with 2,710 deaths followed by Gujarat with 1,155 deaths, Delhi with 650, Madhya Pradesh with 377, West Bengal with 355, Uttar Pradesh with 245, Tamil Nadu with 220, Rajasthan with 213, Telangana with 105 and Andhra Pradesh with 71 deaths.

The death toll reached 57 in Karnataka and 47 in Punjab.

Jammu and Kashmir has reported 35 fatalities due to the disease, Bihar has 29, Haryana has 24 deaths, Kerala has 14, Uttarakhand has 10, Odisha has seven and Jharkhand has reported six deaths so far.



Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh have registered five COVID fatalities each, Assam has recorded four deaths while Chhattisgarh has reported two deaths so far.

Meghalaya and Ladakh have reported one COVID-19 fatality each, according to the ministry data.

According to the ministry's website, more than 70 per cent of the deaths are due to comorbidities.

Makeshift hospitals will be needed for Covid: Centre

Giving an indication that the existing Covid facilities will not be enough, the Centre on Thursday informed the Supreme Court that temporary makeshift hospitals will be needed in the near future in view of the constant rise in the infection.

"The number of cases are constantly increasing and at some

point of time in near future, apart from existing hospitals, a large number of temporary makeshift hospitals will have to be created in order to accommodate COVID-19 patients requiring admission, medical care and treatment," the affidavit reads. The Centre also said it would create an optimum infrastructure and adequately address the issue of human resource for this envisaged surge capacity scenario.

The affidavit came on a plea filed by Dr Arushi Jain, challenging the central government's new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for frontline Covid-19 healthcare workers. The new SOP, issued on 15 May, ended the mandatory 14-day quarantine for healthcare workers. Responding to Dr Jain's plea, the government told the bench that the healthcare workers had the final responsibility to protect themselves from COVID-19.

WITH CURRENT RATE OF COVID-19 INFECTION, INDIA LIKELY TO OVERTAKE ITALY IN TWO DAYS

NEW DELHI (TIP): India is seeing rapid increase in the number of coronavirus infections. In the last few days, since the government announced relaxation in the nationwide lockdown, the number of cases has been rising at record pace.

If the same rate continues, it will take India two days to cross the tally of Italy, the sixth worst-affected country by Covid-19.

Italy currently has 2,33,836 cases of Covid-19. If India keeps recording cases at the same rate, it will add another 18,000 cases in its tally, taking the total number to 2,34,919. In terms of fatalities, however, India has a much better record. The number of deaths in India is five times less than Italy.

The nationwide tally of confirmed Covid-19 cases reached 2.17 lakh on Thursday with a record spike of 9,304 new cases in the last 24 hours (between Wednesday and Thursday) and several states reporting their highest one-day surge.

The death toll has increased to 6,075 with 260 more fatalities in this period.

India is currently the seventh worst hit nation after the US, Brazil, Russia, the UK, Spain and Italy. In terms of fatalities, India is ranked 12th at present, while it is placed at eighth place in terms of recoveries. However, India figures among the top-five countries in terms of active cases, as also for the number of tests conducted so far.

46% MIGRANTS BACK HOME OR ON WAY: CHIEF LABOUR COMMISSIONER DATA

NEW DELHI (TIP): Total 46% of the country's migrant workers have returned home or are on their way to their state of domicile, a data compiled by the chief labour commissioner of India has revealed.

The CLC's data, updated till June 2, has been revealed under an RTI query which shows the total number of migrant workers is 2,617,218.

Chhattisgarh has the highest number of migrant workers—1,085,828—according to this estimate, followed by Kerala (2,86,846), Maharashtra (2,01,909) and Telangana (1,84,006). These estimates, however, widely differ from the data provided by the railway ministry for its trains to take back migrant workers.

According to data provided by the CLC, just 2,63,259 migrant labourers are at relief camps of shelter homes provided by the government.

NO TOUCHING OF IDOLS, NO PRASAD AND NO SINGING AT RELIGIOUS PLACES

NEW DELHI (TIP): Worshippers visiting religious places, which will open from June 8, Monday, will have to follow a new set of rules, including social distancing, issued by the Centre to contain spread of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19).

The government has said religious places or places of worship in containment zones will remain closed.

These measures are to be followed by workers and visitors in these places at all times, it said.

Here are the new rules to be followed from Monday at religious places:

- Touching of statues, idols and holy books is not to be allowed
- Large gatherings or congregation continue to remain prohibited
- Recorded devotional music or songs may be played and choir or singing groups should not be allowed
- Physical contact must be avoided while greeting each other
- Common prayer mats should be avoided and devotees should bring

AMONG THE COMMON RULES ARE

- Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of six feet in public places as far as feasible.
- Use of face covers or masks to be mandatory
- Practice frequent hand washing with soap for at least 40-60 seconds even when hands are not visibly dirty. Use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers for at least 20 seconds can be made wherever feasible.
- Respiratory etiquettes to be strictly followed. This involves the strict practice of covering one's mouth and nose while coughing/sneezing with a tissue/handkerchief/flexed elbow and disposing of used tissues properly.
- Self-monitoring of health by all and reporting any illness at the earliest to state and district helpline.

their own prayer mat or piece of cloth, which they may take back with them.

- No physical offerings like prasad or distribution or a sprinkling of holy water etc to be allowed
- Shoes to be preferably taken off inside own vehicle. If needed they should be kept in separate slots for each individual and family by the devotees themselves
- Maintain physical distancing of a

minimum of six feet at all times when queuing up for entry

- People should wash their hand and feet with soap and water before entering the premises

All religious places will have to ensure the following:

- Entrance to have mandatory hand hygiene (sanitiser dispenser) and thermal screening provisions

- Only asymptomatic persons to be allowed in the premises
- People to be allowed entry only if they are using face cover or masks
- Posters or standees on preventive measures about Covid-19 to be displayed prominently. Audio and video clips to spread awareness on preventive measures should be regularly played.
- Staggering of visitors to be done, if possible.
- Proper crowd management in the parking lots and outside the premises – duly following social distancing norms shall be organised.
- Any shops, stalls, cafeteria etc outside and within the premises shall follow social distancing norms at all times
- Specific markings may be made with sufficient distance to manage the queue and ensure social distancing in the premises

One arrested in Kerala elephant killing case, more people under scanner

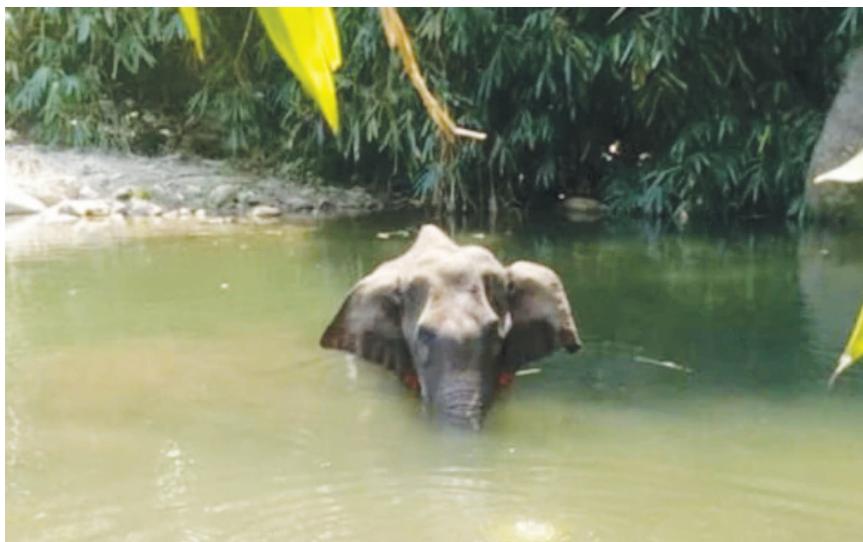
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM (TIP): A man has been arrested for his alleged involvement in the death of a pregnant elephant in Kerala, the state Forest Minister said today. This is the first arrest in the case that had sparked an outcry on social media. The arrest comes a day after Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said three suspects have been identified.

The police are looking for more suspects. "The arrested man is a rubber tapper. A search is on for others," Palakkad district police chief G Siva Vikram Said.

Forest officials have said the elephant could have died due to severe mouth injuries after eating explosives mixed with some edible substance, usually used as a trap to keep wild animals like boars away from destroying crops.

The man, who is in his forties, allegedly handled explosives and also assisted others, according to Chief Wildlife Warden Surendra Kumar.

The wild elephant strayed into a village near Silent Valley National Park in Palakkad last month and is suspected to have eaten something with firecrackers stuffed in it. It exploded in the elephant's mouth.



The autopsy report of the dead elephant has revealed that the crackers stuffed in the pineapple which was fed to the elephant burst in her mouth leading to severe injuries.

The animal walked for days in agony before it went into a river and died standing on May 27.

Villagers in the region often use firecrackers or explosives stuffed in food - fruit or animal fat - to protect their fields from wild animals like boar. The horrific practice has been widely condemned.

Photos shared on social media showed the elephant standing in the

river with her mouth and trunk in water, perhaps for some relief from what can only be imagined as excruciating pain.

Vijayan said his government's investigation would also try to address the increased instances of human-wildlife conflict. "Climate change could be adversely affecting both the local communities and animals," he tweeted.

CAN'T COERCE FIRMS TO PAY FULL WAGES: APEX COURT

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Supreme Court today said no coercive action can be taken against employers for violating the March 29 notification of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) mandating payment of full wages to employees during the lockdown.

The Bench led by Justice Ashok Bhushan passed an interim order after the Centre submitted that the MHA notification was a temporary measure for 54 days. The court reserved its order on a batch of petitions challenging the validity of the MHA notification for June 12.

The petitioners, including Karnataka-based company Ficus Pax and Ludhiana Hand Tools Manufacturers Association, have challenged the validity of Section 10(2)(i) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

The provisions of this Act cannot "impinge upon express provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and take away the right to layoff workmen during times of natural calamity," they said.

Terming the MHA order under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, as arbitrary, they said the order violated the private companies' right to carry on any occupation, trade or business guaranteed under Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution. Attorney General KK Venugopal said the notification aimed at averting mass migration by workers and preventing human suffering. "But your notification compelled payment of 100 per cent of salaries... it can be around 50 to 75 per cent. So the question is, do you have the power to get them to pay 100 per cent, and on their failure to do so, prosecute them?" the Bench sought to know.

Draconian lockdown flattened the wrong curve: Rajiv Bajaj

NEW DELHI (TIP): India's draconian lockdown, which has impacted both lives and livelihood, flattened the wrong curve — not the infection curve, but the GDP curve, said Bajaj Auto Managing Director Rajiv Bajaj. In a virtual interaction with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, a video of which was released Thursday, Bajaj said, "On one hand, a porous lockdown ensures the virus will still exist and, it is still waiting to hit you when you will unlock. So you have not solved that problem.

But you have definitely decimated the economy. You flattened the wrong curve. It is not the infection curve, it is the GDP curve." Describing the lockdown as "impervious and airtight", the industrialist further said, "I am not hearing about this kind of a lockdown from anywhere else. I think we have fallen very short of disclosing facts, logic and the truth.

This has then got amplified and instilled such an enormous fear in people that people seem to think that the contagion is equal to a contagious cancer or something." He opined that to change the mind of people and bring them back on board, and make them comfortable with the thought of living with the virus, which seems to be the new narrative coming from the government now, is a tall order.

MODI, AUSTRALIAN PM BOLSTER MILITARY TIES

NEW DELHI (TIP): India and Australia elevated their ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership and signed a crucial agreement for reciprocal access to military logistics during a virtual summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterpart Scott Morrison on Thursday.

The two sides also upgraded their "2+2" foreign affairs and defence dialogue to the ministerial level and unveiled a "shared vision

for maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific". The Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA), one of seven agreements signed during the summit, will facilitate reciprocal access to military logistics facilities, allow for more complex joint military exercises and improve interoperability between the armed forces of the two countries.

"India is committed to expanding its relations with Australia in a comprehensive and quick manner.

This is important not only for our two countries, but also for the Indo-Pacific region and the world," Modi said in his opening televised remarks in Hindi.

Morrison said the comprehensive strategic partnership formed by the two sides will take them "to a whole new level of relationship" and "continue to build the trust because we want commercial and trading relationships that are built on trust".

Iconic Atlas Cycles finally pedals its way into history

LUCKNOW/NEW DELHI (TIP): Among the hundreds of artefacts that adorn the walls of the Nobel Museum in Stockholm, Sweden, is a black-colored bicycle hanging from an iron rod.

"That's no ordinary bicycle," the curator of the museum told Indian journalists in December last year, just before Indian-American economist Abhijit Banerjee, who shared the economics Nobel for 2019 with Esther Duflo and Michael Cremer, was presented the award.

The bicycle, made by Atlas, belonged to another well-known son of India, economics Nobel laureate Amartya Sen. The 1998 Nobel winner used to cycle on it during his fieldwork in West

Bengal, studying poverty and inequality in the impoverished regions.

Sen could not be reached for comment but he will surely rue the fact that Atlas Cycles Haryana Ltd, the makers of the iconic cycle brand, the pioneers of the cycling revolution in India and the first cycle of almost every child, is now history.

A journey that started in 1951 from a modest tin shed in Sonapat, Haryana, about 40 km from Delhi, has ended.

The company shut its last factory in Sahibabad, just outside the national capital on June 3.

A notice pasted on the gates reads: "We are facing difficulty in arranging funds for our day-to-day operations. We are also unable to buy raw material. In

these conditions, the management is not in a position to operate the factory."

"On June 1 and 2, we came to the factory happy about the fact that it had opened after such a long lockdown. There was no hint by the management that it was mulling a closure," said Mahesh Kumar, the general secretary of the employees' union.

"On Wednesday, as we gathered at the gates we were denied entry by the guards who showed us the notice on the gate," said Kumar, who has moved to labour court against the abrupt closure.

From Atlas old-timers and patrons of the bicycle to cycling enthusiasts, the common refrain at the company's closure is of sadness and personal loss.



HRW VIRTUAL FILM FEST 2020

By Mabel Pais

"Fighting for water rights and fighting for hunting rights, and maintaining our food ways is our own battle to fight for our human rights." - Nephi Craig, Apache-Tribe Chef, "Gather"

"At a time when the world is experiencing a profound shared adversity, it is particularly heartening to witness the brave individuals and strong communities in the 11 films in this year's program. They overcome adversity in so many remarkable and moving ways to show us all how struggle can create positive and powerful change for humanity." - John Biaggi, Director-HRWFF

The Human Rights Watch Film Festival (HRWFF) 2020 presents Its First Digital Edition, June 11-20

Award winning Sanjay Rawal's "Gather" (Closing Night) and Environmental-Activist, TED-Fellow Shalini Kantayya's "Coded Bias" among Films

The Human Rights Watch Film Festival (HRWFF) 2020, co-presented by Film at Lincoln Center and IFC Center, presents its 1st full digital edition of bold new films available nationwide, in response to this time of crisis. The film festival will feature in-depth online discussions with filmmakers, film subjects, and Human Rights Watch researchers.

