



America UNITED against COVID-19

KEEP SAFE

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

KEEP AMERICA SAFE

QUICK TAKES

- World Coronavirus update **Page 4**
- Tribute to Pranab Mukherjee **Pages 9,10,11**
- Horoscope **Page 28**
- Pitr Paksha **Page 29**

Narendra Modi to address Leadership Summit of USISPF



PM Narendra Modi
File photo

NEW YORK (TIP): Prime Minister Narendra Modi will deliver keynote address to the third Leadership Summit of U.S. India Strategic and Partnership Forum (USISPF)

on Thursday, organizers announced on Tuesday, September 1.

"We are honored that Prime Minister Modi has taken time to address USISPF annual event. It signifies importance of U.S.-India relations in the current challenging environment, USISPF president Mukesh Aghi said.

"It is a win-win partnership mutually dependent geo-politically, trade, culturally, diplomatically and scientifically. Aggressive and assertive China provides further opportunity for both nations to collaborate and ensure international rule of law prevails," he said after USISPF announced Modi's address to the summit.

contd on page 2

RAJNATH HOLDS TALKS with Russian counterpart to bolster defense, strategic cooperation

Taking to Twitter, Singh termed his talks with Gen Sergey Shoigu as 'excellent'

MOSCOW (TIP): Defense Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday, September 3, said he had an "excellent meeting" with his Russian counterpart Gen Sergey Shoigu here and discussed a wide range of issues, especially how to deepen defense and strategic cooperation.

Singh, who arrived here on Wednesday, September 2 on a three-day visit to attend a crucial meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), pressed for expediting supply of a number of weapons systems, ammunition and spares to India by Russia under contracts which were concluded earlier.

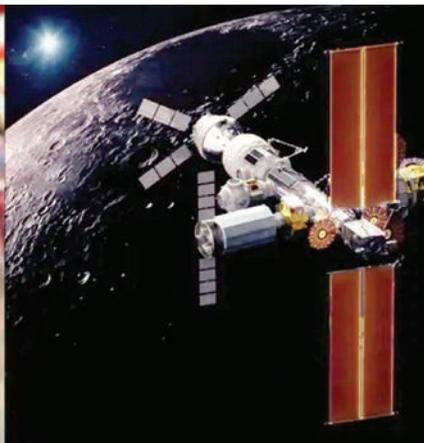
Taking to Twitter, Singh termed his talks with Shoigu as "excellent".

contd on page 2



Defense Minister Rajnath Singh meets Russian Defense Minister General Sergei Shoigu, in Moscow, on Thursday, September 3, 2020. - Photo / courtesy PTI

Canadian Space Agency will have a woman president for the first time in its 31-year history



Lisa Campbell has been named to replace Sylvain Laporte as president of the Canadian Space Agency.

OTTAWA (TIP): Canadian government announced on Thursday, Sept 4, that longtime public servant Lisa Campbell will take over as head of the Canadian Space agency. Ms. Campbell replaces Sylvain Laporte, who has been president since 2015.

"Lisa Campbell has worked tirelessly

in the service of Canadians throughout her career and has the experience and abilities to move the Agency forward on future explorations," said Innovation, Science and Industry Minister Navdeep Bains in the news release.

contd on page 2

Indian Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu meets UTAH Governor on India - Utah Relationship



Ambassador Taranjit Singh Sandhu in conversation with Governor Gary Herbert of Utah

UTAH (TIP): Utah Governor Gary R Herbart held a meeting with the Indian Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, on Thursday, August 27, during which they discussed growing ties between his state and India.

contd on page 2



Andy Singh

516-441-7000
16 E. Old Country Road
Hicksville, NY 11801

E-mail: herman@omnimortgage.com



OMNI MORTGAGE CORP.
Residential | Commercial | SBA Loans



Herman Singh

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

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



Anu Jain

NYS Licensed Realtor

A Trusted and Successful Name

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS!
BECAUSE TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE AND
YOU DESERVE THE BEST

CALL NOW

(516) 728-4186

anujainrealtor@gmail.com

WWW.SEARCHHOMELONGISLAND.COM

RealtyConnectUSA

175 Crossways Park Dr. W, Woodbury NY 11797. (516) 744- 9076

The **INDIAN PANORAMA**
EVER TRUTHFUL

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER:

Prof. Indrajit S. Saluja

VICE PRESIDENT:

Chitagam Saluja

CHIEF EDITOR:

Prof Indrajit S. Saluja

CONSULTING EDITOR :Deepak Dwivedi, Chairman,
Bhaskar Group, Delhi**ASSISTANT EDITOR:**

Bidisha Roy

SPL. REPORTER UNO:

H.S. Panaser

GRAPHICS DIRECTOR:

Om Parkash Malik

DIRECTOR**ADMINISTRATION:**

Gauri Beri

CONTRIBUTING**PHOTOGRAPHERS:**

Baldev Singh / BJ Videos
Gunjesh Desai / Masala Junction
Jay Mandal,
Mohammad Jaffer,
SnapsIndia
Mohammad Shahzad,
Zia Khan,
Nisha Rani
Vaaho Photographers,
Vijay Shah - Photo Journalist.

CORRESPONDENTS :**SACRAMENTO:**

Parminder S. Aujla

NEW YORK :

Chitagam

FRESNO:

Tarlochan Singh

DALLAS:

Harjit Dhesi, Amarjit Dhillon

OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS**LONDON**

Nirpal Singh Shergill

SPL CORRESPONDENT**DELHI BUREAU CHIEF:**

Ashishpal Singh

CHANDIGARH:

Manjit Sidhu

LUDHIANA:A.S. Arora,
R.P.Sharma**DALLAS BUREAU CHIEF & VP**

Lovllien Kaurr

972-330-3139

editor@theindianpanorama.com

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South
Richmond Hill, NY 11419,
Tel: 646-247-9458

Email:

editor@theindianpanorama.com

contd from page 1

Rajnath holds talks with Russian counterpart to bolster defense, strategic cooperation

"Excellent meeting with the Russian Defense Minister General Sergey Shoigu in Moscow today. We talked about a wide range of issues, particularly how to deepen defense and strategic cooperation between both the countries," he said in a tweet.

India and Russia finalized a major deal for manufacturing AK-47 203 rifles in India, the official Russian media reported.

The AK-47 203 is the latest and most advanced version of the AK-47 rifle, which will replace the Indian Small Arms System (INSAS) 5.56x45 mm assault rifle.

The Indian Army has a requirement for around 770,000 AK-47 203 rifles, of which 100,000 will be imported and the rest will be manufactured in India, Russia's state-run Sputnik news agency said.

There was no official confirmation from the Indian government on the finalization of the deal.

The rifles will be manufactured in India as part of the joint venture Indo-Russia Rifles Private Limited (IRRPL), established between the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), the Kalashnikov Concern and Rosoboronexport-the Russian state agency for military exports, it said.

Officials said that Singh is also likely to request the Russian side to ensure the timely delivery of the S-400 missile defence systems to India. The delivery of the first batch of S-400 surface-to-air missile systems to India is scheduled by the end of 2021.

Before departure, Singh in a tweet had said that issues of mutual interest will figure in his talks with Shoigu.

"India and Russia are privileged Strategic Partners. Looking forward to further this partnership during my visit," he said.

It is Singh's second visit to Moscow since June. He had represented India at the Victory Day Parade in Moscow on June 24 that commemorated the 75th anniversary of the Soviet victory over Nazi Germany in the Second World War.

Singh will also attend a meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation here on Friday, September 4, which will be attended by the defence ministers of the eight member nations.

They are expected to deliberate on regional security challenges like terrorism and extremism and ways to deal with them collectively.

The meeting is taking place under the shadow of a fierce border row between India and China, both members of the influential bloc.

The SCO comprises eight member states-India, Kazakhstan, China,

Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Chinese Defence Minister Gen Wei Fenghe and Pakistan's Pervez Khattak are expected to attend the SCO meeting.

The SCO, seen as a counterweight to NATO, has emerged as one of the largest transregional international organizations which accounts for almost 44 per cent of the world population stretching from the Arctic Ocean to the Indian Ocean and from the Pacific Ocean to the Baltic Sea.

The aim of the SCO is to maintain peace, stability and security of the region. India became a member of the SCO in 2017. (Source: PTI)

Narendra Modi to address Leadership Summit of USISPF

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence had a fire side on Monday, the first day of the week-long summit titled "US-India Week: Navigating New Challenges".

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar also participated in the discussion on Monday. Minister of Railways and Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal also addressed the summit on Tuesday.

Being attended by top corporate leaders, government officials and leaders, the summit highlights areas of bilateral cooperation: trade and investment; strategic energy ties; India's position in global supply chains, collaboration in fintech, healthcare, and technology.

Canadian Space Agency will have a woman president for the first time in its 31-year history

Ms. Campbell has spent the last two years as senior executive for Veteran Affairs Canada. Prior to that, she spent three years as the assistant deputy minister for defense and marine procurement where she led the organization acquiring Canada's military and marine equipment.

Her experience in defense procurement will hold her in good stead as she takes over some of the most important procurements for the space sector, Navdeep Bains, federal minister of innovation, science and industry, said in a release.

Established in March 1989, the Canadian Space Agency is responsible for managing all of Canada's civil space-related activities.

The Government of Canada announced today that Lisa Campbell will replace Sylvain Laporte as president of the CSA. The news release announcing her appointment noted that new appointments to key agencies and departments "respect the principle of diversity."

"One thing I have learned through my career is you've got to dream big

and you've got to reach for your own stars. So I tried to do that throughout my career," Campbell told CBC News. "I am humbled and honored by this opportunity."

Campbell takes over the CSA as Canada charts a new course in space exploration, in part through a partnership with the international community on a new lunar program.

Canada is working with other countries to build a space station intended to orbit the moon - the Lunar Gateway project. The station is being billed as both a laboratory and, as the CSA puts it, "a steppingstone" for future missions to Mars. One of Canada's contributions to the U.S.-led mission will be an artificial intelligence-based robotic system, the Canadarm3.

In 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau committed \$2.05 billion over 24 years toward Canada's space program and \$150 million over five years toward the Lunar Gateway.

New President of the Canadian Space Agency Lisa Campbell says governments around the world are making major investments in space exploration right now. (With inputs from agencies)

Indian Ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu meets UTAH Governor on India - Utah Relationship

India-Utah relationship is multi-faceted and vibrant, incorporating strong cultural and commercial ties.

"Wide-ranging discussion with Governor Gary Herbert of Utah on deepening our trade and economic partnership and synergies in pharma & tech sectors. Governor appreciated important contributions of Indian diaspora and businesses in Utah, Sandhu said in a tweet after the meeting he had with Herbert at India House.

Sandhu and Herbert discussed the synergies in trade and investment and the potential of growing the relationship between India and Utah. Indian companies such as Tata Chemicals and Associated Capsule Group and Sami Labs have significant operations in Utah creating jobs and fueling innovation, the Indian Embassy said in a release.

"The emergence of IT, healthcare and tech services sector in the region have strengthened people-to-people linkages between Utah and India, and there is a growing Indian community in the Salt Lake region, it said.