The festival plans to return to Film at Lincoln Center and IFC Center in 2021 and beyond.

As individuals and communities across the world struggle to face the challenges of an unprecedented global pandemic, the restriction of basic human rights - including pathways to medical and economic survival - are felt most severely by those already impacted by stark inequalities. Now more than ever, the world needs powerful and uplifting stories about those demanding justice, equality and safety for themselves, their communities and future generations.

John Biaggi, Director of the Human Rights Watch Film Festival says "At a time when the world is experiencing a profound shared adversity, it is particularly heartening to witness the brave individuals and strong communities in the 11 films in this year's program. They overcome adversity in so many remarkable and moving ways to show us all how struggle can create positive and powerful change for humanity."

The 11 films of the Festival reflect a resounding global rallying cry: The will

of the people shall not be ignored. Echoing Human Rights Watch's own guiding principle of Investigate, Expose and Change, the 2020 program reflects these steps in ensuring human rights for all.

The full lineup of the U.S. Digital Festival Premieres of the 2020 Human Rights Watch Film Festival are as follows:

"Gather" - Closing Night

Sanjay Rawal, USA, 2020, documentary, 74 minutes, English

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Saturday, June 20, 8pm (EDT)

"Gather" celebrates the fruits of the indigenous food sovereignty movement, profiling innovative changemakers in Native American tribes across North America reclaiming their identities after centuries of physical and cultural genocide.

"Coded Bias"

Shalini Kantayya, USA / UK / China / South Africa, 2020, documentary, 85 minutes, English

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Friday, June 12, 8pm (EDT)

When MIT Media Lab researcher Joy Buolamwini discovers that most facial-recognition software misidentifies women and darker-skinned faces, as a woman of color working in a field dominated by white males, she is compelled to investigate further.

"Belly of the Beast" - Opening Night

Erika Cohn, USA, 2020, documentary, 82 minutes, English

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Thursday, June 11, 8pm (EDT)

When a courageous young woman and a radical lawyer discover a pattern of illegal involuntary sterilizations in California's women's prison system, they take to the courtroom to wage a near-impossible battle against the Department of Corrections.

"From Here" - Christina Antonakos-Wallace, USA, 2020, documentary, 89 minutes, English, German, Spanish, Punjabi, Romani, Vietnamese with English subtitles.

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Sunday, June 14, 8pm (EDT)

"From Here" is a hopeful story of Tania, Sonny, Miman, and Akim - artists and activists based in Berlin and New York whose lives and futures hang in the balance of immigration and integration debates.

"The 8th"

Aideen Kane, Lucy Kennedy, Maeve O'Boyle,

USA/Ireland, 2020, documentary, 94 minutes, English

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Friday, June 19, 7pm (EDT)

Capturing a crucial moment for women's rights, "The 8th" tells the incredible story of how the Republic of Ireland overturned one of the world's most restrictive laws on abortion.

"Down a Dark Stairwell",

Ursula Liang, USA, 2020, documentary, 83 minutes, English, Cantonese and Mandarin with English subtitles

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Wednesday, June 17, 8pm (EDT)

When a Chinese-American police officer kills an innocent, unarmed black man in an unlit stairwell of a New York City housing project on November 20, 2014, communities across the city erupt with demands for legal accountability.

"I Am Samuel",

Peter Murimi, Kenya/Canada/UK/USA, 2020, documentary, 69 minutes, Swahili, English, Luhya with English subtitles.

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Sunday, June 14, 3:30pm (EDT)

Samuel grew up on a farm in the Kenyan countryside, where tradition is valued above all else. He moves to Nairobi in search of a new life, where he finds belonging in a community of fellow queer men where he meets and falls in love with Alex.

"Maxima",

Claudia Sparrow, USA/Peru, 2019, documentary, 88 minutes, English, Spanish with English subtitles.

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Tuesday, June 16, 8pm (EDT)

"Maxima" tells the incredible story of 2016 environmental Goldman Prize winner Máxima Acuña and her family, who own a small, remote plot in the Peruvian Highlands.

"Radio Silence",

Juliana Fanjul, Switzerland/Mexico, 2019, documentary, 79 minutes, Spanish with English subtitles

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Saturday, June 14, 4pm (EDT)

To millions of people in Mexico, the incorruptible journalist and news anchor Carmen Aristegui is regarded as the trusted alternative voice to official government spin, fighting daily against deliberate disinformation spread through news sources, government corruption, and the related drugs trade.

"Reunited",

Mira Jargil, Denmark/Sweden, 2020, documentary, 78 minutes, English, Danish, Arabic with English subtitles.

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Saturday, June 20, 3:30pm (EDT)

This is a story of love across borders, and the compromises a family must make when it is torn apart by circumstances beyond its control. When Rana and Muhkles are forced to flee the war in Syria in a desperate search for stable and secure futures for their family, they are separated from their children.

"Welcome to Chechnya",

David France, USA, 2020, documentary, 107 minutes, English, Russian with English subtitles.



"Gather" Poster

Photo / Courtesy HRWFF 2020



Joy Buolamwini (face in mask) in "Coded Bias."

Photo / Courtesy HRWFF 2020

Live online Q&A with filmmaker and guests on Saturday, June 13, 8pm (EDT)

This searing documentary, directed by acclaimed writer and Oscar®-nominated director David France ("How to Survive a Plague", "The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson"), shadows a group of brave activists risking their lives to confront the ongoing anti-LGBTQ campaign in the Russian republic of Chechnya.

Tickets

Film watchers can reserve and purchase individual film screening tickets by title, or a festival pass that will provide access to all 11 films. Access to screenings will be available to all individual ticket and festival pass holders during the film festival dates June 11-20, 2020.

Members of Film at Lincoln Center, Human Rights Watch Film Festival and IFC Center pay a discounted price. To purchase Individual Tickets or a Festival Pass and to access program updates, visit

<https://www.hrwfilmfestivalstream.org>

Every film follows live free online Q&As for every title with the filmmakers, Human Rights Watch experts and special guests.

For details, visit <https://www.hrwfilmfestivalstream.org>

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

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WE'VE ABUSED NATURE FOR TOO LONG: DAISY SHAH

Actor Daisy Shah, who's quarantining herself at home in Mumbai, speaks for many when she says that she's grown tired of watching films and TV shows online. The lockdown extensions, have somewhat paled the excitement that citizens had when it was announced for the first time. "Honestly speaking," begins Daisy, adding, "I am so bored of watching stuff online that I have now started binge watching animated movies and Disney films. It has become a set routine now. Other than that, I do a lot of house chores every day."

The actor adds that this was a much-needed break, not for humans, but for the planet. "Of course, it is extremely sad that a lot of people have lost their lives and loved ones because of this virus. I feel for them. But when we talk about Mother Nature, yes, this break was much needed because we were abusing our planet and how..." says the actor who was supposed to start shooting for her next project by now.

Weighing in on the OTT versus theatre debate, the *Race 3* (2018) actor is of the opinion that it is completely the producer's call when it comes to choosing the platform of the release.

KANGANA BLASTS CELEBS FOR TWEETING ABOUT BLACK LIVES MATTER

Actor Kangana Ranaut has slammed her Bollywood contemporaries for failing to condemn local injustices, but not hesitating before commenting on the Black Lives Matter movement in the United States. Several actors such as Priyanka Chopra and Kareena Kapoor Khan have expressed their anguish on social media, about the killing of a black man by a white policeman, which has resulted in mass protests across the US.

In an interview to Pinkvilla, Kangana said, "The Sadhu lynching happened a couple of weeks ago; still no one said a word. It happened in Maharashtra where most of these celebrities reside...Bollywood anyway is a derived name from Hollywood. It is a shame they [Bollywood celebrities] continue to live in a bubble and never fail to jump on the bandwagon, which can give them two minutes of fame, but 'white people' must drive the bandwagon. Perhaps, it is because of their pre-independence colonial slavery genes."

Several social media users have made similar observations about Bollywood stars. Politician Omar Abdullah had written on Twitter, "So much respect for all the celebrities tweeting #BLACK_LIVES_MATTER. It takes



courage to bring your cowardice to the fore when you tweet for American lives but can't tweet for Indian lives."

Kangana continued, "Even for environmental issues, you see them fight for a white teenage kid but so many incredible elderly women and even children. They are doing exceptionally well in India on

environmental matters without any help or support. Some of them were honoured with the Padma Shri award. I was amazed to see their stories, but they never get the same acknowledgement from the industry. Perhaps, sadhus or tribal people aren't fancy enough for the Bollywood crowd or their followers."

MAN WORSHIPS SONU SOOD FOR GETTING HIM TO HIS MOTHER, CALLS HIM GOD

A man who was able to meet his mother thanks to the help of actor Sonu Sood, shared a video of himself conducting a puja in his honour. The actor replied to the man and asked for the blessings of his mother.

In a tweet, the man shared a video of himself worshipping Sonu, and wrote, "The one who helps another meet his mother is a god. Sonu Sood, I believe you're no less than a god. You helped me meet my mother and made my dream a reality." Sonu in his reply wrote, "Don't do this, brother. Instead ask you mother to bless me."

Sonu's tweet has been 'liked' over 16000 times. The actor has received widespread praise for his efforts in helping migrant workers reach their home states during the nationwide coronavirus lockdown. On Monday, the actor personally saw off over 1000 migrants travelling to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. In a statement, as per the Indian Express, the actor said, "The trains with the migrants left today from Thane to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. We have arranged meal kits and sanitisers for all our travellers. I thank the Maharashtra Government for their support. I am making sure to do everything in my capacity to help



our migrants. I have pledged to not stop until the last migrant reaches home."

Another migrant, whom Sonu helped travel to his village, wrote to the actor inviting him to his home. Sonu replied, "I shall come visit once your brothers and sisters are back

home as well."

Besides earnest messages such as these, the actor has also been receiving humorous requests on social media. While one person asked to be taken away from her husband, another asked Sonu for his help in getting to a liquor shop.

BOLLYWOOD COMPOSER WAJID KHAN DEAD AT 42 FROM COVID-19



Wajid Khan, one of the top composers of Bollywood dance songs, has died at the age of 42 after contracting coronavirus, media reports said Monday.

Khan, who had been suffering from a kidney ailment, passed away in Mumbai on Sunday after suffering cardiac arrest, his brother told Press Trust of India news agency, adding that he had tested positive for the virus.

The first death in Bollywood to be attributed to the pandemic sent shockwaves through the industry, which is still reeling from the loss of two luminaries, Irrfan Khan and Rishi Kapoor, in April.

Khan was part of the musical duo Sajid-Wajid who got their Bollywood break in 1998 when they composed the songs for superstar Salman Khan's hit film *Pyaar Kiya To Darna Kya*.

They became his favoured composers, collaborating on films such as the 2007 comedy *Partner*, the 2009 action blockbuster *Wanted* and 2010's top grosser *Dabangg*.



KYLIE JENNER'S LAWYER SLAMS FORBES

Kylie Jenner's lawyer has demanded Forbes "immediately and publicly retract" their statements on her billionaire status.

The 22-year-old television personality was given the title of the youngest self-made billionaire by Forbes earlier this year, but this week the company published a scathing article in which they claimed Kylie is not a billionaire, and accused her of spinning a "web of lies" about her business including her Kylie Cosmetics brand. And now, her lawyer Michael Kump has issued a statement insisting Forbes' article contains "outright lies", and demanding the company retract their comments.

Michael said in his statement: "We have reviewed Forbes' article accusing Kylie of engaging in deceit and a 'web of lies' to inflate her net worth. The article is filled with outright lies. Forbes' accusation that Kylie and her accountants 'forged tax returns' is unequivocally false and we are demanding that Forbes immediately and publicly retract that and other statements.

CARA DELEVINGNE OPENS UP ABOUT PANSEXUAL IDENTITY AFTER ASHLEY BENSON SPLIT

Owning her sexuality, Cara Delevingne is opening up about identifying as pansexual, meaning that she's attracted to any gender.

"I always will remain, I think, pansexual," the model, 27, tells Variety in a new interview published on Wednesday, June 3. "However one defines themselves, whether it's 'they' or 'he' or 'she,' I fall in love with the person — and that's that. I'm attracted to the person."

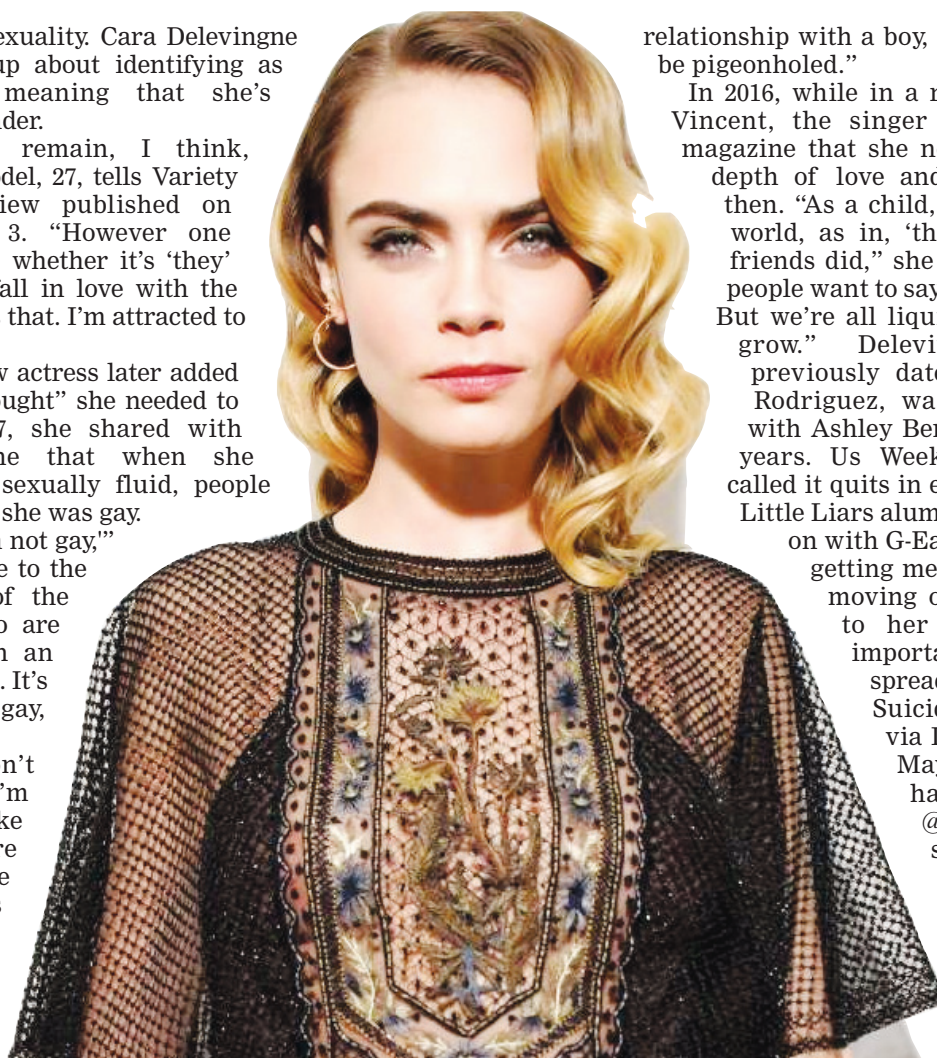
The Carnival Row actress later added that she "never thought" she needed to come out. In 2017, she shared with Glamour magazine that when she revealed she was sexually fluid, people thought that meant she was gay.