During the meeting, Sandhu also acknowledged the importance of the framework agreement signed between Rajasthan's Energy Department and Utah Governor's Office of Energy Development to bolster energy policy, best practices sharing and support the development of the energy sector in both states, the Indian Embassy said.

DISCLAIMER

THE INDIAN PANORAMA ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CLAIMS MADE IN ADVERTISEMENTS. WE ONLY SELL SPACE. VIEWS PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPER ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE NEWSPAPER. ALL RIGHTS ARE RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IN WRITING FROM THE INDIAN PANORAMA IS PROHIBITED.

Nassau County Executive Laura Curran launches Smart Sprinkler Reimbursement Program



In an effort to promote long-term water conservation, I joined with Legislator Siela A. Bynoe to kick off the "Smart Sprinkler" Reimbursement Program: Laura Curran

MINEOLA, NY (TIP): Through the new County initiative, eligible Nassau County homeowners can apply for a partial reimbursement for the cost of installing weather-based irrigation controller technology - commonly referred to as smart sprinkler systems - at their home, Nassau County Executive said in her newsletter.

Laura Curran added: "This summer, as

we go through an abnormally dry season, we are reminded of how important it is to conserve our precious water. Each summer, water usage goes up 400%. We can make a difference by changing our habits and embracing technology to do the job for us. I hope this reimbursement encourages people to upgrade to a smarter lawn watering system, which will save water - and help residents save

money on their water bills.

"Qualified homeowners can receive up to a \$150 credit toward the cost of installing a smart sprinkler system. The reimbursement program does not apply to residents who are already eligible through their water supplier for financial assistance in purchasing smart sprinkler technology. Rebates are drawn from a \$100,000 allocation and will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

"Weather-based irrigation controllers are equipped with smart water sensors that detect rainfall and prevent over-watering. Smart sprinkler systems supplement this data with a variety of metrics and data provided by the user to determine how fast water will evaporate from soil in a yard. Based on this information, smart sprinkler systems can break up watering times into smaller segments automatically to maximize efficiency, help water soak in, and reduce run-off. Smart sprinklers also monitor temperature, keep track of previous weather and adjust irrigation levels to meet the needs of each zone. These smart adaptations help save water and in turn save the homeowner money on their water bill."

Sikh community leader Darshan Singh Bagga donates 100,000 PPEs



Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Joe Saladino presented a citation to Darshan Singh Bagga commending his services to community at the event, headlined by Nassau County Executive Laura Curran

HICKSVILLE, NY (TIP): Darshan Singh Bagga, real estate tycoon and founder of Global Interfaith Foundation, has donated 100,000 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Nassau County and New York City for health and other frontline workers, as well as religious organizations.

Announcing the donation at an event in his Bagga Plaza II in Hicksville on Monday, August 3, he said the inspiration came from "the founder of my faith, Guru Nanak Dev Ji, and the Sikhs who believe in service to humanity." Boxes of PPEs (masks including N95s and gloves) meant for Nassau County were seen displayed near the dais.

Nassau County Executive Laura Curran praised Mr. Bagga and expressed gratitude for his generous act of sewa in this "dark period of pandemic".

Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Joe Saladino said the donation represented the Indian American community's love for all and it is aimed to ensure the safety of healthcare and law enforcement heroes.

Among a score of people attending the intimate event were Farrah Mozawalla, Director of Nassau County Office of Asian American Affairs, Dr. Isma Chaudhry, President of Islamic Center of Long Island, Indu Jaiswal and Bina Sabapathy, well-known community leaders, and Dr Yousuf Syed, trustee of Selden mosque in Suffolk County.

(Based on a press release)

Indian Americans Shah and Tandon address Global Youth Convening for Change leaders

Over 500 young changemakers from 35 countries will connect virtually to share innovative ideas for change

NEW YORK (TIP): On September 3rd, Safe Water Network hosted a unique virtual youth convening of over 500 young global change leaders. The event brought together change drivers and spotlight their innovative and solutions-oriented work to help solve some of the most critical challenges the world is facing, including water, financial inclusion, opportunity-creation, sustainability, and climate change.

Speakers included global thought Indian American leaders Dr. Rajiv Shah, President of Rockefeller Foundation, Chandrika Tandon, recognized business leader and philanthropist, and Ravi Venkatesan, UNICEF Special Representative for Young People. Leading global organizations working in collaboration with Safe Water Network include Ashoka, The Better India, Devex, GYEM, O.P. Jindal Global University, and WaterLoop. The event already has had a significant global reach - with registrants coming from over 35 countries and 160 organizations - thanks to outreach organizations such as UNICEF Gen U and NYU Tandon School of Engineering.

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

Indian Ethnic Physicians' body AAPI proposes US-Israel-India health dialogue to combat covid-19

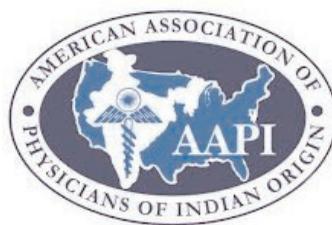
Indian ethnic physicians' body for forging closer cooperation in health sector among three nations

NEW YORK (TIP): The American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) has called for a joint US-Israel-India health dialogue to combat covid-19 pandemic and develop an efficient quality healthcare system. The proposed dialogue involving Israeli physicians from reputed hospitals may study and identify how Israel with significantly limited resources, is able to provide quality healthcare to its citizens, AAPI president Dr. Sudhakar Jonnalagadda suggested.

He was speaking at a virtual panel discussion last week on "Can 30 seconds save the world? Israeli-Indian cooperation to develop a rapid test for covid-19," according to an AAPI media release.

With India and the US among the worst affected nations the panel discussion focused on collaboration and sharing of knowledge and expertise and finding solutions to contain the pandemic.

The event was cosponsored by the Indian and Israeli Consulates in New York, American Jewish Committee, AAPI, Parikh Media Worldwide, ITV Gold and the Hindu-Jewish Coalition. Dr. Sudhir Parikh, Chairman, Parikh Media Worldwide moderated the discussion.



New York-based Indian consul general Randhir Jaiswal and Israeli consul general Nitzan gave opening remarks as co-hosts of the program along with Rabbi David Levy of AJC New Jersey.

Dr. Jonnalagadda provided a brief on AAPI's role and several initiatives it has undertaken in fighting covid-19 in the US and India.

"AAPI members are putting their best efforts to help our patients, especially those impacted by Covid," he said noting, "Several of our physicians have been affected in this pandemic."

"We are continuing our efforts to make AAPI a more dynamic and vibrant organization playing a meaningful and relevant part in advocating health policies and practices that best serve the interests of all patients and promoting the physician's role as the leaders of the team based health care delivery."

As Secretary of the Global Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (GAPIO) both Dr. Parikh and AAPI President Dr. Jonnalagadda offered to advocate with the US administration and Congress the importance of forging closer cooperation in the health and disaster management sectors between the US, India and Israel.

Over 26.47 million infections worldwide; 873,285 deaths

UK may reimpose quarantine on travelers from Portugal

Britain could make a decision on whether to impose a 14-day quarantine on arrivals from Portugal after cases of COVID-19 began to rise in the popular holiday destination, the UK's health minister, Matt Hancock, said on Thursday, Sept 3.

Britain allowed holiday-makers to travel to Portugal without any restrictions less than two weeks ago but a rise in the coronavirus there has prompted speculation it will be put back on a list of countries that require quarantine measures.

"We follow the data and we make these announcements in an organised way on a Friday lunchtime," Hancock told Sky News.

China offers vaccine candidates to aviation industry workers

China has offered experimental coronavirus vaccines to aviation industry workers, according to a regulatory notice seen by Reuters, in a push to inoculate high-risk groups to prevent a possible resurgence as economies reopen. China, which has four COVID-19 vaccines in the final stage of human trials, launched the emergency use vaccine programme in July, hoping to boost the immunity of groups such as border inspectors or medical industry workers.

Frontline workers at Chinese airlines, airports, China National Aviation Fuel Group and TravelSky Technology Limited will be provided a candidate vaccine on a voluntary basis, the notice from China's aviation regulator shows.

Signs of COVID easing in Brazil

Brazil's COVID-19 death toll appears to be easing for the first time since May, data shows, a sign the Latin American country could be descending from a long infection plateau that has seen it suffer the world's second-worst outbreak after the United States. With nearly 4 million confirmed cases, the virus has killed over 120,000 people in Brazil.

But the level of average daily deaths dropped below 900 per day last week – the lowest in three and a half months and below the rate of both the United States and India, according to a Reuters tally. Researchers at Imperial College London also calculate that the transmission rate in Brazil, at which each person infected with the coronavirus infects another person, is now below 1, the level required for new infections to slow.

More than 26.47 million people were reported to have been infected by the novel coronavirus globally and 873,285 have died, according to a Reuters tally. Infections have been reported in more than 210 countries and territories since the first cases were identified in China in December 2019.

The highest death toll has been reported by US, followed by Brazil and India. A total of 17,209,534 recoveries have been registered worldwide.

Members named to panel probing WHO's pandemic response

An independent panel appointed by the World Health Organization to review its coordination of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic will have full access to any internal UN agency documents, materials and emails necessary, the panel said Thursday as it begins the probe.

The panel's co-chairs, former Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark, announced the 11 other members during a media briefing.

The panel scheduled its first meeting for Sept. 17 and plans to meet every six weeks between then and April. It expects to brief WHO on the group's initial progress in November before presenting a final report next year.

WHO bowed to calls from most of its member states in May to launch an independent investigation of how it managed the international response to the coronavirus after the United States accused the U.N. health agency of mismanaging the early phase of the pandemic and colluding with China to hide the extent of the outbreak there.

Malaysia expands entry ban to US, UK, France pass holders

Malaysia on Thursday, Sept 3, added at least nine more countries, including the United States, Britain and France, to its list of long-term immigration pass holders to be barred from the country, national news wire Bernama reported.

Malaysia's government on Tuesday said it would from September 7 bar entry of pass holders from India, Indonesia and the Philippines in a bid to curtail imported coronavirus cases in Southeast Asia's third-largest economy.

The ban will now include all countries that have reported more than 150,000 coronavirus cases, the report said, citing senior minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has said the COVID-19 pandemic is a disaster on a global scale but it is not the deadliest disease that could befall mankind and that lessons learnt during this emergency must be documented for future epidemics.

Lee pointed out that scientists believe 'Disease X' could potentially harm mankind on a much greater scale. 'Disease X' is a placeholder name adopted by the World Health Organisation in February 2018 to represent unknown pathogens which could cause a much bigger epidemic.

When COVID-19 was first reported, Lee said, many wondered if 'Disease X' had arrived. "COVID-19 has been a disaster for the world, but it is not 'Disease X'," Loong was quoted as saying by local media on Wednesday.

TRACKING THE VIRUS



GLOBAL

Cases	Deaths
26,475,568	873,285

INDIA

Cases	Deaths
39,36,747	68,472



Thailand reports 1st local coronavirus case in 100 days

Health officials in Thailand say a prison inmate has tested positive for the coronavirus in the country's first confirmed locally transmitted case in 100 days, AP reported. They said on Thursday the inmate is a 37-year-old man who was arrested for drug abuse who was arrested in Aug. 26 and tested positive on Wednesday when brought to the health center of a prison in Bangkok.