"I'm like, 'No, I'm not gay,'" she said at the time to the magazine. "A lot of the friends I have who are straight have such an old way of thinking. It's 'So you're just gay, right?'"

[They] don't understand it. [If] I'm like, 'Oh, I really like this guy,' [they're like], 'But you're gay.' ... Someone is in a relationship with a girl one minute, or a boy is in a

relationship with a boy, I don't want them to be pigeonholed."

In 2016, while in a relationship with St. Vincent, the singer revealed to Vogue magazine that she never understood the depth of love and her identity until then. "As a child, I used gay as a bad word, as in, 'that's so gay.' All my friends did," she said at the time. "If people want to say I'm gay, that's great. But we're all liquid — we change, we grow." Delevingne, who also previously dated actress Michelle Rodriguez, was in a relationship with Ashley Benson for the last two years. Us Weekly confirmed they called it quits in early May. The Pretty Little Liars alum, 30, has since moved on with G-Eazy. When she started getting messages of hate about moving on, Delevingne came to her defense. "It's more important now than ever to spread love, not hate," the Suicide Squad star wrote via Instagram Stories on May 14. "To everyone hating on @ashleybenson please stop. You don't know the truth, only her and I do and that's exactly how it should be."



REBEL TO ROLE MODEL: ANGELINA JOLIE TURNS 45

Mother, producer, writer, director, actress, activist, UN ambassador, former wild child—the list of roles Angelina Jolie has fulfilled goes on and on. In honor of her upcoming 45th birthday, check out a timeline of the crazy life and career achievements of everyone's favorite Lara Croft.

The famous actor, filmmaker, and activist was born June 4, 1975, to actors Jon Voight and Marcheline Bertrand.

Jolie attended school in Beverly Hills and lived with her mother, as her parents separated when she was around one year old. Voight cited adultery on his part for the reason behind their separation, according to The Independent. Her father's infidelity caused Jolie to foster hostility towards him, as reported by Nicki Swift, and the two have had a tumultuous relationship her entire life.

Jolie starred next to her successful father in 'Lookin' to Get Out' (1982) at age seven. But she has said her interest in film arose from watching movies with her mother as a child, and not because of her father's



successful career as an actor.

She began auditioning at age 16, but struggled to get parts. Four years later, she landed a lead part in 'Hackers' (1995), in which she costarred with Jonny Lee Miller, whom she married a year later. The two separated in 1999.

Her big break came in 1998 when she starred in HBO's biographical film 'Gia.' As supermodel Gia Carangi, Jolie "is a multifaceted revelation,

shifting from coquettish to nasty to violent to contrite with a breathtaking believability," wrote Ray Richmond for Variety.

1999 was an eventful year for Jolie. She starred in 'Pushing Tin' (where she met future husband Billy Bob Thornton), 'The Bone Collector' alongside Denzel Washington, and 'Girl, Interrupted,' which earned her an Oscar for Best Supporting Actress!

Despite being praised for her

acting abilities following her award-winning performances in the late 1990s, Jolie hadn't starred in a mainstream hit yet. Enter 'Lara Croft.' The film went on to earn over US\$270 million worldwide and Jolie became an international star.

After visiting Cambodia in 2001, she began visiting refugee camps around the world through the UNHCR. She visited Sierra Leone and Tanzania and met with Afghan refugees in Pakistan. She decided to donate US\$1 million to the cause, which was at the time the largest individual donation the UNHCR had ever received, according to the agency.

UN ambassadorship

Over the following decade, she went on some 40 field missions and chronicled her experiences in the book 'Notes from My Travels,' published in 2003. She has since been promoted to the rank of Special Envoy to High Commissioner.

In 2005, she starred in the hit 'Mr. & Mrs. Smith' alongside Brad Pitt. They got together after, which caused an uproar since Pitt had been married to

Jennifer Aniston. Jolie has denied she became involved with Pitt before he separated on multiple occasions.

Hollywood's highest-paid actress: After starring in successful films such as 'The Good Shepherd' (2006), 'A Mighty Heart' (2007), and 'Beowulf' (2007), Jolie was named the highest-paid actress in Hollywood in 2008, earning between US\$15 and US\$20 million per film, as reported by The Telegraph.

Separation from Brad Pitt

After being together for 12 years and married for two, Jolie filed for divorce in 2016, citing irreconcilable differences. They have six children together, including Maddox, whom Pitt officially adopted in 2006. The separation prompted an onslaught of rumors and speculation.

Jolie was praised for her role as Maleficent in the live-action twist on Sleeping Beauty. She reprised the role in the sequel, 'Maleficent: Mistress of Evil,' in 2019.

BASU CHATTERJEE (1930-2020)

BASU DA: 'CHRONICLER OF SIMPLE ROMANCES' NO MORE

Celebrated filmmaker Basu Chatterjee, best known for directing classics such as Rajnigandha, Khatta Meetha, Chitchor, Chhoti Si Baat and Shaukeen, died at his residence in Mumbai on Thursday because of age-related issues. He was 90.

Basu Chatterjee's cinematic world was a lived one, most of his films distilling the little joys and struggles that are the stuff of everyday life in the middle class lane and still relatable decades after they were made.

His men were not angry or macho, his women never coy or simpering but down to earth and real. And through Chatterjee's extraordinary lens on ordinary people, they found romance in local trains, buses and office corners in films such as Rajnigandha, Chhoti Si Baat and Baton Baton Mein.

There were no rough edges in the light as the films of the director, who died at his home on Thursday at the age of 93. With his death, it is the end of the triumvirate — Chatterjee, Hrishikesh Mukherjee and Basu Bhattacharya — which blazed a middle-of-the-road cinematic trail in the 1970s and 1980s.

Chatterjee, who started his career as a cartoonist, found intimacy in crowds and beauty in the familiar. His films, almost celebrating mundaneness, could have got sidelined with the machoism and melodrama of the times in films centering on the angry young man, played most effectively by Amitabh Bachchan. But they never did.

Instead, his brand of gentle, unhurried cinema, also including gems such as "Khatta Meetha" and Chitchor, found many takers and is still relevant with directors like Shoojit Sircar and Ashwini Iyer Tiwari taking the torch forward.

Chatterjee's cinema was progressive for its times. While his men were not heroes, at least not the kind that mainstream cinema served, his women were not heroines in the conventional sense either.

The male protagonists were often gentle, hesitant and even lacking in ambition.

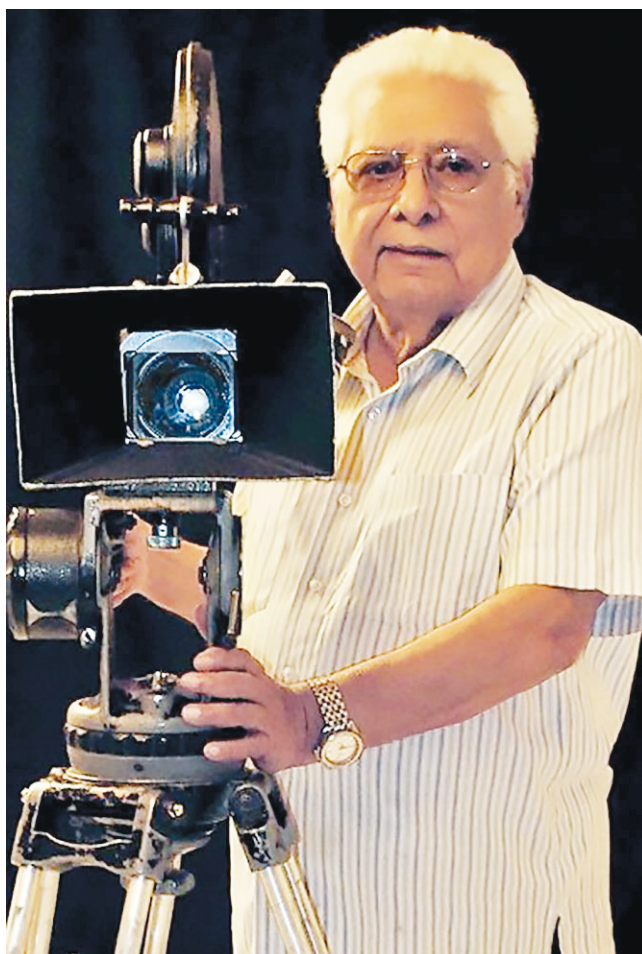
The women, in contrast, not glamorous or made-up, were determined, focused and unwilling to bow down to convention just because society demanded it. Vidya Sinha's Deepa in Rajnigandha is confused between her love from the past and the man she is dating. Zarina Wahab's Geeta in Chitchor decides to follow her heart in the face of family's opposition.

In Chatterjee's world view, the journeys of working class India were important -- remember Vidya Sinha's character waiting at a bus stand in "Rajnigandha", or Palekar and Tina Munim stealing glances in a Mumbai local in "Baton Baton Mein".

The Ajmer-born Chatterjee's cinematic sensibility probably took root early in life. His father was a railway employee and the family moved around in Agra and Mathura, where he completed his graduation and watched his earliest movies.

The director, in an interview on a TV show, said he loved watching all kind of movies at the only theatre that Mathura had at the time.

The shining lights of Mumbai beckoned, as it did for



many others.

His dream was to land in Mumbai and work in movies and he found his way to the city through a job as a librarian in a military school.

He later found a job as a political cartoonist in Blitz newspaper and worked there for 16 years. He continued his love for cinema by watching world cinema as part of the Film Society Movement.

The entry into films came through his friend, lyricist Shailendra, who gave Chatterjee a job as an assistant director in the film he was producing. The movie was Teesri Kasam, directed by Basu Bhattacharya, and released in 1966.

Three years later, he made his debut as a director with Saara Aakash, based on a novel by Rajendra Yadav.

The film, about a newlywed couple in a traditional middle class joint family in Agra, set the trend of the Chatterjee brand of slice of life cinema.

His next was "Piya Ka Ghar", featuring Jaya Bhaduri and Anil Dhawan, an empathetic, often humorous take on a young couple's struggles for privacy in a one-bedroom apartment in a joint family in Mumbai.

That was his forte — finding private spaces in the stuffy confines of a crowd, whether at home or in a

public space in cities buzzing with people and activity. And extraordinary stories of everyday people unfolding over cups of chai and coffee.

Though his films were more suited for actors rather than showcasing stars, Chatterjee did sometimes work with the biggies -- Rajesh Khanna and Neetu Singh in "Chakravyuh", a thriller different from his staple fare, Jeetendra in "Priyatama", Dev Anand in "Man Pasand", Dharmendra and Hema Malini in "Dillagi" and Amitabh Bachchan in "Manzil" among them.

Ironically, of his many films, Chakravyuha and Manzil, were the ones unsuccessful at the box office.

Palekar was a favourite, his go to person to play the self-effacing, bashful young man. Their partnership resulted in eight films, including "Chitchor", "Baton Baton Mein", and "Apne Paraye".

"He was the one, if you see the film history, who reduced the gap between parallel cinema and commercial cinema... He looked at life with humour. No matter what the situation, he knew how to smile and laugh," Palekar, who worked with Chatterjee in eight films, told PTI.

Actors who worked with him remembered the simplicity that was his hallmark as a director — and a person.

Moushumi Chatterjee, worked with him in three films, said he loved the 'rajinigandha' flower. Maybe the title of the film stemmed for his fondness for the flower.

Whenever he would visit me, he would always get rajnigandha flowers," the actor said, remembering the filmmaker who was like a family member.

Music was an important component of his movies.

The songs were simple, philosophical and full of longing. The lyrics were mostly written by long time collaborator Yogesh Gaur, who also passed away recently.

Be it the wistful Rajnigandha Phool Tumhare and Kai Baar Yun Hi Dekha Hai from Rajnigandha, the shy Suniye, Kahiye from Baton Baton Mein, Na Jaane Kyun from Chhoti Si Baat or that ultimate monsoon song in a rain soaked Bombay, 'Rimjhim Gire Sawan from Manzil, music in Chatterjee's films, like his stories, stand the test of time.

Chatterjee also stepped out of character to sometimes do different kinds of films.

In 1986, Chatterjee made the TV film Ek Ruka Hua Faisla, a remake of the Hollywood classic 12 Angry Men, a nail-biting legal drama. In 1989, he made Kamla Ki Maut about a young woman in a Mumbai chawl who commits suicide.

Chatterjee's last commercially successful film in Hindi was Chameli ki Shaadi with Anil Kapoor, Amrita Singh and Amjad Khan in 1986.

In his latter years, Chatterjee turned to directing Bengali films and also some television serials, including the popular Rajani, the Om Puri-starrer Kakaji Kahin as well as the cult show Byomkesh Bakshi for Doordarshan.

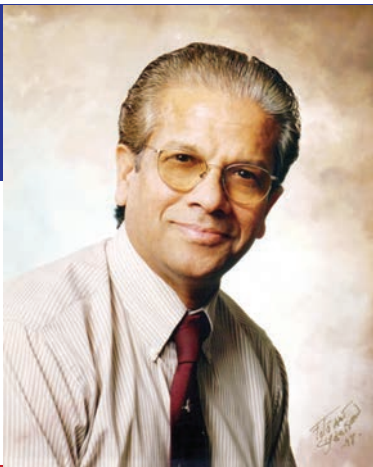
Byomkesh Bakshi is still considered the best detective show that India has produced.



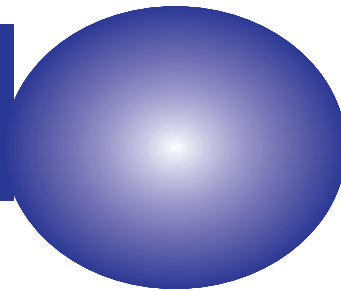


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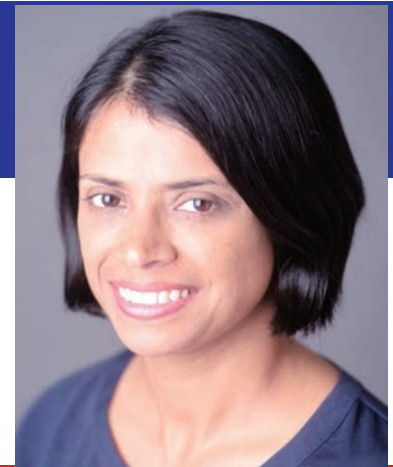
Dr. VK Raju and Dr. Leela Raju of the Eye Foundation of America will be glad to answer any eye related concerns of the readers of The Indian Panorama during this difficult period of Coronavirus onslaught



DR. VK RAJU IS A
CLINICAL
PROFESSOR OF
OPHTHALMOLOGY
AT WEST VIRGINIA
UNIVERSITY



DR. LEELA RAJU IS
AN ASSOCIATE
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Get to the Point



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After Wuhan, another city orders mass testing

BEIJING (TIP): A Chinese city close to the Russian border has ordered Covid-19 tests for all 2.8 million residents, becoming the second city in the country after Wuhan, the first virus epicentre, conducted mass testing of its entire population, state-media reported on Thursday.

According to the China's National Health Commission (NHC), one imported case was reported in Guangdong province on Wednesday.

Also, four new asymptomatic cases were reported in the country. In all, 326 asymptomatic cases, including 245 in Wuhan were under quarantine, it said. As of Wednesday, the overall confirmed cases in the country reached 83,022.

Of the total, 69 patients were still being treated, 78,319 had been discharged after recovery, and 4,634 people died of the disease, the report said.

Meanwhile, Mudanjiang city in China's Heilongjiang province bordering Russia has ordered tests for its 2.8 million people, official media here reported.

Some of the cities in the province registered clusters of infections in April and May. — PTI

Pope Francis promotes charity auction in Italy



ROME (TIP): Pope Francis is promoting a charity auction of sports items and experiences in support of two of the hospitals hardest hit by the coronavirus pandemic in Italy.

The “We Run Together” auction includes a personalised bicycle given to Francis by world champion Peter Sagan, a team jersey and captain's armband signed by former Roma forward Francesco Totti and a swim suit and hat from Olympic champion Federica Pellegrini.

There are also experiences such as training sessions and dinners with various athletes. Francis says “the true values of sport are particularly important to face this period of pandemic and especially the difficult restart”.

The auctions will take place on the site Charitystars.com starting Monday for two months. There will be a new one every week and each auction will last 10 days.

All funds raised will go to the Papa Giovanni XXIII hospital in Bergamo and Fondazione Poliambulanza in Brescia. AP

Now, mocking China anthem a crime in HK, Bill passed

Violators to face penalty | Critics see move as interference by Beijing

HONG KONG (TIP): Hong Kong's legislature approved a contentious Bill on Thursday that makes it illegal to insult the Chinese national anthem.

The legislation was approved after pro-democracy opposition lawmakers tried to disrupt the vote. The Bill was passed with 41 lawmakers voting for it and just one voting against. Most of the pro-democracy lawmakers boycotted the vote out of protest.

The pro-democracy camp sees the ill as an infringement of freedom of expression and the greater rights that residents of the semi-autonomous city have compared to Xi Jinping-led mainland China.

Those found guilty of intentionally abusing the “March of the Volunteers” face up to three years in prison and a fine of up to 50,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$6,450). The legislative debate was earlier suspended after pro-democracy lawmakers staged a protest, with one dropping a pot of pungent liquid in the chamber. Raising a sign that said “a murderous regime stinks for ten thousand years,” lawmaker Ray Chan walked to the front with the pot hidden



inside a Chinese paper lantern. When security guards tried to stop him, he dropped the lantern and the pot, and was ejected from the meeting. The chamber was evacuated and police and firemen were called in to investigate the incident.

Legislative Council President Andrew Leung called such behaviour

irresponsible and childish, before calling for the vote. The debate over the Bill comes after China's ceremonial national legislature formally approved a decision last week to enact a national security law for Hong Kong that could see Chinese security agents posted in the city. — AP

Tiananmen anniversary marked by crackdown, Hong Kong vigil ban

BEIJING (TIP): China tightened controls over dissidents while pro-democracy activists in Hong Kong and elsewhere sought ways to mark the 31st anniversary Thursday of the crushing of the pro-democracy movement centered on Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

That came after authorities in Hong Kong took the extraordinary move of canceling an annual candlelight vigil in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory for the first time in 30 years.

Authorities cited the need for social distancing amid the coronavirus outbreak, despite the recent reopening of schools, beaches, bars and beauty parlors. Hong Kong has had relatively few cases of the virus and life has largely returned to normal in the city of 7.4 million.

However, China has long detested the vigil, the only such activity allowed on Chinese territory to commemorate victims of the crackdown, which remains a taboo subject on the mainland. Hundreds, possibly thousands of people were killed when tanks and troops assaulted the center of Beijing to break up weeks of student-led protests seen as posing a threat to authoritarian Communist Party rule.

The cancellation also comes amid a tightening of Beijing's grip over Hong Kong, with the National People's Congress, China's ceremonial Parliament, moving to pass national



security legislation that circumvents Hong Kong's local legislature and could severely limit free speech and opposition political activity. In Hong Kong, a law is being passed to make it a crime to disrespect China's national anthem and 15 well-known veteran activists were arrested and charged with organizing and taking part in illegal demonstrations. Those actions are seen as part of a steady erosion of civil rights Hong Kong was guaranteed when it was handed over from British to Chinese rule in 1997. “The ban comes amid an

alarming acceleration of attacks on the autonomy of Hong Kong and the undermining of the rights and freedoms of the Hong Kong people guaranteed under Hong Kong and international law” Sharon Hom, executive director of Human Rights in China, said in a statement. Despite the ban on the vigil, the Asian financial hub was bracing for “pop-up” protests of the type that raged around the city during months of anti-government protests last year that often led to violent confrontations between police and demonstrators.

Minority Londoners targeted under lockdown rules

LONDON (TIP): British police statistics show that black and ethnic minority Londoners were more likely than their white counterparts to be fined or arrested for breaking coronavirus lockdown rules barring gatherings and non-essential travel.

Metropolitan Police figures show that black people received 26% of the 973 fines handed out by police between March 27 and May 14 and accounted for 31% of arrests. They make up about 12% of London's population.

People from Asian, black, mixed and other backgrounds received more than half of fines and arrests, but account for about 40% of the city's population.

The police force said the reasons for the discrepancy "are likely to be complex and reflect a range of factors".

Owen West, a former police chief superintendent, said racism was a potential factor.

He said "the UK police service has massive issues with discrimination ... and I really do think now is the time to confront it."



The statistics are the latest evidence that ethnic minority communities are being hit disproportionately hard during the coronavirus pandemic.

They were published a day after a government-commissioned report

confirmed that ethnic minority people in Britain experienced a higher death rate from the coronavirus than white compatriots. The government has vowed to uncover and confront the issues behind the difference. AP

Brazil police arrest dozens in illegal Amazon rainforest logging ring

MANAUS (BRAZIL) (TIP): Police stormed a dozen sawmills in Brazil's Amazon rainforest in a dawn raid on Tuesday, arresting about 30 people accused of involvement in an illegal logging ring.

A criminal group behind those arrested spans a web of loggers, sawmill workers, furniture makers and drivers as well as public officials taking bribes, state police said in a statement.

The sawmills were located near Manaus, the state capital of Amazonas, Brazil's largest rainforest state.

A Reuters photographer witnessed armed police confiscating industrial saws and truckloads of lumber, totaling more than a thousand cubic meters of wood.

The criminal ring linked to Tuesday's raids has cut down some 9,000 trees that were each over 100 years old in the span of 10 months, according to police.

Deforestation hit an 11-year high in 2019 and has continued to climb in 2020, rising 55% between January and April as compared to a year ago.

About 99% of deforestation in Brazil last year was illegal, according to deforestation mapping initiative Mapbiomas.

Environmental advocates blame the policies of right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro, who took office last year, for emboldening illegal loggers, miners and land speculators to destroy the forest.

Bolsonaro has called for the development of the Amazon to lift its



Policemen patrol outside a sawmill during a police operation named Flora Amazonica against illegal sawmills and loggers in Manacapuru near Manaus in Amazonas state, Brazil, on June 2, 2020. Reuters

A criminal group behind those arrested spans a web of loggers, sawmill workers, furniture makers and drivers as well as public officials taking bribes, state police said in a statement.

people out of poverty and says he is being unfairly demonized. Reuters

Emergency declared in Siberia after diesel fuel leak

MOSCOW (TIP): Russian President Vladimir Putin has declared a state of emergency in a region of Siberia after an estimated 20,000 tons of diesel fuel spilled from a power plant storage facility and fouled waterways.

The spill took place Friday at a power plant in an outlying section of the city of Norilsk, 2,900 kilometres northeast of Moscow.

Booms were laid in the Ambarnaya River to block the fuel; the river feeds a lake from which springs another river that leads to the environmentally delicate Arctic Ocean.

Putin on Wednesday ordered officials to minimize the consequences of the spill. But Alexei Knizhnikov of the World Wildlife Fund's Russia operation said the damage to fish and other resources could exceed 1 billion rubles (\$13 million).

The plant is operated by a division of Norilsk Nickel, whose factories in the area have made Norilsk one of the most heavily polluted places on Earth.

No cause for the accident has been determined, but a company statement said it was concerned about facilities constructed on sinking soil above permafrost. — AP

Germany to lift European Union travel ban

BERLIN (TIP): Germany's government says it plans to lift a travel warning for European countries on June 15 — but it may still advise against travel in some cases, for example to Britain if quarantine rules there remain in place.

Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said Wednesday that the warning would be replaced with more conventional travel advice. — AP

Oldest and largest ancient Maya structure found in Mexico

WASHINGTON (TIP): Scientists using an aerial remote-sensing method have discovered the largest and oldest-known structure built by the ancient Maya civilisation — a colossal rectangular elevated platform built between 1,000 and 800 BC in Mexico's Tabasco state.

The structure, unlike the soaring Maya pyramids at cities like Tikal in Guatemala and Palenque in Mexico erected some 1,500 years later, was not built of stone but rather of clay and earth, and likely was used for mass rituals, researchers said on Wednesday.

Located at a site called Aguada Fenix near the Guatemalan border, the structure measured nearly a quarter mile (400 metres) wide and nine-tenths of a mile (1,400 metres) long and stood 33 to 50 feet (10 to 15 metres) high. In total volume, it exceeded ancient Egypt's Great Pyramid of Giza built 1,500 years earlier.

Reuters

EASY HACKS TO KEEP YOUR CLOSET AND CLOTHES ODOUR-FREE

It often happens that even after washing clothes nicely it smells damp and musty. The stink can be due to trapped moisture that leaves lasting odour even when they eventually dry completely. If you fold such clothes and put them in a drawer or a closet it can leave your wardrobe having the same smell.

Washing and cleaning everything in your closet to remove that smell can turn out to be an extremely hectic task. Don't worry we are here with exactly what you need. Some simple life-changing hacks to keep your closet and clothes odour-free! All you need are a few ingredients from your kitchen shelves to get rid of that stink. Here's what you'll need:

Vinegar

Vinegar is generally used for food preparations and salad dressings, but it also is one of the best natural deodorisers. Prepare a spray solution to eliminate bad odours that prevail even after washing.

Steps

- Take a spray bottle, clean it well, and then add equal parts of vinegar and water.
- Spray in every section of your closet and leave it open for about 15-20 minutes. This will help keep your clothes to remain fresh and odour-free.
- Don't spray too much on any particular fabric otherwise, it may leave stains on it.

Scented wooden hangers

- There are two main benefits of using scented wooden hangers. First that they eliminate any



foul smell, and second it does not ruin your clothes like wire hangers if you're not being too careful with it. Scented hangers are likely to absorb moisture from your clothes that leave them smelling amazing. Other than fragrance, it keeps moths from damaging them. You can also make your own scented wooden hangers.

Steps

- Pour lukewarm water in a large bucket.
- Add 8-10 drops of cedarwood essential oil.
- Dip all your wooden hangers in it for about an hour.
- This will keep your clothes smelling amazing and insects away as cedar is a great natural

insect repellent.

Perfumed cotton balls

If you often forget to wear your favourite perfume on your way out, this is the hack for you. Not only will this help to remove the damp smell from the clothes, but it will also make you smell amazing all day long.

Steps

- Take a glass jar and a few cotton balls. Add 2 tablespoons of your favourite perfume in the jar.
- The cotton balls will soak the perfume of your choice. Lastly, seal the jars with a light, breathable cotton fabric.
- Place the jar inside your closet. And refill it every month.



By Tript Arora

CONNOISSEUR'S CHOICE



BHUNA CHICKEN



Bhuna chicken is a North Indian dish where chicken is sautéed and is coated with thick gravy rather floating in gravy as in Chicken curry. It is very aromatic as the masala contains lots of dry spices like cardamoms, cinnamon, bay leaf, cloves, cumin seeds and coriander powder. I prefer to cook in mustard oil as it gives a crispy taste to the gravy. You can use oil of your choice. I use finely chopped onions as it adds texture to the gravy. In some places curd is used for tanginess but my choice is fresh tomato puree as it gives both color and body to the gravy besides tangy flavor. Both Nan and chapati go very well with this dish. Onion dipped in vinegar and fresh green chilies as salad is a perfect combination with it. I am sharing my version of the recipe with you, which is quick delicious and finger licking. As my mantra is quick and tasty.

We need

Chicken - 700 gm. Curry Cut & Washed (Use Broiler as it is soft, juicy and cooks early). Onions - 6 medium sized finely chopped. Ginger garlic paste - 4 teaspoon. Green chillies - 2 finely chopped. Tomatoes - 4 medium sized pureed. Fresh coriander - half cup. Green Cardamom - 2. Cinnamon - 2" piece. Cloves - 4. Black cardamom - 1. Bay leaves - 2. Cooking Oil - 50 ml. Kasuri Methi - 2 tsp. Turmeric powder - 1 tsp. Red chili powder - 1 tsp. Coriander powder - 1 tsp. Garam masala - 1 tsp. Salt to taste.

Method

Take cooking oil in a pan. When it is heated add all whole spices to it. Let it splutter. Now add finely chopped onions and sauté. When the onions turn golden brown add ginger garlic paste and chopped green chillies. Sauté till it changes color. Add 2 tsp of kasuri methi. Crush it in your palms before adding it to the masala. Add pureed tomatoes to the pan and sauté for 2 min. Now add Turmeric powder, chili powder, coriander powder and salt. Keep on stirring occasionally till masala becomes thick and oil separates. Add chicken pieces to the pan and coat them with masala stirring occasionally.

After 5 minutes of stirring, Add around half cup of water to the pan. Don't add more water as thin gravy will not coat the chicken and hence spoil the taste.

Add fresh coriander leaves and cover the pan with a lid and cook it on low flame. It will take around 15 to 20 min for the chicken to get tender and coated well with the sauce. Garnish it with fresh whole green chilies and gingerjullians.