Thailand has sustained relatively light health damage from the pandemic, even though in January it was the first country outside China to confirm a case. But its economy has been devastated by the absence of foreign tourists, who are banned from entry, and by a drop in exports. The country's last locally transmitted case was confirmed on May 24 and announced on May 25.

Middle East's confirmed COVID death toll goes over 50,000

The confirmed death toll from the coronavirus went over 50,000 in the Middle East on Thursday as the pandemic continues. That's according to a count from The Associated Press, based on official numbers offered by health authorities across the region.

Those numbers still may be an undercount, though, as testing in war-torn nations like Libya and Yemen remains extremely limited.

The hardest-hit nation remains Iran, with over 21,900 deaths and over 380,000 confirmed cases and 328,000 recoveries. Israel just recorded a record-high 3,000 new cases in a day as the country's coronavirus tally is set to submit a list of more detailed recommended restrictions where infection rates have been highest.

The United Arab Emirates, which has embarked on a mass testing campaign, saw its highest daily confirmed new case

count in over three months.

Hong Kong's mass testing finds only few cases

Only six people in Hong Kong have tested positive for the coronavirus out of a batch of 128,000 residents who had undergone the mass-testing programme that began on Tuesday. Four of the six were previous coronavirus patients who had been discharged last month, and still carried traces of the virus when they were tested.

As of Thursday, St 3, 850,000 people in the city of 7.5 million had registered to take part in the weeklong program that offers all residents a one-time, free coronavirus test as the city seeks to identify silent carriers of the virus.

The low number of positive cases found so far has drawn criticism that the government's universal testing program was not cost effective amid privacy concerns and fears that DNA data could be sent to mainland China.

UK working on 20-minute COVID-19 test

The British government says it is investing in a coronavirus test that gives results in as little as 20 minutes, as critics say tests for the virus are being rationed because the system can't cope with demand, AP reported.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock says the government is expanding trials of two new tests — a no-swab saliva test and another that gives results in minutes. It's also running a trial on the benefits of repeat testing of people without symptoms.

Britain has hugely expanded its testing capacity since the start of the pandemic, but critics say it is still not doing enough to find and isolate people with the coronavirus.

Indian-origin Pritam Singh formally takes charge as City-State's first Leader of the Opposition in Singapore

SINGAPORE (TIP): Pritam Singh, Singapore's Indian-origin politician scripted history on Monday, August 31, when Parliament conferred the duties and privileges to him as the city-state's first Leader of the Opposition.

Singh's Workers' Party won 10 parliamentary seats out of the 93 it contested in the July 10 General Election, making it the biggest opposition presence in Singapore's parliamentary history.

As the House began proceedings on Monday, one of the first orders of business was a ministerial statement by the Leader of the House Indranee Rajah on formally recognizing Singh, 43, as the country's first Opposition leader.

"With more opposition MPs reflecting a 'strong desire among Singaporeans for a greater diversity of views in politics' as noted by the Prime Minister (Lee Hsien Loong) in his swearing-in speech.. It is timely and appropriate that the position of the Leader of the Opposition be more formally recognized," said Indranee, who is also of Indian-origin from the ruling People's Action Party (PAP).

The PAP has an absolute majority in the House with 83 elected members.

The House passed a motion to double Singh's speaking time from 20 minutes -- which is allotted to backbenchers -- to 40 minutes, the duration allotted to office holders. Singh took the seat directly opposite Prime Minister Lee in the chamber, reported Channel News Asia. This is similar to the practice in other countries that formally recognize the role of the Leader of the Opposition, Indranee pointed out.

Speaking on the occasion, Singh underlined the need to focus on foreigners and their living conditions.

He said how foreign workers are managed and accommodated needs to be improved.

Their (foreigners) presence gives Singapore a vitality that keeps us economically relevant and also provides jobs and opportunities to our fellow Singaporeans. Many of us count the foreigners in our midst - regardless of race, language or religion - as our friends, Channel News Asia quoted Singh as saying.

It is precisely because we need foreigners to help



Indian-origin Pritam Singh formally takes charge as City-State's first Leader of the Opposition in Singapore

power our economy that we need to pay more attention to the Singapore worker... some of whom feel excluded from (the) opportunities created in their homeland, Singh said.

He called on the Ministry of Manpower (MOM) to publish the names of "recalcitrant" employers who do not give locals a fair chance in hiring and promotion.

The MOM had recently placed 47 companies on the Fair Consideration Framework (FCF) watchlist for discriminatory hiring practices.

A wealth management firm on the list was found to have almost three-quarters of its professionals from the same country, he said.

In another similar case, a bank was found to have two-thirds of its professionals from a particular country.

The obvious question is, how did those two companies get to those stages without the MOM taking action? he asked.

MOM website states at one point and I quote: MOM does not tolerate unfair hiring practices and employers who do not give locals a fair chance in hiring and promotion will face scrutiny and stiff penalties if found to have unfair hiring practices, he said.

Following the General Election, Prime Minister Loong had said Singh will be designated the Leader of the Opposition in the 14th Parliament, and that he

would be given staff support and resources to perform his duties.

There have been de facto leaders of the Opposition in the past, such as former Singapore People's Party chief Chiam See Tong. However, this is the first time the position is being recognized officially.

During her address on Monday, Indranee, 57, reiterated that Singh will be given an office in Parliament, staff support and resources, as well as additional allowance.

The Leader of the Opposition will generally be given the right of first response among MPs to ask the lead question to ministers on policies, bills and motions in Parliament.

This will be at the discretion of the Speaker and subject to existing conventions, she said.

As Leader of the Opposition, Singh's duties include leading and organizing the Opposition's parliamentary business. He may also take on other duties such as attending official state functions and taking part in visits and meetings with members of the Government and the public service.

He will also, from time to time, receive briefings by the government on confidential issues, and the matters to be briefed will be determined by the government, said Indranee.

These duties and privileges are based on the conventions and practices of other Westminster-style parliamentary systems, but reflect adaptations to Singapore's political and parliamentary context, she added.

"With greater diversity of views, we can expect more robust debate and, in some cases, sharper exchanges. But we should work to ensure that diversity does not lead to polarity, of the country or of the people," said Indranee. "Experience elsewhere shows that unity in diversity is not an assured outcome. Our goal should be to harness this diversity of views in a constructive manner, so that we can as a Parliament better serve the interests of Singaporeans and Singapore."

Indranee added that the role of the Leader of the Opposition in Singapore will evolve with the country's politics.

Indian origin Tajinder Kumar set to become officer in Australian Air Force



A decade after Tajinder Kumar landed in Australia and took up a job as a washroom cleaner, he is set to become a commissioned officer with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

CHANDIGARH / NEW YORK (TIP): After spending the early days in a foreign land cleaning toilet in a shopping mall and facing language as well as cultural barriers, he joined the RAAF as a recruit and certified in aviation maintenance.

FLYING HIGH : Indian Australian Tajinder Kumar will soon be inducted into the @AusAirForce as an officer, a long-cherished dream he fulfilled, thanks to his grit and determination, Australia's High Commissioner to India Barry O'Farrell tweeted. Then in 2016, Tajinder won the Lipshur Family Bursary which provides sponsorship to enlisted personnel for a full-time undergraduate degree. *(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)*

Indian Doctor Dwarkanath Kotnis's Bronze Statue Unveiled in China

Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis, who hailed from Sholapur in Maharashtra came to China in 1938 as part of a five-member team of doctors sent by the Indian National Congress to help the Chinese during World War II.

BEIJING (TIP): A bronze statue of Indian doctor Dwarkanath Kotnis, who is revered in China for his contributions during the Chinese revolution headed by its founder Mao Zedong and the World War II, has been unveiled outside a medical school in North China according to the official media in Beijing. Dr Kotnis, who hailed from Sholapur in Maharashtra came to China in 1938 as part of a five-member team of doctors sent by the Indian National Congress to help the Chinese during World War II. He joined the Communist Party of China (CPC) in 1942 and died the same year at the age of 32. The bronze statue of Dr Kotnis, known in China as Ke Dihua, has been formally unveiled at the medical school at Shijiazhuang in September. *(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)*

Indian-Origin Students get double the number of Visas to Study in UK

The Office for National Statistics found that Indian nationals accounted for 17 per cent of the total 299,023 sponsored study visas granted by UK Home Office in the year ending March 2020, with the number more than doubling from 2019 to hit a total of 49,844 grants - a continuous rise since 2016.

LONDON (TIP): Visas granted to Indian Origins to study at universities in the UK have more than doubled over the past year, according to official statistics released on Thursday. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) found that Indian nationals accounted for 17 per cent of the total 299,023 sponsored study visas granted by the UK Home Office in the year ending March 2020, with the number more than doubling from 2019 to hit a total of 49,844 grants - a continuous rise since 2016. *(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)*



Indian National Pleads Guilty in Telemarketing Scam

PROVIDENCE (TIP): An Indian National appearing Aug 24 before a U.S. District Court Judge in Providence, RI, admitted to participating in a "Tech Support" telemarketing scam based in India, in which call center operators falsely represented themselves to be associated with Microsoft Corporation, falsely represented to victims that malware or viruses had been detected on their computers, and offered supposed services to remove the malware.

During the scam, members of the conspiracy gained access to the victims' online banking user names and passwords. Using that information, funds were taken from the victim accounts.

Abrar Anjum, 34, admitted to the court that he allowed members of the conspiracy to use bank accounts under his control in the United States to receive funds taken from victim accounts. *(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)*



Indian American Forum pays Tribute to Former President of India Late Shri Pranab Mukherjee



Former President of India Pranab Mukherjee died of Covid complications, August 31

LONG ISLAND, NY (TIP): The Board of Trustees and members of Indian American Forum and Indian American Community mourned the loss of one of the finest intellectual political figures and a former President of India Pranab Mukherjee amid Covid-19 Crisis

In a message to The Indian Panorama, Indu Jaiswal, a community activist, on behalf of the IAF and the Indian American community of Long Island said: "Former President Pranab Mukherjee who served in multiple cabinets during five decades in politics, left us at the

age of 84. Renowned media sources indicate he had surgery. The hospital said he tested positive for Covid-19 after the surgery and his condition was critical. Prime minister Narendra Modi called Mukherjee "Towering Statesman" in his tweet where he said " He left an incredible mark on the development trajectory of our nation, A scholar par excellence, a towering states man, he was admired across the political spectrum and by all sections of society." He was one of Bharat's Brightest Ratnas".

Comptroller Stringer Kicks Off Labor Rights Week

Announces \$2 Million in Stolen Prevailing Wages Returned to Workers During COVID-19 Pandemic

NEW YORK (TIP): New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer kicked off Labor Rights Week, August 31 by announcing that nearly \$2 million in stolen prevailing wages has been returned to more than 100 workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Comptroller Stringer also launched a series of "Know Your Rights" virtual events in collaboration with labor rights groups, community organizations, the Consulate of Mexico and Latin American Consulates Coalition. All events commence on August 31 and the series will culminate on September 4, 2020.