(The author is an entrepreneur. Cooking for her family is the fuel for her soul. Her mantra is cooking simple, yet delicious recipes, which fit comfortably in today's hectic life. Her life revolves around her husband, a daughter and a fur baby. She loves spending time with them and enjoys watching comedy movies in free time. She can be reached at triptasfoodtunnel@gmail.com)

TIPS TO PREVENT YOUR MANE FROM TANGLING

Life gets a bit worse when you have bad hair days. We automatically get in a good mood when our mane is having the time of its life, but things start to go downhill when the mane we love turns into a bird's nest. Now, knotting of the hair can be because of quite a few reasons and the worse part is that it can end up damaging your hair if not taken enough care. A few knots every once in a while seems okay, but if you are someone who faces bad tangled hair days often you, my friend, have a problem.

What can be done?

- Hair tangling can be caused by an extremely dry mane. If your hair cuticles do not have enough moisture in them, they are bound to knot up. Make sure to condition the hair and keep the moisture content high. Oil your hair every now and then and use cold water while washing them.
- Dry ends and split hair can be another reason for your hair knotting up. Trim your hair on regular intervals to avoid this issue.
- Sleeping with your hair open can cause friction and the loose ends might end up tangling. Make sure to braid the hair or put it in a bun before hitting the bed.
- Now, if you are taking all the above measures and still your mane tangles a lot, your hair styling tools and heated equipment can be the reason



behind it. Heat damages the hair cuticles making it dry, frizzy and unmanageable. This further results in hair tangling. Limit the use of these tools as much as you can.

- Humidity in the atmosphere also tangles up your mane. The easy way to deal with it is to learn a few hairstyles before the monsoon hits. Learn how to braid or do a bun as a preventive measure for the humid season. This is the best way to protect your hair from tangling instead of using unwanted products and tools.

THE SHOCKING SIDE EFFECT OF EATING COMFORT FOOD

A new study published in The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition by researchers at The Ohio State University, suggests that eating just one meal high in saturated fat is enough to hinder one's concentration levels. In other words, those who have had the privilege of working from home during the pandemic and have also regularly indulged in comfort food may have noticed a slight shift in their ability to stay focused.

The study involved 51 women, each of which were instructed to take a test that examined their attention in the morning and then again, five hours after consuming either a meal high in saturated fat or a meal that consisted of a healthier, unsaturated fat (in this case, sunflower oil). The group that ate the meal high in saturated fat performed worse on the attention test than the group who ate the meal cooked with unsaturated fat.

It's important to clarify that the meal that was cooked with an unsaturated fat was still high in overall dietary fat—with each meal clocking in at 930 calories and containing 60 grams of total fat. Still, the group who ate the meal that was cooked in palm oil (saturated fat) was "11 percent less able to detect target stimuli in the attention assessment."

For the women who had more severe cases of leaky gut—a syndrome that allows intestinal



bacteria to enter the bloodstream—it didn't matter which type of fat they ate. The women with leakier guts experienced erratic response times, which inhibited their ability to stay attentive during the 10-minute-long test.

Stephanie Urrutia registered dietitian at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center and the senior culinary educator for The James Instructional Kitchen says that eating foods high in sugar and saturated fats, while also low in fiber, often wreak havoc on the gut by causing inflammation. When the gut becomes inflamed, the tight

junctions of the digestive tract begin to loosen, leaving holes in the intestine.

"These gaps can allow partially digested food, toxins, and bugs to get through the junctions and outside of the digestive tract which can create a variety of issues," she says.

The particular toxin that hindered the participants' ability to concentrate is referred to as endotoxemia. And though the study didn't identify what exactly was occurring in the brain, the results did reveal a potential connection between saturated fat and the gut-brain axis.



HERE IS HOW ALKALINE WATER BOOSTS IMMUNITY

Alkaline water has a pH level 8 to 10 against the pH level of 6.5 to 7.5 for drinking water. This gives a measure of how acidic or basic a substance is on a scale of 0-14. Generally, regular drinking water has a pH of 7 making it neither acidic nor alkaline. Alkaline water has antioxidant properties and helps to fight free radicals.

There are quite a few studies which highlight the benefits of drinking alkaline water. According to one published in Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine, alkaline water provides higher longevity in terms of deceleration in ageing as it increases survival functions. In another study published in the Journal of the International Society of Sports Nutrition, a significant difference was observed in the whole blood viscosity of participants after consuming alkaline water as opposed to drinking regular water after a vigorous workout.

A study published in Alternative Therapies in Health and Medicine indicated that drinking alkaline water may prevent osteoporosis and protect pancreatic beta cells with its antioxidant effects.

How does alkaline water boost one's immunity?

An excess amount of toxic compounds in the body means it will have to work extra hard to maintain its biological functions. This may lead to weakness. On the other hand, alkaline water neutralises these toxic compounds present in the body. Moreover, alkaline water is more easily absorbed by the body. This allows your body to use the water you drink effectively, and toxins and harmful substances are flushed out of your system more easily.

Drinking alkaline water regularly can improve the performance of your circulatory system, says Dr Suresh Sisodia, Sr. Vice President, Havells India Ltd. It alters the quality of blood in such a way that more oxygen is carried to vital organs. All benefits of alkaline water work in tandem to make the immune system stronger in order to fight foreign pathogens and infections.

"Due to its basic nature, alkaline water neutralises the acidic content in the bloodstream, lowers the Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP) resulting in the antioxidant nature of water while introducing a variety of natural minerals to regular drinking water. Drinking alkaline water has umpteen number of health benefits such as supporting digestion and assimilation, strengthening of bones, weight reduction, better hydration for skin and body alongside other benefits such as anti-ageing and detoxifying properties, etc", added Dr Sisodia.

SUNBURN HOME REMEDIES THAT HEAL YOUR SKIN FAST

Skip the soap

After a long day in the sun, the first thing you probably want to do is rinse off—but you should think twice before sudsing up. Soaking in a bubble bath and using soap can dry out and irritate sunburned skin. A cool bath (sans bubbles) is a better option. If you must use soap while you wash, reach for something mild like Johnson's Baby Head-to-Toe Wash and carefully rinse it all off—leftover soap residue can be extremely drying, which will only make your sunburn feel worse.

Soak in soothing oatmeal

Another sunburn cure: Add oatmeal to your bath. Research shows colloidal oatmeal helps tamp down inflammation and reduces itching, says board-certified dermatologist Michael Schreiber, M.D., and you can find the ingredient in many Aveeno products, like their soothing bath treatment.

You can also simply grind up plain oats in your food processor and add to your tub. Mix the oatmeal treatment with cool bath water and



soak for 15 to 20 minutes. Afterward, gently pat your skin dry with a clean towel. Rubbing your skin to dry off will only irritate it further.

Reach for ice

Follow your urge to reach for something cold, but make sure to do it right. Wrap an ice pack in a damp cloth and hold it over the burn. This

will absorb some of the heat from your skin, constrict blood vessels, and reduce swelling. Ice-cold water is also an option. Pour water and ice into a bowl, soak a cloth in the liquid, and place it over the burn. Repeat this process every few minutes as the cloth warms. Apply the compress several times a day for 10 to 15 minutes, Dr. Schreiber says.

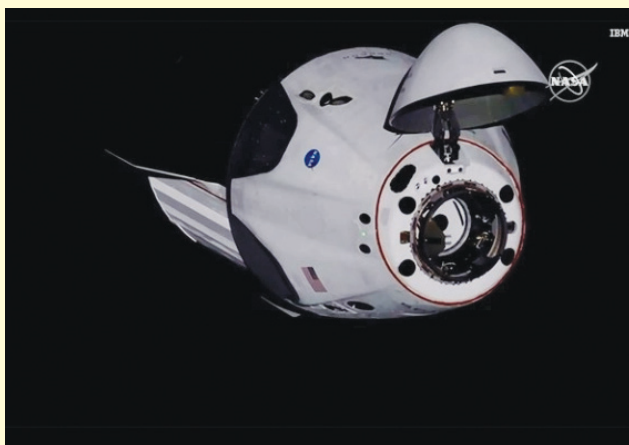
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SPACEX DOCKS WITH INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

NASA, SpaceX Crew Dragon: After a delay of a few days, SpaceX launched two astronauts to the International Space Station on May 30. The rocket ship designed and built by Elon Musk's SpaceX lifted off on May 30 at 3:22 p.m. (1.50 am Sunday in India) from Pad 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida. SpaceX's Crew Dragon capsule into orbit. It is the same launch pad, that was used during the Apollo mission to the moon a half-century ago.

SpaceX's Demo-2 mission docks with the International Space Station at 10:16 a.m. EDT (1430 GMT) around 15 minutes ahead of the schedule. The mission was initially supposed to be launched on May 27 but was delayed due to poor weather conditions at the last minute.

The mission 'historic' because this is the first-ever time that a private spacecraft company — Space X — used its own rocket to put humans into space. Both NASA and SpaceX urged eager viewers to stay at home and not to flock towards the Kennedy Space Center at any time due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Recycled battery metals being tested for use as crop fertilizer

It might seem an unusual ingredient for plant fertilizer, but metal dust from spent household batteries are being tested as potential crop nutrient supplements by an Australian recycler and supplier of battery materials.

After collecting recycled everyday alkaline batteries from local pick-up points around the country and then shredding them, Lithium Australia NL, conducted short-term trials by testing the dust — containing valuable trace element nutrients such as zinc and manganese — on pots of wheat in glasshouses.

The tests, which were carried out at the company's Envirostream Australia Pty recycling facility in Victoria, showed a "significant uptake" of the metals in wheat on local low-quality soil, according to managing director Adrian Griffin, though it was a slower process in comparison to fertilizer-grade sulphate products.

"We would anticipate that the results would be significantly better than that on more normal soils that we see in the wheat belts in Western Australia," he said in an interview.

With annual sales totaling around 6,000 tons nationally, alkaline batteries — used in typical household items — are notoriously under-recycled, according to Lithium Australia, citing research showing that 97% of batteries end up in landfill.



FACEBOOK 'MANAGE ACTIVITY' TOOL: HERE'S HOW TO DELETE YOUR OLD EMBARRASSING POSTS

Facebook is making it easier to delete embarrassing posts a lot easier. The social media giant has announced Manage Activity, a brand new feature that makes it easier for users to delete or hide posts at once.

"Whether you're entering the job market after college or moving on from an old relationship, we know things change in people's lives, and we want to make it easy for you to curate your presence on Facebook to more accurately reflect who you are today," the company said in a statement.

As the name suggests, the Manage Activity tool can be used to delete individual posts or select multiple posts and delete them in bulk. These posts will be permanently deleted after 30 days unless you choose to manually delete or restore them sooner. In addition, the new feature also gives people the option to sort out their posts by a time range.

At the moment, the Facebook Activity feature will be made available first on Facebook's mobile apps, and will be available on desktop and Facebook Lite in the near future.

Here's how to use

- Go to your profile page and scroll down a bit where you would create a new post, you will notice a new "Manage Posts" button.
- Click the icon in the upper-
- Now you can filter posts by date. There's also a toggle to filter posts that you're tagged in.
- Delete a post or photo you want to get rid of. Keep in mind that



right corner.

you can't remove a post or photo that was posted by someone else. If you want to that post or photo to be removed where you are tagged in, you need to ask your friend in private to remove it.

ZOOM WON'T PROVIDE END-TO-END ENCRYPTION TO FREE USERS

Zoom's CEO Eric Yuan says the company will provide end-to-end encryption for the platform — but the feature will only be available to paid users. Yuan, the company's CEO, said Zoom won't encrypt free users' video calls as it wants to allow law enforcement to intercept calls.

"Free users for sure we don't want to give [end-to-end encryption] because we also want to work together with FBI, with local law enforcement in case some people use Zoom for a bad purpose," Yuan said on the call with analysts during the company's Q1 financial results. Zoom's security consultant, Alex Stamos, took to Twitter, to clear the air around encryption and said the company faces a "difficult balancing act" when trying to increase privacy and reduce the human impact of the abuse of the product.

According to Stamos, if the bad actors who have exploited the platform in recent times were given strong encryption with their free accounts, it would be hard for the company to track them down and allow law enforcement agencies to take timely action.

"Will this eliminate all abuse? No, but since the vast majority of harm comes from self-service users with fake



identities this will create friction and reduce harm," Stamos said.

As the popularity of Zoom soared with millions of people work from home due to the coronavirus pandemic, the video conferencing platform has been criticised over of its privacy and security features, especially after an increase in number cases of "Zoombombing." Last month, the Supreme Court had issued notice to the central government, seeking its opinion on whether video conference platform Zoom should be banned due to the rise in privacy and security concerns.

New Light Sail Design Would Use Laser Beam to Ride Into Space

In long distance space travel, traditional rockets would eventually run out of fuel. There is an alternative: Since as early as the 19th century, scientists have dreamed of building spacecraft with light sails that can accelerate slowly, but for a much longer time, by catching the light from Earth's sun or, in more modern designs, powerful ground-based lasers.

Researchers have now introduced a lab-tested design for a laser-driven light sail that can self-stabilize and could potentially ride a laser beam all the way out of our solar system.

With a powerful enough laser, one can push a light sail away from Earth like a geyser of water would push a manhole cover.

Abu Dhabi-based investor Mubadala to buy 1.85% stake in Jio Platforms for Rs 9,093 cr

NEW DELHI (TIP): Abu Dhabi-based sovereign investor Mubadala Investment Company will buy 1.85 per cent stake in Jio Platforms for Rs 9,093.6 crore, RIL said on Friday.

With this investment, Jio Platforms has raised Rs 87,655.35 crore from leading global technology and growth investors, including Facebook, Silver Lake, Vista Equity Partners, General Atlantic, KKR and Mubadala, in less than six weeks.

The investment from Mubadala comes in Jio Platforms at an equity value of Rs 4.91 lakh crore and an enterprise value of Rs 5.16 lakh crore.

"Mubadala Investment Company (Mubadala) will invest Rs 9,093.60 crore in Jio Platforms at an equity value of Rs 4.91 lakh crore and an enterprise value of Rs 5.16 lakh crore. Mubadala's investment will translate into a 1.85 per cent equity stake in Jio Platforms on a fully diluted basis," RIL said in a statement.

RIL subsidiary Jio Platforms is a next-generation technology platform focused on providing high-quality and affordable digital services across India, with more than 388 million subscribers. The telecom services arm Reliance Jio comes under Jio Platforms.

"Through my longstanding ties with Abu Dhabi, I have personally



seen the impact of Mubadala's work in diversifying and globally connecting the UAE's knowledge-based economy. We look forward to benefitting from Mubadala's experience and insights from supporting growth journeys across the world," RIL chairman and managing director Mukesh Ambani said.

Mubadala owns electronic chip manufacturing company Global Foundries and has stake in several technology companies like AMD.

It has an investment portfolio across several fields, including petroleum, renewable energy, aerospace, satellite communications, agriculture, healthcare, metals and mining.

"We have seen how Jio has

already transformed communications and connectivity in India, and as an investor and partner, we are committed to supporting India's digital growth journey. With Jio's network of investors and partners, we believe that the platform company will further the development of the digital economy," Mubadala Investment Company managing director and Group CEO Khaldoon Al Mubarak said.

Mubadala established its ventures arm in 2017 to partner early with visionary founders and support innovative businesses. Mubadala's Ventures business currently manages several venture funds in the US, Europe and Middle East.



AMAZON IN TALKS TO BUY \$2 BILLION STAKE IN AIRTEL

NEW DELHI (TIP): Amazon.com is in early-stage talks to buy a stake worth at least \$2 billion in Indian mobile operator Bharti Airtel, three sources with knowledge of the matter told Reuters, underscoring the growing attraction of India's digital economy for US tech giants.

The planned investment, if completed, would mean Amazon acquiring a roughly 5 per cent stake based on the current market value of Bharti, which is India's third-largest telecoms company with more than 300 million subscribers.

The discussions between Amazon and Bharti come at a time when global players are placing major bets on the digital arm of Reliance Industries, which owns Bharti's telecom rival Jio.

Reliance's digital unit has raised \$10 billion in recent weeks from Facebook, KKR and others.

The talks between Bharti and Amazon are at an early stage and the deal terms could change, or an agreement may not be reached, said two of the three sources, all of whom declined to be identified because the discussions are confidential.

An Amazon spokeswoman said the company does "not offer comments on speculation of what we may or may not do in future."

Oil prices fall on doubts over output cuts, surging US diesel inventories

MELBOURNE (TIP): Oil prices dropped on Thursday, reversing gains in the previous session, on concern over whether major crude producers will be able to agree to extend record output cuts, heightened by worries over a huge build in US distillate inventories.

Brent crude futures fell 1.46%, or 58 cents, to \$39.21 a barrel as of 0459 GMT, while US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures slid 1.98%, or 74 cents, to \$36.55 a barrel.

Saudi Arabia and Russia, two of the world's biggest oil producers, have agreed to support extending into July the 9.7 million barrels per day (bpd) in supply cuts backed in April by the OPEC+ group, comprised of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and other major producers.

But they failed to agree on holding an OPEC+ meeting on Thursday to discuss the cuts, with OPEC sources saying it would be conditional on countries that have not complied with their targets so far deepening their cuts.

"The market has taken a look at that and said it's getting more complicated to get that deal over the line," said Lachlan Shaw, head of commodity research at National Australia Bank.



Global stocks mixed after Wall Street rises on better US data

European markets opened on Thursday lower while Asian shares gained after Wall Street rose on better U.S. jobs and manufacturing conditions than expected.

London, Frankfurt and US futures were lower. Tokyo, Hong Kong and Sydney advanced while Shanghai declined.

Stock markets have risen on optimism about a possible global recovery from the coronavirus pandemic as more economies reopen despite rising case numbers in the United States, Brazil and other countries.

Wall Street turned in its fourth straight gain after surveys Wednesday showed employers cut fewer jobs than forecast last month and a US manufacturing downturn eased slightly.

"The not too bad news keeps coming, enabling the hopes for economic rebound alongside the reopening," said Jingyi Pan of IG in a report.

In early trading, the FTSE 100 in London was down 0.1% at 6,376.20 and Frankfurt's DAX lost 0.5% to 12,424.94. The CAC 40 in France shed 0.4% to 5,004.39.

On Wall Street, futures for the benchmark S&P 500 index and the Dow Jones Industrial Average were down 0.3%.

In Asia, Tokyo's Nikkei 225 rose 0.4% to 22,695.74 and Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 gained 0.8% to 5,991.80.

The Shanghai Composite Index shed 0.1% to 2,919.25. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong rebounded from morning losses to close up 0.2% at 24,366.30.

The Kospi in Seoul rose 0.2% to 2,151.18 and India's



Sensex dropped 0.6% to 33,900.82. New Zealand, Singapore and Bangkok advanced while Jakarta retreated.

On Wednesday, the S&P 500 rose 1.4%. The Dow added 2% and the Nasdaq composite advanced 0.8%.

A survey from payroll processor ADP said private employers cut nearly 2.8 million jobs last month — less than the 9.3 million that economists told investors to expect. That raises optimism that Friday's more comprehensive jobs report from the US government may also not be as bad as feared. Economists say it may show a loss of 8 million jobs, which would be a deceleration from April's loss of 20.5 million.

Other reports showed the US economy is in bad shape but not as dismal as forecast.



Shree Ganeshaya Namah

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



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

**91-8141234275
www.bejandaruwalla.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 June 8 - June 14, 2020

ARIES: Ganesha says you have worked hard to consolidate your position and now feel confident that your finances are stable. You have taken a lot of risks earlier which could have led to some degree of loss at work. You are now cautious and read the fine print carefully. There is better rapport too between you and your co-workers and boss. You could be involved in developing new contacts or more business for your support and approval of your boss / superiors.

TAURUS: This is a time to slow down but it won't be easy as your sights are firmly fixed on making more money. Children / siblings / extended family will crave and need your attention and your time. Health may need attention too and alternative therapies will prove effective. Visits to places of worship will calm your agitated mind. You look for truth and the meaning of life, and may seek out a guru for guidance. But you have nothing to worry on the material plane as your bank balance is quite strong.

GEMINI: Your interest in money matter continues and you think of ways and means to increase your assets. You love making money and spending it too. You can also be flamboyant and make it a point to display your material worth. Meetings with financial planners, and dealing with loans, funds, assets will keep you occupied. There will be fun times too with social and outings with loved ones. This is a good period in life and you taste success in whatever you do.

CANCER: The financially hectic period of the past period slows down and there is sense of a quiet and calm now. This low-key period could propel you to seek out adventures and shake things up a bit. Nothing ventured, nothing gained - so true in your case, and you are ready to try your luck, gamble away your money, and also seek out adventures of the heart. You might even find the courage to propose to your sweetheart, and then there may be an engagement or marriage on the cards.

LEO: Keep your bags packed as you may have many trips this coming period. Yes, says Ganesha, be prepared to take overnight trips or short getaways for both work and pleasure. Meeting new people and even those you have lost touch with, personally or through email, phone or snail mail is not ruled out. Check out new technology to raise your communication levels. There will be some obstacles at work but the family and close friends are behind you like a rock to motivate and support you.

VIRGO: It is definitely 'Relationship time' now as the new moon phase draws your attention to those who have added value to your life. You also have the co-operation and support of your boss and co-workers. People find you pleasant and agreeable as you go out of your way to help others in need. There may be a windfall now and you could gain a lot from an inheritance which you didn't expect. Loans / interest / bonuses and even payments stuck for a long time will now be accessible to you.

LIBRA: A really busy period, even a hectic one, as everyday chores take your time. Despite leaving you totally engrossed and sometimes exhausted, it is still an enjoyable period. You also manage to find time for your spiritual aspirations. Apart from work, there are social interactions and quality time spent with friends, family and loved ones. You love entertaining and being entertained and there will be plethora of outings, picnics and get-togethers. You will be the soul of the party.

SCORPIO: Your fine interactions with people, especially with family members / work associates have been enjoyable and even empowering. The introspective phase gives way to more pressing, earthly concerns. The welfare and security of your loved ones is of paramount importance now and you need to take care of their needs and wants. There could be unexpected expenses as you over-reach yourself to the family assets and also your personal wealth.

SAGITTARIUS: Your sustained hard work now bears fruit. It is payback time now and Ganesha showers you with rewards. Salary raises, promotions and perks are part of this well-deserved package and you will have to take care that it doesn't bloat your ego further. Other money-related matters such as funds, loans, deposits, taxes, trade, agencies, legal matters could give you gains, both expected and unexpected, and could become a cause of great jubilation at home.

CAPRICORN: You love to make money and you make a lot of it quite effortlessly, is the new moon in your own sign initiates a trend of gains. Money continues to flow into your coffers through rents, leases, loans and promissory notes. A good bank balance makes you feel secure. You may have to spend a lot of time on negotiations and deals; and buying / selling of assets, and making acquisitions. Your life is on an upswing in this period trend and you work at a new image for yourself. You may go in for a makeover and change your wardrobe, hair style and even body image.

AQUARIUS: It is definitely money that is in focus this period. A strong financial foundation is what you hanker after, as it gives you a feeling of security. You do this through prudent and long-term investment in land, property, assets and stock holdings. This will give you the necessary push to achieve success and, in the process, develop your identity too. Everything falls smoothly into place like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, almost pre-ordained and without any great effort on your part.

PISCES: You have been working very hard this period and could have neglected your emotional relationships in the bargain. Romantic matters now come into sharp focus and you bond with your partner in a powerful way. You feel good about it and this, fortunately, infuses a feel-good factor which also colours your ties with your colleagues, co-workers, siblings and even extended family. The mood is contagious and everyone is happy. Those who are unattached can expect to find love too.

Birthday Horoscope June 8 - June 14, 2020

June 8: There's a chance to move a relationship to more satisfying level, make a commitment, or lay down rules concerning people who play a role in your emotional life. Set the date for a party or family event.

June 9: The focus is on your social life, which becomes high-placed and active, and you're likely in an excellent frame of mind for enjoying it to the hilt. It pays to keep plans loose and go with the flow.

June 10: There's potential for fun, good ideas,

and enjoyment out there if you'll just avail yourself of it. For opportunity to manifest, you first have to open your mind to the wonderful possibilities.

June 11: Ganesha says feelings pertaining to home / family are intense, providing motivation to invest time, energy, emotion, and even money into making things more harmonious - any of which will be well spent.

June 12: The Moon gives that itchy foot to travel, have an adventure, or take some risks. Being

outspoken is inevitable now, but that can get you into trouble as well as provide advantages.

June 13: It's not an especially favourable for travel, study, exploring new places and option or breaking new ground. The past has too strong a hold. You can run into a few snags around home.

June 14: Don't sell yourself short. A business meeting results in benefits. You can make a splendid impression on those you contact. The fulfilment of an ambition is in reach through subtle manoeuvring.

KABIRDAS JAYANTI

THE BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT AND SOCIAL REFORMER FALLS ON JUNE 5

Sant Kabirdas (1440-1518 circa) was a famous poet, saint and social reformer of India. His writings have greatly influenced the Bhakti movement. Kabir Panth which is a religious community recognizes him as its founder and its members are known as Kabir Panthis, the followers of Saint Kabirdas.

His writings include Bijak, Sakhi Granth, Kabir Granthawali and Anurag Sagar. The major part of Kabir's work was collected by the fifth Sikh Guru, Guru Arjan Dev, and incorporated into the Sikh scripture Guru Granth Sahib. The hallmark of Kabir's work consists of his two line couplets, known as Kabir Ke Dohe.

The birth anniversary of Saint Kabir is observed on Jyeshtha Purnima as per Hindu lunar calendar.

Birth of Saint Kabir

Saint Kabir DasKabirdas is said that he was born to a Hindu mother but this is not an established fact. Not much is known about his birth. He is said to have been found on the 'Ghats of River Ganga' in the holy city of Benaras by a Muslim weaver Neeru and his wife Neema in the year 1398. The couple took the baby home and named him Kabir meaning 'the Great One.' Thus, Kabir was brought up by Muslim parents. However, Kabir is the one religious saint, perhaps the first one, to establish harmony among the various religions. He was the disciple of Saint Ramanand and a devotee of Rama. His teachings are also included in the Holy text of the Sikhs- the Guru Granth Sahib. He, in fact, influenced the 'Bhakti Movement' of India which stressed on worshipping the 'Nirgun Bhagwan' – the formless God without adhering to meaningless rituals.

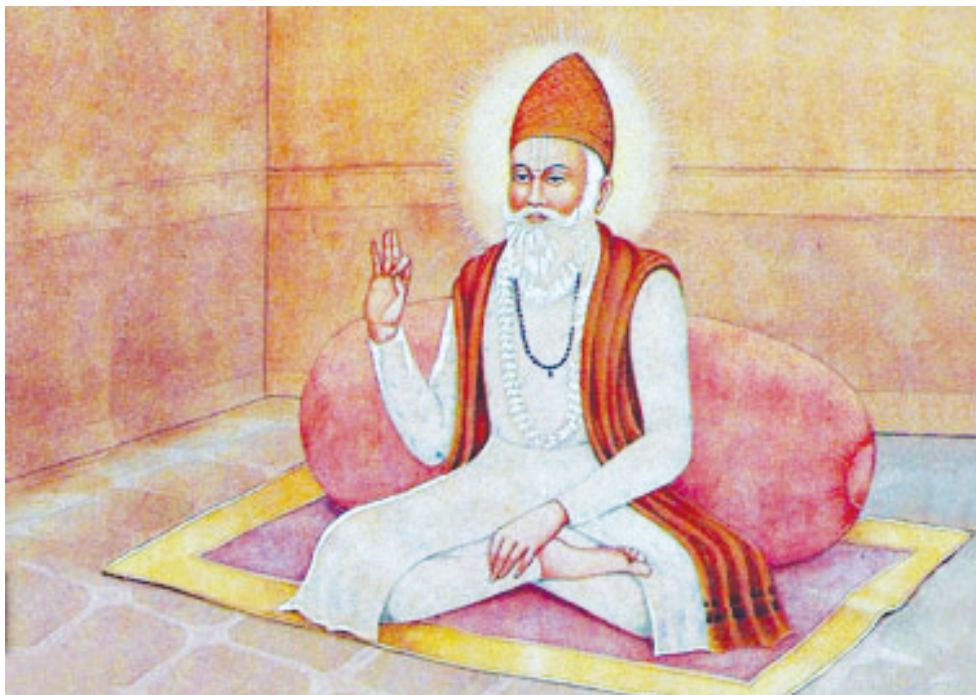
Life History

The life of Saint Kabir Das is full of wonder and mysticism. Saint Kabir was born in India in 1398 AD and lived for 120 years. During his life, he influenced people of all religion and always emphasized on the oneness of the Supreme power. Although brought up by a Muslim family he wanted to become the disciple of Saint Ramanand. So, one day he went to the ghats of Ganga River where the saint came every dawn to have the holy dip in Ganges. In the faint light of dawn, the young Kabir touched the feet of Saint Ramanand. The saint thought that he had unknowingly touched someone with feet and he uttered the name of God. In Hinduism when a person wants to be a disciple of a Guru, he is initiated by the Guru by uttering the name of God. Thus, when Ramanand came to know the dedication of the young Kabirdas, he got overwhelmed and made him his disciple.

However, it is not clear from any historical text whether Kabirdas preached the spirituality that was bestowed on him by his Guru or his philosophy was a result of his own enlightenment. Kabirdas, since the very beginning, questioned each and every ritual of all the religions that were followed at the time.

Kabir was loved by Hindu, Muslims and Sikhs as well as others equally. This is evident in the fact that when he died, Hindus built the 'Samadhi Mandir of Saint Kabir' (Kabir Temple) and the Muslims built the 'Saint Kabir's Mazaar' (Kabir Tomb) side by side and the followers of the both the religion pay homage to the great Saint standing right beside each other.