The Comptroller's Bureau of Labor Law enforces prevailing wage and benefit rates for construction and building service workers employed by contractors on City public work projects. When companies on these public contracts fail to pay the proper wages and benefits, the Comptroller enforces the law to recover the money owed to workers and ensures that they receive the money



Scott launches "Know your Rights" virtual workshops in collaboration with workers' rights advocates, community organization and consulates during Labor Rights Week (August 31 - Sept 4)

through outreach. Amid the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Comptroller's office launched a phone banking campaign in April to return unclaimed wages to workers cheated out of pay. Since March, the Comptroller's Office has returned nearly \$2 million to more than 100 workers.

"I always say that in my office, every week is Labor Rights Week. I believe that workers are their own best advocates when they know their rights, which is why community-based partnerships are so important," said Comptroller Stringer. "My office is as committed to the

enforcement of prevailing wages as we are in connecting workers with the pay they are rightfully owed. The economic fallout of COVID-19 has made this work more important than ever, and I am proud that our redoubled efforts have brought justice to more than 100 workers during these past few challenging months."

Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news

Indian American Queens Cardiologist Settles Civil Fraud Allegations

NEW YORK (TIP): Ghanshyam Bhambhani, a former Queens cardiologist, will pay a total of \$2 million to settle civil claims that he paid kickbacks to other physicians for referrals of patients insured by Medicare, Medicaid and the Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program. Under the terms of the settlement, Bhambhani will pay the United States \$1,370,294.50. In addition, he will pay the State of New York \$629,705.50.

Seth D. DuCharme, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, William F. Sweeney Jr., Assistant Director-in-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Field Office (FBI), and Norbert E. Vint, Deputy Inspector General Performing the Duties of the Inspector General for the Office of Personnel Management (OPM-OIG), announced the settlement.

An investigation by the Office, the FBI and OPM-OIG revealed that, from 2010 through 2017, Bhambhani paid other doctors compensation disguised as rent for patient referrals in violation of the Anti-Kickback Statute and the False Claims Act. The investigation also revealed that Bhambhani falsified records to justify cardiac procedures. Bhambhani admitted engaging in this conduct and has agreed to cooperate with the Government.

"Paying kickbacks for patient referrals erodes the integrity of our healthcare system and costs taxpayers precious dollars. Doctors must put patients first, not treat them like commodities unscrupulously paid for with government funds," stated Acting United States Attorney DuCharme. Mr. DuCharme expressed his



In 2018, Bhambhani surrendered his medical license after pleading guilty in the Eastern District of New York to one count of conspiracy to pay healthcare kickbacks.

grateful appreciation to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG), and the New York State Attorney General for their assistance with the case.

"The OPM-OIG has zero tolerance for fraud against the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). Submitting false claims for services that are not medically necessary and creating false documentation to justify procedure undermines the FEHBP, wastes taxpayer dollars, and increases the cost of medical care for us all," stated OPM-OIG Deputy Inspector General Vint. "This settlement is a result of the hard work of our

investigative staff and our partners at the U.S. Attorney's Office, EDNY, FBI, HHS OIG, and the New York State Attorney General's office."

The agreement resolves a lawsuit originally brought by a whistleblower under the qui tam, or whistleblower, provisions of the False Claims Act, captioned United States ex rel. FNU LNU LLC v. New York Cardiology P.C., et al., Civil No. 14-4581 (EDNY). The False Claims Act permits private citizens with knowledge of fraud against the government to bring a lawsuit on behalf of the United States and to share in the recovery.

In 2018, Bhambhani surrendered his medical license after pleading guilty in the Eastern District of New York to one count of conspiracy to pay healthcare kickbacks. He was sentenced to 34 months in prison, three years' supervised release and ordered to pay \$217,364.83 in criminal restitution and \$1,080,000 in criminal forfeiture. (Source: DOJ)

Kristina Hand, former treasurer of the Morris Central School District in Otsego County, NY arrested for stealing from the school district funds

NEW YORK (TIP): New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli released a statement, September 3, after the arrest of Kristina Hand, former treasurer of the Morris Central School District in Otsego County, following a joint investigation by his office, the United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the New York State Police.

"School districts are struggling to make ends meet during these difficult times. It is disgraceful that Ms. Hand allegedly stole from the district to fund her personal shopping," said DiNapoli. "I thank U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of New York Antoinette T. Bacon and the FBI for their continued partnership in rooting out public corruption."

Since taking office in 2007, DiNapoli has committed to fighting public corruption and encourages the public to help fight fraud and abuse. New Yorkers can report allegations of fraud involving taxpayer money by calling the toll-free Fraud Hotline at 1-888-672-4555, by filing a complaint online at investigations@osc.state.ny.us, or by mailing a complaint to: Office of the State Comptroller, Division of Investigations, 8th Floor, 110 State St., Albany, NY 12236.



Since taking office in 2007, DiNapoli has committed to fighting public corruption and encourages the public to help fight fraud and abuse

OPEN RESTAURANTS: New York City's Nation-Leading Outdoor Dining Initiative Surpasses Milestone Of 10,000 Participants

Open Streets: Restaurants partners now able to apply for weekday street openings

NEW YORK (TIP): Mayor Bill de Blasio announced, September 2 that more than 10,000 restaurants are now participating in New York City's outdoor dining initiative, Open Restaurants. The program has allowed businesses to add socially distant seating on sidewalks, in curbside parking spaces, as well as along select car-free Open Streets and pedestrian plazas on weekends.

In just over three months, Open Restaurants has saved an estimated 90,000 jobs across the five boroughs, Mayor de Blasio said.

The Mayor also announced that Open Streets: Restaurants, the City's car-free weekend outdoor dining program, will be operational on Labor Day, giving restaurants on 81 streets citywide an extra day of increased business. Partner organizations managing these streets can now apply for hours of weekday street closures.

"It's time for a new New York City tradition: the Open Restaurants program is here to stay," said Mayor de Blasio. "Outdoor dining has been a lifeline for an industry that has been hit hard by COVID-19. With cooler weather on the way, we'll continue to find new, creative ways to keep New Yorkers safe and support the businesses that make our city great."

"Outdoor dining has been a crucial lifeline to the restaurant industry during this pandemic, and this milestone is a testament to the success and enthusiasm that has come with it," said Deputy Mayor Laura Anglin. "The Open Restaurants program has brought back tens of thousands of jobs and given New Yorkers a safe way to enjoy their favorite neighborhood spots. This program has forever reshaped New York City streets and will continue to find creative ways to help businesses during these uncertain times."

"We are so proud to see that more than 10,000



In just over three months, Open Restaurants has saved an estimated 90,000 jobs across the five boroughs, Mayor de Blasio said.

restaurants have stepped up to utilize outdoor dining space, saving tens of thousands of jobs in neighborhoods across all five boroughs," said DOT Commissioner Polly Trottenberg. "We thank Mayor de Blasio and all of our agency partners and community organizations for the vision and hard work it has taken to reimagine street space in a time of crisis. Open Restaurants has been a truly inspiring team effort to help a critical but struggling part of New York's culture and economy survive as the city works to emerge from COVID-19."

The hours of operation for Open Streets: Restaurants corridors are generally from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday nights, and noon to 11 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Weekend hours will be in effect during the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 7.

"This 10,000-restaurant milestone is huge! I'm glad the City has moved so quickly to make outdoor dining possible. I urge the Mayor to make arrangements for this winter that lets these restaurants maintain their outdoor seating at their discretion and keep their plazas intact so they can continue to recuperate from the losses they suffered during the height of the pandemic," said State Senator Robert Jackson.

"I am thrilled to hear that over 10,000 restaurants are now participating in the Open Restaurants program and that it is here to stay. I thank the Mayor for bringing this innovative program to our city. Open Restaurants has saved many businesses from closing, while maintaining safety standards and reshaping the landscape of our city with open air dining. As the seasons change, we will need to continue to find ways to help New York's restaurants - many of which are MWBE's - to recover," said Assembly Member Rodney Bichotte.



A view of dining in an open street

"Restaurants are an integral part of the lifeblood of our communities, and it is encouraging to see so many of these business owners avail themselves of the Open Restaurants program. As we continue to work towards a post-pandemic life, restaurant owners should know that they will always be part of the New York zeitgeist. Thank you to Mayor de Blasio, Commissioner Trottenberg, and all of the entrepreneurs who have done their best to make lemonade out of COVID lemons," said Assembly Member Jeffrey Dinowitz.

"The open dining program is a great small business success story for New York City, but many restaurants are still waiting for a seat at the table. We need to continue refining this important program and come up with creative ideas for restaurants burdened with limited access in congested areas, including those in food courts, basements, and higher floors," said Council Member Peter Koo.

MENG LEADS CALL FOR USDA TO PROTECT KOSHER AND HALAL FOODS

QUEENS, NY (TIP): U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) announced, September 2, she led 10 members of the New York Congressional Delegation in a letter to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue urging him to ensure that policy changes to USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) do not increase food insecurity, especially to those who observe kosher and halal dietary practices.

Specifically, the letter expresses the following concerns with the revised USDA contracting process that:

Require contract holders to be re-approved while pushing back application and decision timelines. This decision will delay access for those who rely on contractors that provide foods which are acceptable to the kosher and halal communities;

Create new box requirements emphasizing mixed boxes of meat, dairy, and produce which would limit the options available to families who observe kosher and halal practices; and

Indicate that there may not be sufficient funding to maintain existing contracts.

"Food insecurity affects millions of Americans and programs like USDA's CFAP provide critical nutrition to these families and especially to those who have kosher or halal diets," said Congresswoman Meng. "Changes to this program that require vendors to reapply and to prioritize mixed food boxes that provide an assortment of meat, dairy, and produce will have harmful consequences on those whose religion requires strict dietary practices. No one should be forced to choose between their food and faith. These measures will limit an already limited supply of kosher and halal goods for families struggling to put food on the table. I urge the Secretary to re-evaluate the changes to CFAP to ensure no harm is done to those facing food insecurity."

"Amidst the most challenging period in our lifetimes, thousands of kosher New Yorkers have benefited from the fresh produce CFAP helps provide to food banks. It is an incredible program meeting the

tremendous need in our cities and it is integral to kosher communities getting access to the food they need right now," said David Greenfield, CEO of Met Council, the nation's largest kosher food pantry network. "Rep. Grace Meng and the other New York representatives are standing up for food insecure New Yorkers and kosher families by rightfully demanding CFAP continue unobstructed. USDA must ensure the supply chain remains intact and honors their commitment to provide fresh food to kosher families."

"COVID-19 brought immeasurable suffering to millions of families, especially to those who were already food insecure in New York City. USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program was a major relief for families who need fresh produce that also offers halal or vegetarian options," said Sudha Acharya, Executive Director of South Asian Council for Social Services of New York. "I commend Congresswoman Meng and other New York Delegation Members for their leadership on this issue to ensure all families have access to halal



Congresswoman, joined by other NY Reps, sent letter to USDA Secretary

and vegetarian food options during these unprecedented times. USDA must heed their voices and ensure CFAP continues to work for all families, including those who need halal or vegetarian options."

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act created CFAP, a \$19 billion program to help agricultural producers - who have faced a five percent or greater decline in commodity prices - access financial relief during COVID-19. The program also supports funding for USDA's Farmers to Families Food Box Program, which allows USDA to purchase fresh produce, dairy and meat products from American producers to package into boxes that are distributed by non-profits, faith-based and community organizations and other nonprofits to Americans facing food insecurity.

AS I SEE IT

'It's Donald Trump's America' - Democrats' Strategy to Win the Presidency for Biden



By A. D. Amar, PhD

There are three main themes that seem to be driving the strategy of the Biden for President campaign. The first and the one that the Democrats are pushing the most is to blame Donald Trump for the spread of COVID-19 and hold him responsible for the death of 186,000-plus Americans because of it. Some even say that he has blood of these Americans on his hands. The Democrats assert that Trump did not manage the pandemic properly. Under him, there had never been a plan to fight it. He turned the pandemic in America into the worst in the world. Therefore, he is not up to the job of the U. S. President.

However, the Democrats conveniently forget to mention that the lack of fight for COVID-19 was because of their resistance to Trump's initiatives. They just did not want Trump to succeed so that they could use it against him in the upcoming election. The Democratic governors and other hegemony openly refused to allow Trump to intervene in the control of COVID-19 in their states or cities. Take, for example, the New York State. When the deaths due to the virus were mounting in New York, and Trump offered to assist the state with the efforts such as a lockdown, Governor Edward Cuomo said, "How can he do that," conveying that he would not subordinate his authority to the federal agents. There were even talks of going to the courts to stop Trump if it came to that. Similar echoes were heard from the other Democrat-controlled states and cities.

And, before blaming Trump for not having a nation-wide COVID-19 control, let us not forget that, by some accounts, there are more than 27,000 entities in the USA that have some control over health administration at many levels in the

Who is not playing by the rules of our democracy and using subterfuges? The so called "peaceful protesters" that we have since been seeing in the American cities toppling statues of the historic and national figures and turning protests into opportunity to create mayhem? Those who knelt against the flag, or those who strike games and agree to return to play only after winning the use of the arenas as polling places?

United States of America. That is how the American federal system is.

Furthermore, Trump did cooperate in the fight against COVID-19 by providing material and financial help to those cities and states that agreed to accept it but wanted to manage it themselves. He sent help in many forms, for example, sending navy hospital ships to New York City and Los Angeles, and experts, ventilators, and PPE to many cities and states. In fact, the help was so immediate that after receiving it, several leaders, Governors Cuomo and Murphy included, praised Trump for getting it to them. They also praised Trump for how well they were received in the White House when they went there asking for help. They said that they got whatever they had asked.

Second, Democrats blame Trump for the economic downturn. They say that they gave Trump a booming economy that he squandered away, dropping Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 30% and causing unemployment of 50 million Americans that reached the gloomy record of the Great Depression. However, they do not even mention that before the pandemic, American economy was the economy on fire with the national unemployment rate at 3.5 percent, which is full employment by any economic standard. That it did not happen by itself.



President Trump in Kenosha: 'This is going to heal very quickly'

Trump worked very hard around the world from the very first day of his election to get this result.

The third reason that the Democrats planning Biden victory give for the "Donald Trump's America" is that Trump has divided America by his policy and actions. They point to the police brutality against the Black Americans and the fiery unrest that has engulfed many large cities in the USA as an evidence of their claim. They say that they will unite America under the Biden Administration, forgetting that it was so extant during the Democrats' rule as well.

Nevertheless, the Democrats do not want Americans to recall that the unrest in America, which has been in almost all large cities governed by the Democrats, began on the early morning of November 9, 2016, right after Trump was declared winner of the 2016 presidential race. It started because the Democrats refused to accept the election result and made calls to Democrats to resist Trump from functioning. The "Stop Trump," "Dump Trump," and "Not-My-President" became the common slogans at these protest rallies, organized by the Democrats and their sympathizers on the

either coast of the country.

Now, who has been the danger to our democracy? Is there a doubt that it should be those who refuse to accept the election results?

Who is not playing by the rules of our democracy and using subterfuges? The so called "peaceful protesters" that we have since been seeing in the American cities toppling statues of the historic and national figures and turning protests into opportunity to create mayhem? Those who knelt against the flag, or those who strike games and agree to return to play only after winning the use of the arenas as polling places?

All these are electioneering strategies that are now almost four years old with the goal to steal voters from Trump.

What an irony! The public theme of this Democratic campaign is named "Uniting America."

The Indian Panorama provides a platform to all, regardless of the views they hold. The views expressed in this article are author's own, and do not, in any way, reflect the publication's.

(The author is Professor of Management, Stillman School of Business, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ 07079, USA. He can be reached at Ad.amar@shu.edu)

BEFITTING REPLY

GUEST COMMENT

India seizes initiative as it thwarts Chinese incursions

The tactical gains achieved by Indian troops in eastern Ladakh in recent days demonstrate the high level of military preparedness that is desirable at all times to confront a persistently hostile and provocative neighbor. India has managed to occupy several strategically important hilltops and other locations, thwarting the Chinese military's brazen attempts to unilaterally change the status quo. India has often been held guilty of

adopting a reactive rather than a proactive approach to national security. But the firm handling of the current situation through aggressive posturing, pre-emptive action and military build-up shows that the winds of change are blowing. The Indian Army has been quick to ramp up its presence around the southern bank of Pangong Tso lake, which witnessed a Chinese incursion on the intervening night of August 29 and 30, by deploying additional troops and bringing in more weaponry such as tanks and anti-tank guided missiles.

Even though China had lost an unspecified number of soldiers in the Galwan valley violence in mid-June,

its evasiveness over the incident and the death toll has laid bare its embarrassment over being hoisted by its own petard. On August 31, the Chinese troops resorted to another misadventure even as the ground commanders of the two sides were holding discussions to defuse tensions. Such happenings underscore the gross mismatch between Chinese assurances and actions. No wonder, all the military and diplomatic talks held in the past two-and-a-half months have failed to produce any tangible outcome as the situation on the ground remains sensitive.

China has been harping on the normalization of ties, though it has

done precious little towards this end of late. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying has asked 'both sides to stick to the facts and have goodwill to maintain overall bilateral relations', while conceding that there are some communication issues. It's imperative for India to keep all channels of communication open so that China finds it increasingly difficult to hide behind the smokescreen of lies and cover-ups. If India keeps acting resolutely, it will continue to have the upper hand on the ground as well as at the negotiating table.

(Tribune, India)

Tribute to Pranab Mukherjee: A man of independent mind and steely resolve



By George Abraham

When I look at you and meet fellow Indians from different parts of the world, I often ask myself, what is it in us that we are able to adapt ourselves so easily to different societies, traditions, and cultures? Why is it possible for Indians to make different places their home and make themselves liked and admired? "While I do not always look at antiquity to seek answers to the riddles of contemporary times, I am convinced that many of the answers to the success of Indians at home and abroad lie in our history and culture."

Pranab Mukherjee (New York, Sept. 2007)



"For the past fifty years of my public life, my sacred text has been the constitution of India, my temple has been the Parliament of India, my passion has been the service of the people of India." - Pranab Mukherjee in September, 2007 in New York

It was in the Fall of 2007; Smt. Sonia Gandhi led a delegation to the United Nations. The occasion was the extraordinary General Assembly session to launch the International day of non-violence on October 2, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. The delegation included senior Congress leaders such as Dr. Karan Singh, Vayalar Ravi, Anand Sharma along with late Pranab Mukherjee. Prior to the U.N. General Assembly session, Indian National Overseas Congress (renamed in 2018 as Indian Overseas Congress, USA), gave a thumping reception to Sonia Gandhi and the delegation at the Marriott Hotel in Times Square, where a few thousand people attended.

Before the meeting was called to order, at the reception room adjacent to the auditorium, prominent figures from the local Diaspora were rubbing shoulders and taking photographs and were busily engaged in chit-chats. However, one leader was sitting alone in the corner isolated from all the hoopla surrounding him. He was none other than Pranab Mukherjee, the Minister of External Affairs of India. As the General Secretary of the organization, I wondered why he was not interacting with people and walked up to him to inquire how he was doing. His security detail then told me that he would like to be left alone.



Pranab Mukherjee at the Indian National Overseas Congress reception, September end, 2007, for Congress party president Sonia Gandhi and her delegation members who were in New York to attend the extraordinary General Assembly session to launch the International Day of Non-violence in commemoration of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, Oct. 2. Seen in the picture, from left to right are Dr. Karan Singh, Vayalar Ravi, Anand Sharma, Dr. Surinder S. Malhotra, Pranab Mukherji, Ambassador Ronen Sen, George Abraham, Sonia Gandhi (speaking)

I have no explanation for his reaction then. But the more I thought about it; I concluded that he was not your conventional politician but someone who has elevated the level of engagement with people to find tangible solutions to the pressing issues of the time. He appeared to be disinterested in meaningless conversation or insincere overtures. News reports have revealed that he disliked socializing in the Delhi circuit and listed that he had attended just one private dinner in Delhi - hosted by Sibal. Mukherjee was never a mass leader but derived much of his political clout in his association with Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, and P.V. Narasimha Rao.

Addressing the Diaspora during that visit, Mukherjee said that 'the future of India and that of the Indian community appear to be intrinsically intertwined'. He then paused for a few seconds and wondered out loud, "When I look at you and meet fellow Indians from different parts of the world, I often ask myself, what is it in us that we are able to adapt ourselves so easily to different societies, traditions, and cultures? Why is it possible for Indians to make different places their home and make themselves liked and admired? Then he answered his own question by saying, "While I do not always look at antiquity to seek answers to the riddles of contemporary times, I am convinced that many of the answers to the success of Indians at home and abroad lie in our history and culture."

True to its creed, he was a Master of History and purveyor of our culture and traditions. All those who know him closely talk about history's anecdotes he was fond of creating and retelling. From being an Assistant Professor in Vidyanagar college, Kolkata to the President of India, his remarkable journey was that of an intellectual and a scholar with a passion for politics and great loyalty to the Congress Party.

During the UPA-1, Manmohan Singh Government signed the historic US-Indo Civil Nuclear Agreement with the United States. It soon became a contentious issue for Democrats, and the Bush Administration sought help from all avenues for its ratification. INOC, under the leadership of Dr. Surinder Malhotra at that time, joined the campaign engaging in advocacy and promotion to make the passage of the agreement in the Senate a reality. The deal was an important milestone in cementing the strategic relationship between the two democracies that would pave the way for closer cooperation in the areas of National Security and Trade.

Pranab Mukherjee played a pivotal role in the agreement's passing, but for the Left front, which was a coalition partner in the UPA-1, threatened to pull down the Government. A task force set up under the leadership of Mukherjee took charge of the situation, effectively troubleshooting the issues leading up to its passage in the Parliament. Mike Pompeo, the Secretary

of State, in his message of condolences stated that "As Minister of External Affairs and Defense, he championed the landmark US-India Civil Nuclear agreement, a foundation of the US-India strategic partnership, and signed the Defense Framework agreement to enable the US-India security relationship we witness today. Few Indian statesmen played a more vital role in preparing India for the mantle of global leadership in the 21st century."