Kabir Panth



Kabir Panth is the religious community that recognizes Saint Kabir as its. The members of this Panth are known as Kabir Panthis who are spread over north and central India and even across the world. They carry forward the legacy of Saint Kabir and spread his teachings through his writings that include Bijak, Sakhi Granth, Kabir Granthawali and Anurag Sagar. The Sikhs also preach the teachings of Bhagat Kabir Ji- the name given to Saint Kabir by the Sikh community. Bhagat Kabir's work has been collected by the fifth Sikh guru, Guru Arjan Dev who incorporated this into the Sikh scripture, Guru Granth Sahib. There are more than 200 verses of Bahgat Kabir ji in this Holy Text of the Sikhs.

The Great Indian Poet

Saint Kabir Picture on Indian Postal StampThe greatness of Saint Kabir as a poet lies in the fact that he wrote in a very simple language yet the deep meaning of his poetry can be called a valuable philosophy of life. He used vernacular Hindi to write his dohas. Doha is a two liner verse- a couplet. Kabir ke Dohe or Kabir's dohe are rhythmic in nature and each of them embodies one or the other philosophy of day-to-day life. The poetry of Kabir is not only a work of art- it is the means of teaching the way of life to the general mass who were being, knowingly or unknowingly, excluded by the other scholars at that time due to the scholarly language used by them. In fact, today Kabirdas is known more for his poems and the dohas but these were his secondary contribution to the society. These poems of Kabir were the means of spreading awareness in the people and to make them understand the true meaning of life. One of the examples of Kabir Dohas is as follows

Bura Jo Dekhan Main Chala, Bura Naa Milya Koye!

Jo Man Khoja Aapnaa, Mujhse Bura Naa Koye!!

Meaning- when I went in the search of the evil, I could not find even a single evil person. When I searched my heart then I realized no one is more evil than me.

Thus was the simplicity of style with

which the doha or poem of Saint Kabir represented the truths of life!

Saint Kabir Jayanti Celebrations

Saint Kabir Jayanti is celebrated with great religious, spiritual and cultural fervor in various places in India and around the world. At his birthplace, Varanasi, The birth anniversary of Kabirdas is elaborately celebrated in Kabirchaura Mutt. Religious sermons 'satsang' are organized where the spiritual and religious leaders preach the way of life prescribed by saint Kabir. There are many temples of Kabir in various cities of India and the organizations dedicated to spread the teachings of Kabir make various arrangements to celebrate Saint Kabir Jayanti there. For example, Bhagat Mahasabha in Jammu and Kashmir organizes a procession- 'Shobhayatra' in honor of Saint Kabir which culminates at Kabir temple. Not only poem recitation and the musical events are held to give people the opportunity to listen to Kabir's dohas, the students and other professionals are also honoured for excellence in their fields.

Contribution to the Country

Saint Kabir Das, a Bhakti and Sufi movement saint of the medieval India, is extensively for his Bhakti movement in the North India. His life cycle is centered

in the region of Kashi (also known as the Banaras or Varanasi). He was heriditorically related to the weaving occupation and cast of Julaha. His immense contribution towards the Bhakti Movement in India is considered as a pioneered one along with the Farid, Ravidas and Namdev. He was a saint of combined mystical nature (Nath tradition, Sufism, bhakti) which made him of a distinctive religion of his own. He said that the path of sufferings is the real love and life.

In the fifteenth century, all the areas of life of people in the Varanasi were strongly held by the Brahmin orthodoxy as well as learning centers. To make free the people from, Kabir Das had to work hard to preach his ideology as he belonged to the low caste, Julaha. He never felt difference among the people whether they are prostitutes, low caste or high caste. He preached to all by gathering self and his followers. He was ridiculed by the Brahmins for his preaching activities but he never criticizes them back and that's why he was much liked by the common people. He started reforming the mind of common people towards the real truth through his couplets.

He always objected the ritualistic and ascetic methods as a means of salvation. He said that goodness's ruby has more value than the mines of ruby. According to him, the one's heart with goodness includes all the prosperity of whole world. A person with mercy has strength, forgiveness has real existence of him, and individual with righteousness can easily attained the never-ending life. He said that the God is in your heart and ever with you, so offer inward worship to him. He had opened the mind of common people by one of his example that, if the traveler is not able to walk; what can the road do for traveler.

He opened the deep eyes of the people and taught them genuine lessen of humanity, morality and spirituality. He was a follower and promoter of the ahimsa. He had turned the people mind of his period through his revolutionary preach. There is no real proof and clue about his birth and family, some say he was from a Muslim family; some say he was from high class Brahmin family. There was some disagreement among people related to the Muslim and Hindu about the funeral system after his death.

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"Indians alone can save India, and India and Hinduism are one."

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contd from page 1**George Floyd remembered at memorial...**

propelling the issue of race to the top of the political agenda ahead of the U.S. presidential election on Nov. 3.

Derek Chauvin, 44, filmed in a widely circulated video kneeling on Floyd's neck for nearly nine minutes as Floyd gasped for air and repeatedly groaned, "Please, I can't breathe." was fired from the Minneapolis police force and charged with second-degree murder.

Huge crowds have defied curfews and taken to the streets of cities across the country for nine nights in sometimes violent protests that prompted President Donald Trump to threaten to send in the military.

Ben Crump, a lawyer for Floyd's family, told the memorial service that the police action that day was evil. "What we saw in that video was evil. So America, as we proclaim as we memorialize George Floyd, do not accept evil. Protest against evil. We cannot cooperate with evil. We cannot cooperate with torture," Mr. Crump said.

Prosecutors leveled new charges against four former Minneapolis police officers implicated in the killing on Wednesday, June 3. However, on Thursday, June 4, the three officers charged with aiding and abetting the murder of Floyd made their first appearances in court, where bail was set at \$1 million but would be lowered to \$750,000 if they agreed to certain conditions, including forfeiting any personal firearms.

In New York City, which has been hit by looting during the protests, thousands of people attended a memorial event in a Brooklyn park for Floyd. Many knelt in the grass in the afternoon sunshine in a symbol of protest against police behavior and chanted, "No Justice. No Peace." U.S. Representative Hakeem Jeffries urged people to continue their protests, saying the tragedy has awakened a cross-section of people who would bring lasting change.

"This time will be different, because the movement is being led by young African American sisters," the New York Democrat told the crowd. "This time will be different because it's not a top-down movement, it's a bottom-up-movement." Meanwhile, U.S. Attorney General William Barr said on Thursday, June 4, there had been evidence that foreign interests and "extremist agitators" affiliated with left-wing movements like Antifa were taking over the protests. But he offered no details. The Reverend Al Sharpton, a television political commentator and civil rights activist, told the Minneapolis service that the overwhelming majority of protesters were peaceful.

"There have been protests all over the world. Some have looted and done other things. None of us condone it - looting and violence," Rev. Sharpton said. "But there is a difference between those calling for peace - and those calling for quiet. Some y'all don't want peace, you just want quiet. You just want us to suffer in silence."

The protests against Floyd's killing came close to the White House on Monday, June 1 night when baton-swinging police used heavy handed tactics to drive demonstrators away. Mr. Trump has threatened to send U.S. troops to stamp out civil unrest against the wishes of State governors. That alarmed current and former military officials.

Trump's former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, after long refusing to explicitly criticize his former boss, denounced any militarization of the response to protests. "Donald Trump is the first president in my lifetime who does not try to unite the American people does not even pretend to try," Mr. Mattis, who resigned as defense secretary in 2018, wrote in a statement published by The Atlantic.

Services for Floyd are expected to stretch across six days and three States, including memorials in North Carolina and Houston. A funeral is planned for Tuesday, June 9. (Agencies)

Black lives matter says Meghan, calls US...

some violent, with curfews imposed in some cities to quell the disorder.

"For the past couple of weeks I've been planning on saying a few words to you for your graduation and as we've all seen over the last week what is happening in our country, and in our state and in our home town of LA is absolutely devastating," said Meghan, whose mother is African American and father is white.

"First thing I want to say to you is that I'm sorry, I'm so sorry that you have to grow up in a world where this is still present," she said in her message to the girls at the Immaculate Heart High School.

The duchess, a former US actress and wife of Queen Elizabeth's grandson Prince Harry, said she wanted to say "the right thing" and was nervous her words would be "picked apart".

"The only wrong thing to say is to say nothing. Because George Floyd's life mattered, and Breonna Taylor's life mattered, and Philando Castile's life mattered and Tamir Rice's life mattered and so did so many other people whose names we know, and whose names we do not know," she said.

Britain's royal family by tradition does not comment on political issues. However, Meghan and Harry stepped down from their official royal roles at the end of March and are now living in Los Angeles with their baby son Archie.

In her message, the 38-year-old reflected on her own memories of the 1992 LA riots.

"Those memories don't go away and I can't imagine that at 17 or 18 years old, which is how old you are now, that you would have to have a different version of that same type of experience," she said.

"That's something you should have an understanding of, but an understanding of as a history lesson not as your reality. So I'm sorry that in a way we have not gotten the world to the place you deserve it to be." (Source: Reuters)

Digital services taxes adopted by India and...

India is no stranger to the USTR investigations, having been probed several times on various grounds.

"US President Donald Trump is concerned that many of our trading partners are adopting tax schemes designed to unfairly target our companies. We are prepared to take all appropriate action to defend our businesses and workers against any such discrimination," said USTR Robert Lighthizer in a statement.

Four years back, India levied six per cent tax on for advertisements hosted on offshore businesses such as mobile phone apps, social media platforms and digital content streaming services.

This was fine with the USTR, but it has opposed the latest Union Budget expanding the scope of the equalization levy (tax) to revenues generated by non-resident e-commerce firms operating in India.

Though the levy is two just two per cent, the US is keen on a probe. (Agencies)

US Defense Secretary opposes Trump...

to deploy active-duty forces to quell civil unrest for now, despite President Donald Trump's threats to militarize America's response to mass protests.

Trump said this week he could use military forces in states that fail to crack down on sometimes violent

protests over the killing of George Floyd, an unarmed black man, at the hands of a white police officer in Minneapolis. "The option to use active-duty forces in a law enforcement role should only be used as a matter of last resort and only in the most urgent and dire of situations. We are not in one of those situations now," Esper told a news briefing.

"I do not support invoking the Insurrection Act." Former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, who had long refused to criticize a sitting president explicitly, on Wednesday accused Trump of trying to divide America and roundly denounced a militarization of the U.S. response to civil unrest.

Esper's news conference did not go over well with either the president or his top aides, an administration official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

To deploy the military on US soil for law enforcement purposes, Trump would need to invoke the 1807 Insurrection Act -- something last done in 1992 in response to the Rodney King riots in Los Angeles.

The military has pre-positioned 1,600 active duty forces on the outskirts of Washington, D.C., to deploy if needed. A US official said that the Army on Wednesday, June 3, had been told of a decision to send some of the active duty troops back to their home base, but Esper reversed course following a meeting at the White House and discussions at the Pentagon. Esper said he regretted using the term "battlespace" this week to describe areas gripped by protests. "In retrospect, I would use different wording so as not to distract from the more important matters at hand or allow some to suggest that we are militarizing the issue," he said. **(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)**

Mahatma Gandhi's Statue outside Indian...

The Indian embassy spokesperson, in response to queries from The Indian Panorama, June 4, stated that "Mahatma Gandhi statue at the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Plaza in front of the Embassy was vandalized with graffiti/spray paint by unknown persons during the late hours of Tuesday, 2 June 2020.

The Embassy has taken up the matter with the US Department of State for early investigation into the matter, as also with the Metropolitan Police and National Park Service. The Embassy is working with the US Department of State, Metropolitan Police and National Park Service for expeditious restoration of the statue at the park".

Ken Juster, US Ambassador to India, has apologized for the incident. "So sorry to see the desecration of the Gandhi statue in Wash, DC. Please accept our sincere apologies. Appalled as well by the horrific death of George Floyd & the awful violence & vandalism. We stand against prejudice & discrimination of any type. We will recover & be better," Juster said on Twitter.

Indian Americans are outraged for the 'profane desecration.' "A Molotov cocktail of profanity and hatred, cooked by the tear-filled pages of sad history across humanity existence in every culture and eco-system, was splashed across Mahatma Gandhi's statue during the Tsunami of George Floyd's protest" said New York based eminent attorney Ravi Batra.

"That the root of non-violent civil protest was desecrated speaks not of any disrespect, as Mahatma Gandhi is free of such temporal stain as the sun is free of clouds, but of the intertwined pain of age-old racism that humanity sadly enjoys, horrible economic destruction from the Wuhan Virus, and criminals who remain society's recurring illness. Add to that the pain from the fact that the American Dream is beyond the reach of many.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

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ASSISTANT EDITOR:**SPL. REPORTER UNO:****GRAPHICS DIRECTOR:****DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATION:**

Odisha- the land of paddy fields and palm-fringed silver beaches, temples, rivers, waterfalls and tribal people, is filled with major attractions such as the temples of Bhubaneswar and Puri, miles of clean beaches and the magnificent Sun Temple of Konark.

Odisha, the state with a glorious history, is filled with nature and adventure. Inhabited by tribal people, the not-so-developed state of Odisha must be visited to have the experience of the myriad wonders it has in store for everybody. Also known as the soul of India, Odisha is a place where you can relax on the beaches, visit the famous temples and explore the beauty and bounty of nature and wildlife. You can also find various monuments which gloriously stand to remind you of the history of the land. Odisha's art and culture, fairs and festivals, dances and music are a treat for the tourists who love to see colours and wish to enjoy life to the fullest. Visit the soul state of India and come back with a bag full of memories that will remain etched in your mind for a long time.

Top Places to Visit

Puri

Puri in Odisha is one of the four must-visit pilgrimage sites for Hindus because of Jagannath Temple that forms the part of Char Dham in India. Puri is a beach city located on the coast of Bay of Bengal which is one of the favourites among people of West Bengal for a short trip.

Having gained popularity among hippies back in the 1970s due to the legalisation of Bhang, Puri is still a popular destination among backpackers, however, the availability of bhang is now limited. With a plethora of hotels and homestays, the local tourist like to stay near the New Marine Drive and the backpackers prefer to stay near Chakra Tirtha. The Rath Yatra (chariot festival) which takes place during the month of June-July should not be missed if you are planning to visit during this time.

Known as the resting place of Lord Shiva, the majestic history and heritage of Puri date back to the 3rd century B. C. Puri, Konark and Bhubaneswar complete the Golden Triangle of Orissa, with their religious significance and cultural heritage being the centres of tourism in this state. There are a lot of places near Puri that one must visit, like the Chilika lake, Puri beach, Gundicha Ghar and the very famous Sun temple of Konark. Puri is soon turning into an industrial hub with major manufacturing companies coming here.

Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, the temple city of India, once known for its architecture and grand temples, is presently a thriving centre for commerce and business.