There is no doubt that Mukherjee's acceptance of an invitation by RSS at their convention had stunned the Congress party and many in the leadership. Congress leaders, including his own daughter Sharmistha Mukherjee, expressed displeasure at the former President's visiting the RSS headquarters in Nagpur. He went there anyway and called the RSS founder K.B. Hedgewar as a 'great son of India' to the anguish of millions who regard him as a polarizing figure in Indian history. It is quite difficult to fathom that the former President could not have been aware of the Hindutva ideologue's views that contradicted the very 'idea of India' that was planted and nurtured by Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru.

However, to his credit, Mukherjee has given a speech at the RSS meet that reiterated his faith in the country and its constitution. He said, "I want to share some truths I have internalized in 50 years of my political life. The soul of India resides in pluralism. We derive our strength from tolerance. We accept and respect our pluralism. We celebrate our diversity. Any attempt at defining our nationhood in terms of dogmas and identities of religion, region, hatred, and intolerance will only lead to dilution of our national identity. India's nationhood is not one language, one religion, and it is perennial universalism of 1.3 billion people who use more than 122 languages and 1600 dialects, practice seven major religions and belong to three major ethnic groups, live under one system, one flag, and one identity of being Bhartiya."



President Ram Nath Kovind paid last respect to Pranab Da

Photo / Twitter@rashtrapatibhvn

Pranab Mukherjee was his own man with an independent mind and a steely resolve. Coming from a flicker of a lamp in a small Bengali village to chandeliers of Delhi, his immense contribution to modern India's development will never be forgotten. Moreover, Mukherjee's 5'3" physical frame undoubtedly towered over most of his contemporaries, whether it is upholding timeless principles or proposing much-needed solutions to the nation's serious Domestic and International problems. In his last address to the nation as the President of India, he said, "For the past fifty years of my public life, my sacred text has been the constitution of India, my temple has been the Parliament of India, my passion has been the service of the people of India." That summarizes a great legacy at its best! Farewell, Pranab Da.

(The author is a former Chief technology officer of the United Nations and Vice-Chairman of the Indian Overseas Congress, USA)

PRANAB MUKHERJEE: 1935-2020

PEOPLE'S MAN AND A TRUE BHARAT RATNA

Former President Pranab Mukherjee, who died on Monday (August 31), has left his mark in India's political space. Mukherjee passed away at the Army's Research and Referral Hospital where he was admitted after a fall at his home. At the hospital, he also tested positive for Covid-19. He was operated upon for removing a blood clot in his brain.

Pranab Mukherjee was an unusual politician and his success was unusual given that the odds were stacked against him. He was not a grassroots politician and he lost most of the elections he contested. He was not an intellectual in the Bengali sense of the word and he didn't come from an English-speaking background (all his life he spoke the Queen's language with a heavy Bengali accent). He was also singularly lacking in charisma. He thus broke all the rules that had governed Bengal's politics harking back to C.R. Das and Subhas Chandra Bose to Siddhartha Shankar Ray and Jyoti Basu.

But he had other strengths. Most notable was the fact that he was born into politics. From their home in Mirati village, his father Kamada Kinkar Mukherjee controlled, and had an iron grip on, Birbhum district politics. Along with his alphabet, his son learnt the first rules of public life: influence-peddling and networking. He was a zealous student and never forgot the lessons.

Mukherjee's first big opportunity came soon after he had moved to Calcutta in the 1960s and dived into the thick of state politics. The Syndicate that ruled the Congress Party in Bengal, as elsewhere, threw a dissident leader out of the party. Mukherjee sensed that politics in India was changing and he chose to side with the dissident leader and was also expelled.

He had timed it perfectly. Feelings against the Congress party were rising and in the assembly elections the dissidents scraped together enough seats to be the deciding factor. The Left successfully wooed the breakaway Congress by agreeing to make the Congress dissident leader the chief minister. Even Jyoti Basu agreed to serve as the deputy chief minister.

Mukherjee knew though that no good could come out of an association with the Communist party. By then, the Congress Party had split into two parties - the Indira Gandhi Congress and the old Congress. Mukherjee skilfully negotiated a way for his group to ally with Indira Gandhi and



Pranab Mukherjee at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos in 2009.



Mukherjee at Pentagon.

even managed to win himself a junior minister portfolio in Delhi. His senior in the ministry was Kamalapati Tripathi, a UP Brahmin who preferred temple-hopping to ploughing through ministerial files.

That task was left to the young Mukherjee who learnt the other important lesson, one his father had not taught him, namely that if you want to run India, you must know your files. He was not house tamed by the babus -- he became one.

Mukherjee was not quite the ultimate old-school politician. True, he had friends in every political nook and cranny and beyond, and he knew when to cash in on his friendships. True, he held almost all the great offices of state, shuttling between finance, defence and external affairs with equal ease. But he had one redeeming feature which the rest lacked. He could read, and he read, every file that came his way. Jagjivan Ram, the most outstanding of all Indira Gandhi's ministers, was once asked who was the best minister he had seen. "Pranab Mukherjee," Ram replied. Why? "He reads the files" was Ram's response. Others had different views. Arun Jaitley who regarded Mukherjee highly thought there was always a danger of losing the tree for the wood. Pranab had a fondness for Jaitley but thought that without spending time on files, one could never have a grip on the Ministry. Understandably, Mukherjee's role model as Finance Minister was C.D. Deshmukh, a civil servant who went on to become the governor of the Reserve Bank and then the Finance Minister.

Mukherjee harboured ambitions of being prime minister but being elevated to the presidency was an impressive consolation prize.

In the political world, he was famed for his elephantine memory that made him the go-to man during any political discussion. Whether it was Bengal or any other part of

Continued on P11

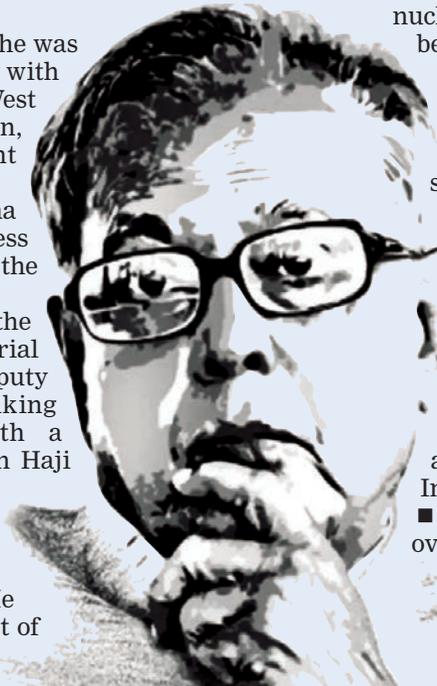
ILLUSTRIOUS POLITICAL CAREER

Here's a look at the Pranab Mukherjee's illustrious career, or Pranab da as one of India's most-respected politicians, was affectionately called.

- Mukherjee's death marks the end of an era in the Congress; he was among the last of the Congress leaders to have worked closely with Indira Gandhi. Mukherjee's political journey started in West Bengal when he was the election agent for VK Krishna Menon, who won the Midnapore by-election as an independent candidate.
- Indira Gandhi brought in the 'little master' to the Rajya Sabha as a member of the Bangla Congress, a breakaway Congress group formed in the state back in 1966. It merged with the Congress in 1970.
- Mukherjee received his first ministerial assignment in the Indira Gandhi in 1973, first as junior minister of industrial development. Within two years, he was elevated as a deputy minister with independent charge of revenue and banking departments. Mukherjee quickly made headlines with a crackdown on the then Bombay smuggling underworld don Haji Mastan.
- In 1982, shortly after Gandhi returned to power from the post-Emergency oblivion, she appointed Mukherjee as India's finance minister, replacing R Venkataraman.
- As finance minister, Mukherjee had fiery innings. He surprised the world by sending back a \$1.1 billion instalment of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan. A cautious

reformer, he was nevertheless the first to stoke up expenditure without letting inflation get out of hand. He also opened the NRI investment window, which pioneered sweeping changes in India's image as a destination of foreign funds.

- Mukherjee also played a pivotal role in helping the India-US civil nuclear agreement sail through despite threat of the government being toppled.
- He was instrumental in spearheading critical decisions on a range of issues such as administrative reforms, Right to Information, Right to Employment, Food Security, energy security, Information Technology and telecommunication, setting up of UIDAI and Metro Rail through chairmanship of over 95 Groups of Ministers constituted for the purpose.
- Among some of his crucial decisions were setting up regional rural banks (1975) and the EXIM Bank of India as well as National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (1981-82).
- Mukherjee also served for 23 years as a member of the Congress Working Committee, the highest policy-making body of the party.
- He served five times as a member of Rajya Sabha and twice as a member of the Lok Sabha. He was conferred Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian award, in 2008.
- Known for his sharp memory, clarity of thought and grasp over issues, Mukherjee has the rare distinction of serving as foreign, defence, commerce and finance minister. He was also a Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission.
- Mukherjee served the country as its 13th President for five years from 2012 to 2017.



Continued from P 10

the country, he could rattle off events and even the dates on which they occurred. “He was a ‘human computer’ like Shakuntala Devi. In most states, he could also give you the macro picture. He was relied on for spot information,” said a former bureaucrat. In addition, he was a meticulous diary-writer and brought out two books based on his memories and the contents of his diaries.

Mukherjee held a law degree as well as an MA in history and political science. He often made jokes about his diminutive stature. Many in the political world turned up at his doorstep for advice when they were in difficulties. Once he shifted into a counselling role, many say, he would switch off his political side.

He was also an administrator who could keep his cool when all others around him were losing theirs. Towards the end of his political career, bureaucrats reported he got irritable more quickly but even that was only an occasional flare-up, such as on TV when he ticked off interviewer Rajdeep Sardesai and told him to mind his tone when speaking to a former president of India.

Above all, he was a man who cared about politics and political processes. One visitor to Rashtrapati Bhavan found him intently watching the parliamentary proceedings on Lok Sabha TV and muttering irately at the screen: “He should not have said that.”

Early in his career, he caught Sanjay Gandhi's eye and was catapulted to high office even before he was 40. It is said he won his attention with the help of Kamal Nath, who was, at the time, a Calcutta businessman but making his mark in politics.

Mukherjee proved his worth as a junior minister in the finance ministry. Noida, on Delhi's outskirts, was Sanjay Gandhi's pet project but even he could not get the State Bank of India to open a branch in Noida. At Mukherjee's suggestion, the Finance Ministry was split into two independent entities - Revenue and Finance - both reporting independently to the prime minister. As the revenue minister, Mukherjee instructed the State Bank of India to open the branch.

The problem was resolved and a legend, that of the go-to man, was born.

By 1980, when Indira Gandhi returned to power after the brief Janata Party interregnum, Mukherjee received a huge promotion and was made Commerce Minister at the age of only 47 - still very youthful by Indian political standards.

In 1982, two years later, his dreams came true. He became the Finance Minister of India. Mukherjee fought the election against Indira Gandhi's wishes and lost. Indira Gandhi was reluctant to include a defeated candidate. It was Sanjay Gandhi who persuaded his mother to change her mind. It also set the curious precedence for finance ministers (or wannabe finance ministers) who lost the election to be inducted into the Cabinet through the back door: Arun Jaitley and Jaswant Singh took advantage of this unfortunate example. Manmohan Singh did one better. He became the Prime Minister.

Pranab Mukherjee was essentially a Sanjay Gandhi protégé but he was aware of the negative consequence of this association. He downplayed this relationship and instead pulled out all the stops to portray himself as an Indira Gandhi man.

But his relationship with Sanjay was to haunt him later in his career. Rajiv didn't trust the Sanjay men and Mukherjee's clumsy effort to become an interim prime minister when Indira Gandhi was assassinated was seen as an additional and very glaring black mark. Pranab was not



US-India defence deal: Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld with Pranab Mukherjee.



Mukherjee with former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

included in the Rajiv Cabinet in 1984 and later at the first opportunity, Rajiv Gandhi expelled him from the Congress Party. It took him a great deal of effort (and a failed attempt to launch a party) to be allowed back. Mukherjee admitted that being dropped from the cabinet left him “shell shocked and flabbergasted”. The Rajiv years were for Mukherjee the years of wilderness and the political aridity spilled over to the Rao era. He could regain a cabinet berth only in 1995 after 12 long years in the no-man's land.

Earlier, it was during his time in the Commerce Ministry that he grew close to Dhirubhai Ambani and the Reliance Group. At the Commerce Ministry, he learnt the intricacies of how, especially in the heyday of the licence raj, duties could make or break products and, indeed, companies.

By the time Mukherjee was back in favour, the Rajiv Gandhi government had lost its energy amidst the artillery fire surrounding the Bofors gun deal, and also the Shah Bano imbroglio. Later, he was pipped to the post to be finance minister in P. V. Narasimha Rao's government. Mukherjee had misread Rao as he earlier had misread Rajiv Gandhi. He had also misread the change in ideological climate. Globalisation was beginning and was being endorsed even by communist countries. Deng's China and Gorbachev's Russia had all mended their ways. Mukherjee, a diehard statist, was the wrong man at the wrong time.

Not merely did Rao have a new finance minister, he also had a radically new

economic policy. The nation had made a 180-degree turn. Mukherjee was history's baggage. Still he got another innings when Chidambaram was replaced by Mukherjee in the UPA era. But he was clearly at odds with the new India. Worse, he was largely blamed for the economic downturn of the UPA2 that paved the way for a Modi triumph. His last act as the Finance Minister was to introduce the infamous Retrospective Taxation which amended a 50-year-old regulation and gave the government power to change laws with retrospective effect. This was Mukherjee's last hurrah and a valiant last-ditch effort to bring back the rules-regulation Raj. From all accounts, he succeeded. The new law is said to be the single important factor in reducing foreign investments in India. His departure in 2012 for the Rashtrapati Bhavan saved him some embarrassment.

Mukherjee himself always insisted he couldn't become prime minister because he didn't speak fluent Hindi. Others joked that, with his strong Bengali accent, he didn't speak English either. Even after decades in Delhi and criss-crossing the world, his accent didn't change the slightest. Some put this down to his innate belief in Bengali superiority. “Bengalis know there is only one language on earth and English is just a dialect of Bangla,” said another bureaucrat who knew him well. Mukherjee was unfazed whether he was meeting the Queen of Great Britain or any other world leader. “He would speak to the Queen in Buckingham Palace and he stuck to his village college-teacher English. He didn't

care about his background or his height,” the bureaucrat said. Mukherjee's first job had been as a lecturer in a local college before he shifted to Calcutta.

It was common knowledge that Mukherjee, and many others, blamed former West Bengal chief minister Siddhartha Shankar Ray - with whom he didn't get along - for the Emergency. But Mukherjee, himself, was a prime beneficiary of the Emergency and a charter member of the Sanjay Gandhi faction. He was also at odds with former minister A.B.A. Ghani Khan Chowdhary, another Congress Party mass leader in Bengal.

In other ways, he was the quintessential Congressman and he took a stern line on communalism. Once when a communal incident broke out and others were caught off-balance, he delivered a strong lecture, quoting, as he was wont, earlier instances when the Congress had fought communalism - even throwing in the exact dates when the incidents had happened.

Later in life, however, he took a milder line towards an organisation like the RSS. He adopted the view, as one observer explained, that “if you keep them in the doghouse, they will do many things in an effort to shock you”. Mukherjee argued that the RSS should be mainstreamed and that would force them to “soften down,” the observer said. That outlook may have been the reason for his trip to Nagpur in 2018 where he addressed RSS swayamsevaks and even praised the institution's founder, though he did also emphasize the importance of tolerance.

It was an open secret that Mukherjee wasn't Sonia Gandhi's first choice for the presidency. But he built up support at different levels and is said to have forced her hand and easily won the largely ceremonial post. He had recognised he was growing older and the one job he wanted wasn't coming to him. Later, when Narendra Modi became Prime Minister, he knew that nothing would induce the BJP to give him a second term, but he did sound out Modi gently about his re-election. “You are a Congress nominee,” said Modi almost mischievously. “If the Congress Party proposes your name, we shall consider it,” Modi added. Mukherjee knew the game was lost. He bowed out quietly and gracefully, citing “health complications relating to old age”.

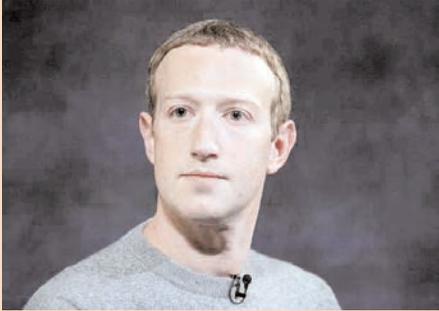
Modi was otherwise kind to Mukherjee. He may not have given him a second term but he did honour him with the Bharat Ratna. That was more a put down to Advani (who certainly contributed much more to the nation from the Hindutva point of view) and also to Manmohan Singh (whose contributions surpass Mukherjee's by the long shot).

It marked a low-key close to a long and illustrious political career. While it wasn't perhaps the triumphant finale that he might have chosen for himself, it was very far from an ignominious ending.

Mukherjee was predeceased by his wife, Suvra Mukherjee, who died in 2015. The couple had two sons and a daughter. Sharmistha Mukherjee is an accomplished Kathak dancer and choreographer who contested the 2015 Delhi Assembly election as a Congress candidate but failed to win. Abhijit Mukherjee served as a Congress MP from Bengal from 2012 to 2019.

In 2012, Sharmistha wrote about her father for India Today, recalling he had to walk nearly 10km every day to school and there was a stream on the way that during the monsoon became a gushing torrent. “Whenever I close my eyes trying to visualise my father, I see this little boy standing by the roaring stream thinking about how to cross it. He has crossed that and many other barricades in his life and walked a long way since then,” she said.

Facebook to ban political ads in week before U.S. election



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg - File photo

WASHINGTON (TIP): Facebook says it will ban political advertising the week before the U.S. election, one of its most sweeping moves against disinformation yet as CEO Mark Zuckerberg warned of a "risk of civil unrest" after the vote.

The social media giant also vowed to fact check any premature claims of victory, stating that if a candidate tries to declare himself the winner before final votes are tallied "we'll add a label to their posts directing people to the official results."

And it promised to "add an informational label" to any content seeking to delegitimize the results or claim that "lawful voting methods" will lead to fraud.

"I'm concerned about the challenges people could face when voting. I'm also worried that with our nation so divided and election results potentially taking days or even weeks to be finalized, there could be an increased risk of civil unrest across the country," Mr. Zuckerberg said in a post.

Democrats have long warned that President Donald Trump and his supporters may try to sow chaos with false claims on November 3, when the vote will take place amid unprecedented health and economic crises, social unrest and protests for racial justice.

The U.S. remains the epicenter of the world's worst coronavirus outbreak, and voters are expected to shift to mail-in voting, with an estimated three-quarters of the population eligible to do so.

As a result, officials are warning that the final tally may not be revealed until well after voting day - spurring fears that paranoia and rumormongering could hit an all-time high. Mr. Trump - a prolific user of social media who is trailing Democratic challenger Joe Biden in the polls - has recently hurtled down a rabbit hole of conspiracy theories filled with claims that he is victim of a coup and/or plans to rig the polls.

Almost daily, he claims that increased mail-in voting is a gambit to "rig" the election against him, and he has refused to say whether he will accept the results. He has also opposed more funding for the cash-strapped U.S. Postal Service (USPS), acknowledging the money would be used to help process ballots. *(With input from agencies)*

Biden in Kenosha: Trump 'legitimizes the dark side of human nature'

Former VP, who has made few campaign trips due to COVID-19, meets with Jacob Blake's family

KENOSHA, Wis (TIP): Joe Biden, speaking at a community meeting in Kenosha, Wis., on Thursday, Sept 4, condemned U.S. President Donald Trump's leadership amid ongoing protests over the police shooting of Jacob Blake, saying the president "legitimizes the dark side of human nature."

Biden began his visit by meeting with the family of Blake, the Black man who was shot seven times in the back by a white police officer late last month in Kenosha.

The Democratic presidential candidate spoke to Blake by phone, according to a statement by Ben Crump, one of the Blake family's lawyers. Blake shared the pain he is enduring and Biden commiserated, Crump said.

Biden also spent more than an hour in private with Blake's father, Jacob Blake Sr., his siblings and one of the family's lawyers, B'Ivory LaMarr. Blake's mother, Julia Jackson, and Crump joined by phone.

Crump said Blake's mother led everyone in prayer for his recovery. Biden treated Blake "as a person worthy of consideration and prayer," the lawyer said.

Biden says he visited Wisconsin as a healer, not as a divider

Democratic candidate Joe Biden says he visited Kenosha, Wisc., to deliver a message of hope and understanding to the community in the wake of the police shooting of Jacob Blake. 1:45

Biden followed his meeting with Blake's family and representatives with a community discussion at Grace Lutheran Church in Kenosha. The gathering included business and civic leaders and at least two representatives of law enforcement.

Rev. Jonathan Barker, pastor of the church, opened the meeting with a prayer asking for "justice for Jacob Blake" and for God to "anoint" a national leader in November who will "seek justice, love, mercy ... and love their neighbor."

The police shooting of Blake on Aug. 23 set off protests in Kenosha that led to deadly gunfire two nights later.

About 30 protesters marched past



Democratic Presidential candidate Joe Biden spoke with members of the community at Grace Lutheran Church in Kenosha, Sept. 3, 2020

Grace Lutheran Church ahead of Biden's arrival, chanting "Black Lives Matter!" while being trailed by a police vehicle instructing them to move out of the street.

A larger group of 100 in front of the church chanted "Dump Trump!" as Biden's motorcade rolled up.

Blake's uncle, who was also outside the church, criticized Attorney General William Barr for remarks made a day earlier that Blake was shot while committing a felony.

Kenosha's police union has said Blake had a knife when he was shot. Investigators have said a knife was in Blake's vehicle but haven't given more details.

The 77-year-old former vice-president was making his Kenosha stop two days after Trump visited.

"This is about making sure that we move forward," Biden told reporters on Wednesday, September 2.

He noted that he's "not going to tell Kenosha what they have to do," but instead encourage a community to "talk about what has to be done."

Since the May 25 death of George Floyd, a Black man killed by a white Minneapolis police officer, Biden has called for an overhaul of U.S. policing and embraced a national conversation on racism.