Bhubaneswar is an ancient city replete with beautiful historic temples which attract pilgrims and tourists from all over the country. The name of the city literally means Lord of the Universe, rightly reflected in the number of temples here and the religious fervor of its locals. This is now a bustling city where the history is beautifully intertwined with its modern and progressive present. Bhubaneswar being the centre for religious tourism has a number of majestic temples built centuries ago which have still retained their original over all these years. Among them the Lingaraj temple and the Parasurameswara temple are must-visits and attract tourists for all parts of the

ODISHA: THE SOUL OF INCREDIBLE INDIA



country.

Konark

Konark, in the state of Orissa is renowned world over for the Sun Temple which is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Annual dance festival and its beautiful sandy beaches.

Konark's Sun Temple is an architectural marvel and is one of the most beautiful monuments of India. The Annual Dance Festival is a five day-long cultural extravaganza which invites unique dancing talent from all over the country. This festival is a grand celebration of our country's rich cultural and artistic legacy, an event to truly rejoice the various dance forms that our country has invented. The celebrations happen with the backdrop of the Sun temple, adding grandeur and magnificence to the whole program. Besides this, Konark also hosts the Sun Festival, where devotees offer prayers to the Sun God by taking dips in the sea. The Dance Festival also hosts a Handicrafts Mela where one can buy unique and exquisitely handcrafted

pieces which beautifully reflect the Oriya art form.

Cuttack

Referred to as the cultural capital of Odisha, Cuttack is a commercial city with plenty of impressive tourist attractions.

Cuttack is the second-largest city in Odisha and the former capital as well. Local handicrafts of this state are displayed and traded in this very city. Cuttack is always buzzing with cultural activities and plays host to a variety of festivals like the Baliyatra, which commemorates the ancient trade links the countries like Java, Bali and Sumatra, Durga Puja and the Kite Festival which is held in the month of January. Cuttack is also known as the silver city because of its famous silver work. SurCuttack is a highly-planned city and has a number of tourist attractions which will make a person's trip here a memorable one.

Baripada

At a distance of 248km from Kolkata and 256km from Bhubaneswar,



Baripada is a city, recognised by its beautiful culture and an essence of purity in nature. Its Rath Yatra is considered the biggest and oldest after Puri and thus Baripada is also known as Dwitiya Srikhetra (Second Puri)

It is host to the world famous Car Festival (Rathayatra) which allows only women to pull the Rath of Maa Subhadra and gathers huge crowds. One also finds here temples, known to be one of the oldest in Odisha and which see devotees coming from all over with a strong sense of faith and devotion. An event is organised here, during the mid of April that celebrates the best talents of Chhau, a world renowned dance form, indigenous to the region. Baripada is also known for its Bangripori "tusser" fabric, that can be found anywhere in its local markets. Also, do not miss the Simlipal Nature Park which has a tiger reserve, sparkling waterfalls, numerous species of animals and birds, Semul or red silk cotton trees and countless other things to leave you awestruck.

NADAL SAYS HE WOULD NOT TRAVEL TO US OPEN IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES

LONDON (TIP): Ordinarily Rafa Nadal would likely be closing in on a 13th French Open title this week. Instead, he is home in Mallorca trying to make sense of a world that feels anything but normal.

Tennis is on hold until at least the start of August because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and while there have been positive noises about the prospects of the US Open taking place, followed by the French Open, Nadal served a dose of reality.

Speaking via Zoom to tennis media, the day after his 34th birthday, Nadal was asked his thoughts of playing at the US Open, of which he is reigning champion.

"If you asked me today if I want to travel today to New York to play a tennis tournament, I will say: no, I will not," the world No. 2 told reporters. "In a couple of months, I don't know. Hopefully yes."

"We need to wait probably until we have more information about how the virus evolves, how the situation's going to be. New York has been one of the places that has been hit most strongly by the virus."

When tennis returns, it will most likely be without fans.

"I hate the idea, honestly. But if that's the only way, why not? That's my position. I don't understand tennis without the energy of the crowd, without the passion a full



stadium brings."

While still in the grip of a pandemic, the US is also experiencing outrage and protests over the death of George Floyd, an unarmed black man who died while in police custody.

"I am of course worried to see all these disasters happening on the streets," Nadal said. "Violence and pandemics like this today create a difficult climate, a difficult atmosphere for the world. It's

important to stay calm, to respect everyone, to live together in peace."

While Nadal is missing his Roland Garros stomping ground, he says there are more important things.

"I miss playing the tournaments that I like. At the same time I'm not thinking about that. First we must recover normal life, recover the freedom in terms of be able to enjoy our personal lives, then try to organise our professional lives."

NBA approves plan to resume season in July at Disney World

LOS ANGELES (TIP): The NBA's Board of Governors have approved a plan to restart the suspended season with a tentative July 31 start at Disney World in Florida amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the league said on Thursday.

The plan would see 22 of the NBA's 30 teams play eight seeding games to determine a 16-team playoff field that would follow the traditional post-season format with four best-of-seven series that would crown a champion no later than October 12.

"While the COVID-19 pandemic presents formidable challenges, we are hopeful of finishing the season in a safe and responsible manner based on strict protocols now being finalized with public health officials and medical experts," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said in a news release.

The league said approval from its Board of Governors, which came on the day originally scheduled for the start of the NBA Finals, is the first formal step among the many required to resume the season.

According to ESPN, the vote on the format was 29-1, with the Portland Trail Blazers voting against the proposal.

Tennis star Gauff demands change amid protests over Floyd death

American teenage tennis prodigy Coco Gauff appeared at a protest in her hometown of Delray Beach, Florida, on Wednesday, calling for racial and social justice after the death of George Floyd, an unarmed black man killed in police custody in the U.S.

"I was eight years old when Trayvon Martin was killed. So why am I here at 16 still demanding change?" said Gauff, days after posting a video on social media in which she pledged to use her voice to fight against racism.

Martin was an unarmed black teenager whose killing by civilian George Zimmerman 200 miles away in Sanford, Florida, in 2012 helped spark the "Black Lives Matter" movement.

"It breaks my heart because I'm fighting for the future for my brothers," said Gauff. "I'm fighting for the future for my future kids, I'm fighting for the future for my future grandchildren."

Floyd's death on May 25 has sparked a week of sometimes violent protests and civil unrest in cities across the U.S.

Derek Chauvin, a white Minneapolis police officer who



appeared in a cell phone video kneeling on Floyd's neck, has been charged with murder.

Gauff, who rocketed to fame after a stunning upset victory over her idol Venus Williams at last year's Wimbledon, spoke at the rally after her grandmother Yvonne Odom, who was the first black student at her high school in 1961, addressed the crowd.

GOLFERS DIKSHA DAGAR, ADITI ASHOK RECOMMENDED FOR ARJUNA

NEW DELHI (TIP): Golfers Aditi Ashok, Diksha Dagar and Rashid Khan have been recommended for this year's Arjuna Awards by the national federation.

Diksha, the winner of silver medal in 2017 Deaflympics, won the Women's South African Open, and was a sure shot qualifier for Tokyo Olympics this year before it got postponed.

Rashid is the highest ranked Indian man in the world, while Aditi, who featured in the 2016 Rio Olympics, is the only woman golfer from the country to be currently playing on the Ladies PGA Tour in the US. She has three wins on Ladies European Tour.

Their names were recommended by the Indian Golf Union (IGU). Professional bodies Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) and the Women's Golf Association of India (WGAI) often send their recommendations to IGU.

If it was not for COVID-19 pandemic, there was a strong likelihood of all the three making it to the Tokyo Olympics team.

Rashid missed an individual bronze medal by one shot, but helped the Indian team win a team silver in Guangzhou Asian Games in 2010. He is the highest ranked Indian in Asia at 10th and is also the top Indian in the world at 185th.

Aditi won three times on the Ladies European Tour, and now plays on the Ladies PGA, the most competitive and biggest golf Tour for women in the world.

Diksha, 19, is an emerging talent. She represented India at the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta, before turning professional in 2019.

Just like Aditi, Diksha also won on the Ladies European Tour in her rookie year in 2019 when she won the Women's South African Open. She became the youngest Indian to do so.

Pakistan cricket board to seek govt clearance for camp to prepare for tour of England

KARACHI (TIP): The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) will seek government clearance before setting up a training camp for its players to prepare for the tour of England in July amid the rising threat of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Top PCB officials are busy formulating a plan to make the training camp possible at a time when the cases and deaths from COVID-19 are on the rise in Pakistan.

"Different plans are being looked at but the most important thing is that the board will have to get the final nod from the government before it goes ahead with the tour to England or even the training camp," an official in the board said.

The High Performance Centre in Lahore where the board is planning to keep the players and officials does not have the capacity to house 20 players at one time and this is causing a big problem for the officials.

"Head coach and chief selector, Misbah-ul-Haq understandably wants at least 25 players in the training camp and a list is being finalised but before it is announced the board wants to create a proper bio-secure environment at the high performance centre so that everyone is safe from COVID-19," the official said.



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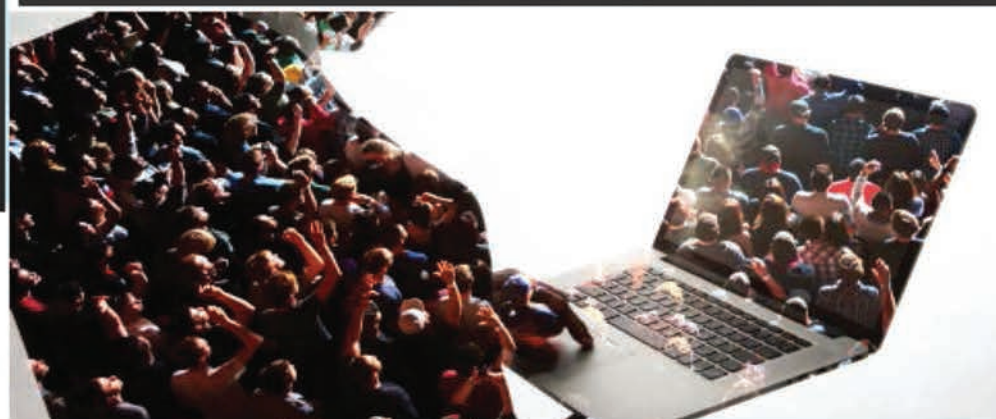
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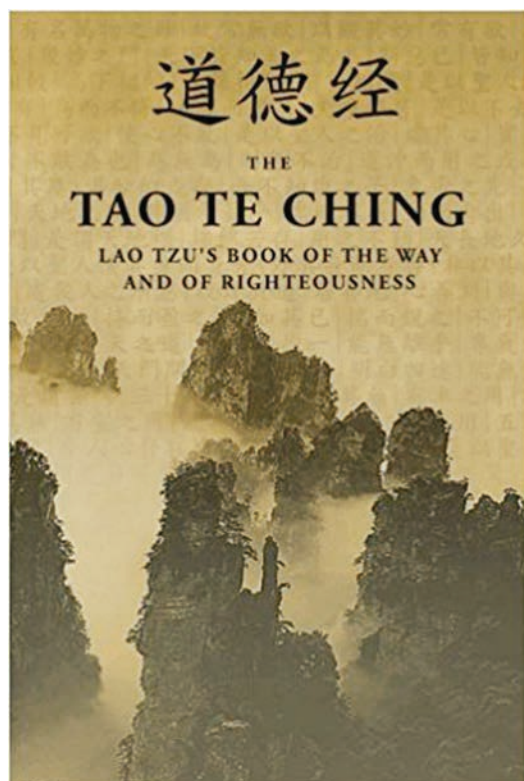
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*True words are rarely elaborate.
Elaborate words are rarely truthful.
Good words are rarely eloquent.
Eloquent words are rarely good.
He who knows is rarely learned.
He who is learned rarely knows.
The wise do not hoard wisdom.
Giving to others what they have
They have still more.
Sharing what they have with others
They are richer still.
Heaven's Way helps and never harms.
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STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19! LEARN HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF AND OTHERS AT HOME.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19?

- The most common symptoms are fever, cough, sore throat and shortness of breath. Other symptoms include feeling achy, loss of taste or smell, headache, and diarrhea.
- Most people with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) will have mild or moderate symptoms and can get better on their own.

WHO IS MOST AT RISK FOR SERIOUS ILLNESS?

- People age 50 or older (people age 65 or older are at the highest risk)
- People who have other health conditions, such as:
 - Lung disease
 - Obesity
 - Liver disease
 - Asthma
 - Diabetes
 - Cancer
 - Heart disease
 - Kidney disease
 - A weakened immune system

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I GET SICK WITH COVID-19 SYMPTOMS?

**If you are sick with COVID-19 symptoms, assume you have it.
When you are sick:**

- If you have trouble breathing, pain or pressure in your chest, are confused or cannot stay awake, or have bluish lips or face, **call 911** immediately.
- Call your doctor if you are age 50 or older or have a health condition that puts you at increased risk, or if you do not feel better after three days.
- Always contact a doctor or go to the hospital if you have severe symptoms of COVID-19 or another serious health issue.
- Do not leave your home except to get necessary medical care or essential food or supplies (if someone cannot get them for you).
- If you must leave your home:
 - Avoid crowded places.
 - Stay at least 6 feet from others.
 - Cover your nose and mouth with a bandana, scarf or other face covering.
 - Wash your hands before you go out, and use alcohol-based hand sanitizer while outside.
- Household members can go out for essential work and needs but should monitor their health closely.

If you or someone in your home is sick:

- Create physical distance:
 - Do not have visitors.

- Stay at least 6 feet from others.
- Sleep head-to-toe if you share a bed with someone who is sick, or sleep on the couch.
- Keep people who are sick separate from those at risk for serious illness.
- Cover up:
 - Cover your nose and mouth with a bandana, scarf or other face covering when you are within 6 feet of others.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your inner elbow.
- Keep it clean:
 - Throw tissues into the garbage immediately after use.
 - Wash your hands often with soap for 20 seconds, especially after you cough or sneeze.
 - Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if you are unable to wash your hands.
 - Frequently clean surfaces you touch, such as doorknobs, light switches, faucets, phones, keys and remote controls.
 - Wash towels, sheets and clothes at the warmest possible setting with your usual detergent, and dry completely.
 - Do not share eating utensils with others, and wash them after every use.

WHEN CAN I LEAVE MY HOME AFTER BEING SICK?

- If you have been sick, stay home until:
 - You are fever-free for three days without Tylenol or other medication **and**
 - It has been at least seven days since your symptoms started **and**
 - Your symptoms have improved
- **Reminder:** New York is on PAUSE. This means that even if you have been sick, you should only leave your home for essential work or errands, or to exercise, while staying at least 6 feet from others.

NEED HELP?

- If you are having a medical emergency, **call 911**.
- If you do not have a doctor but need one, **call 844-NYC-4NYC (844-692-4692)**. New York City provides care, regardless of immigration status, insurance status or ability to pay.
- For more information, **call 311** or **visit nyc.gov/coronavirus**.

The NYC Health Department may change recommendations as the situation evolves. 4.20

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