Trump, meanwhile, has countered

with sweeping condemnations of protesters, an absolute defense of law enforcement and denials that Americans with black and brown skin face barriers that whites do not - moves aimed at his overwhelmingly white political base.

The president toured damaged buildings in Kenosha on Tuesday and discussed ways to quell unrest with law enforcement officials. Trump was greeted by supporters who occasionally mixed with - and yelled at - Black Lives Matter organizers.

"These are not acts of peaceful protest but, really, domestic terror," Trump said.

Despite repeated questions from reporters, the president refused to address racism in the country or its police departments.

Biden has repeatedly denounced violence that has resulted from some protests - from a June 2 speech after Floyd's death up to a Monday address that his campaign quickly turned into a one-minute digital and television ad.

On Wednesday, Biden repeated that "to engage in violence - burning, looting, the rest - in the name of protesting is wrong. And that person should be held accountable for their actions."

But he stood by First Amendment guarantees that "protest is a right."

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

Uproar as Trump tells people to vote twice

WASHINGTON (TIP): President Donald Trump is facing a backlash for urging voters in North Carolina to vote by mail and then try to vote again in person to test the mail-in ballot system in the November 3 election.

Trump was asked by a TV reporter during his trip to Wilmington, North Carolina, if he had confidence in the vote-by-mail system. "They will vote and then they are going to have to check their vote by going to the polls and voting that way because if it tabulates then they



won't be able to do that," Trump told WECT.

"So, let them send it in and let them go vote. And if the system is as good as they say it is, then they obviously won't be able to vote (at the polls). If it isn't tabulated, they will be able to vote."

North Carolina's Attorney General, Democrat Josh Stein, said it was outrageous for the President to suggest that people "break the law in order to help him sow chaos in our election."

(With input from agencies)

US withholds dues payment to WHO after Trump pullout

Despite proceeding with the withdrawal, administration officials said the US will continue to participate in select WHO meetings

WASHINGTON (TIP): The Trump administration has said it won't pay more than USD 60 million in dues it owes to the World Health Organization and will use the money instead to pay down other contributions to the United Nations.

The announcement on Wednesday, September 2, came just a day after the White House announced the US would not participate in a WHO-run project to develop and distribute a COVID-19 vaccine.

The decision to withhold roughly USD 62 million in outstanding 2020 dues to the WHO is part of President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from the organization over its handling of the coronavirus pandemic and his allegations that the agency has been improperly influenced by China.

Despite proceeding with the withdrawal, administration officials said the US will continue to participate in select WHO meetings and make one-time contributions to specific programs during a one-year wind-down period.

Those programs include polio eradication projects in Afghanistan and Pakistan, humanitarian relief in Libya and Syria and efforts to combat influenza.

The funding decisions follow Mr. Trump's announcement in July that he was withdrawing the US from the WHO effective July 2021 and instructing his administration to wind down funding and cooperation with the agency.

At the time of the announcement, the



President Trump had announced earlier US pull out from WHO. And now comes the decision to withhold roughly USD 62 million in outstanding 2020 dues to the organization

US had already paid about USD 52 million of its assessed 2020 dues of USD 120 million.

During the one-year wind-down, the officials said the US would continue to participate in select WHO technical and policy meetings that have a direct bearing on US health, commercial and national security interests.

We will consider those on a case-by-case basis, said Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations Nerissa Cook.

The officials, from the US Agency for International Development and departments of State and Health and Human Services, did not say which other UN agencies would get the USD 62 million being withheld from WHO or whether it would be used to pay down US arrears to the world body's general fund.

Nor was it clear whether how the US would handle tens of millions of dollars in back dues it owes to the WHO. Under US law, arrears must be paid before the

United States can withdraw from most international organizations.

The one-time exemptions for specific programs will apply to up to USD 40 million in funding for flu vaccination programs, according to Garrett Grigsby, the director of the HHS global affairs office, and up to USD 68 million for polio and Libya and Syria operations, according to USAID's Assistant Administrator for Global Health Dr Alma Golden.

On Tuesday, the administration announced it would not work with the coronavirus vaccine project because it doesn't want to be constrained by multilateral groups like the WHO.

Some nations have worked directly to secure supplies of vaccine, but others are pooling efforts to ensure success against a disease that has no geographical boundaries. More than 150 countries are setting up the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access Facility, or COVAX.

That cooperative effort, linked with the WHO, would allow nations to take advantage of a portfolio of potential vaccines to ensure their citizens are quickly covered by whichever ones are deemed effective.

The WHO says even governments making deals with individual vaccine makers would benefit from joining COVAX because it would provide backup vaccines in case the ones being made through bilateral deals with manufacturers aren't successful.

(Source: PTI)

US to allow Air India to conduct ground handling at airports, says official

WASHINGTON (TIP): The United States has announced that it plans to restore Air India's ability to self-conduct its ground handling operations at American airports.

Issuing an order in this regard, U.S. Department of Transportation reversed its previous order of July 2019 that had suspended the right of Air India to self-handle at U.S. airports.

The Department and other U.S. government agencies have continued to work with the government of India towards satisfactory resolution of this matter. In that connection, recent positive developments have led the department to tentatively determine that the public interest now calls for removal of the permit condition we had imposed in order 2019-7-9, said the order issued by Joel Szabat, Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Aviation and International Affairs.

We therefore have tentatively decided to amend Air India's permit to remove that condition, the Department of Transportation said. Stakeholders and public have 21 days to respond to this proposal, before it can be finalized and enforced. The order comes a day after the Indian Ambassador to the U.S., Taranjit Singh Sandhu, had a conversation with the Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao. India and the U.S. have partnered in Aviation sector during these difficult times, the ambassador tweeted. The order also relieves Air India of any further reporting requirement regarding its ground handling arrangements.

Joe Biden garners more Republican endorsements, this time from ex-governors

Polls show that Donald Trump still enjoys nearly 90 percent approval among the Republican rank and file

WASHINGTON (TIP): Nearly 100 Republican and independent leaders will endorse Democrat Joe Biden for President on Thursday, September 3, including one-time 2020 Republican Presidential candidate Bill Weld and the former Republican governors of Michigan and New Jersey, people involved in the effort told Reuters.

The latest Republican-led effort to oppose the re-election of President Donald Trump also includes current and former Republicans in the key battleground state of Michigan that will help decide the outcome of the November 3 election, the group's members said.

Called 'Republicans and Independents for Biden', the group is headed by Christine Todd Whitman, a former Republican governor of New Jersey who has become one of Mr. Trump's fiercest critics and who spoke at the recent Democratic National Convention in

support of Mr. Biden.

"Biden is a decent man, he's a steady man," Ms. Whitman told Reuters. "Trump is trying to paint the world of Joe Biden as horrific - but that's Trump's America now."

She accused Mr. Trump of betraying conservative values by undermining the rule of law and national security, lying, dividing Americans along racial lines, and failing the country in his response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Mr. Weld, a former governor of Massachusetts, briefly and unsuccessfully challenged Trump in the 2020 Republican nominating contest. Another leading member of the group is Rick Snyder, a two-term governor of Michigan who left office in 2019.

Mr. Snyder decried what he called Mr. Trump's divisive and bullying tactics, adding: "Having worked with Joe Biden and Donald Trump when I was Governor, I believe Biden is the clear choice to put

our country back on a positive path."

Ms. Whitman, who headed the Environmental Protection Agency under Republican President George W. Bush, said the group will target voters in a handful of battleground states, particularly suburban women and voters who do not like Mr. Trump but still hesitate to back Mr. Biden.

The group launches a website on Thursday and plans to campaign, buy advertisements and place opinion pieces in state and national media in support of Mr. Biden.

"Donald Trump's daily assaults on our nation's founding principles pose an existential threat to the future of the Republic," the group will declare.

The impact of this unprecedented campaign by members of a political party to oppose one of their own running for re-election as President remains to be seen. Polls show that Mr. Trump still enjoys nearly 90 percent approval among



The order also relieves Air India of any further reporting requirement regarding its ground handling arrangements

the Republican rank and file.

The Other anti-Trump groups include 43 Alumni for Biden, comprised of hundreds of officials who worked for Mr. Bush, the 43rd president; Former Republican National Security Officials for Biden; and The Lincoln Project, founded by Republican political operatives.

. Biden's campaign has been trying to build a broad coalition of liberals, moderate Republicans and independents. When he accepted the Democratic nomination at the convention in August, Mr. Biden said if elected he would be a president for all Americans, not just for the Democratic base.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)



Sushant's ex-aide Samuel Miranda detained by Narcotics Control Bureau

Sushant Singh Rajput's former housekeeping manager, Samuel Miranda, was on Friday detained by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in connection with its probe into the drug angle in the case, news agency ANI reported.

Miranda, whose house was searched by the bureau, was detained under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, ANI said.

Miranda was appointed by Rhea Chakraborty in May last year. He used to manage all the household expenses. Rajput's family has alleged that Miranda helped Chakraborty in siphoning off his money and supplying drugs. The bureau is also searching Rhea Chakraborty's residence in Mumbai to conduct a search in connection with its probe in the Sushant Singh Rajput case.

Yatra to Hemkund Sahib in Uttarakhand begins

The yatra to the Hemkund Sahib in Uttarakhand began on Thursday and the first batch of pilgrims was flagged off at Govindghat.

The Sikh shrine in Garhwal Himalayas will open for devotees on Friday, Sept 4. Only a limited number of devotees led by 'Panj Pyaras' were allowed to proceed for the high altitude shrine amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Gurdwara Prabandhan Samiti officials said.

The pilgrims were gifted 'saropas' as per the custom, they said, adding that they will stop for the night at Ghanghariya.

The yatra is beginning late by three months this year due to the pandemic.

Twitter a/c linked to PM website hacked

Twitter on Thursday said the account linked to PM Narendra Modi's personal website was hacked, and it has now been restored. "We're aware of this activity and have taken steps to secure the compromised account. We are actively investigating the situation," a Twitter spokesperson said.

Digital apps must abide by rules: MEA on banning of Chinese apps

India on Wednesday, Sept 2, banned 118 mostly-Chinese mobile applications, including PUBG

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Thursday, Sept 3, dismissed Chinese statements over Centre banning 118 more mobile apps saying that India has one of the most open regimes for FDI in the world. "India has one of the most open regimes for FDI in the world, this includes internet companies and digital technology companies," MEA spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said during the weekly virtual briefing.

"However, they have a responsibility to abide by rules and regulations issued by departments of the government of India..." he said. His comments came in response to a question about the Chinese reaction on the recent app ban by India.

"...And particularly those rules and regulations, which pertain to data security and privacy of data. You would have seen the announcement by MeitY yesterday where they have said -- the activities that these apps have engaged in are prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of state and public order," MEA spokesperson said. "So what I can say is that we remain open, we continue to open FDI in the country including in the area of internet technology. However, we would like to say that the companies when they operate here, they have to operate in accordance with the regulatory framework of the government of India," he added.

The Chinese government on Thursday objected and expressed concerns over India's decision to ban 118 mobile applications. Speaking at a press briefing, Gao Feng, the spokesperson of Chinese Commerce Ministry, said India has abused national security by imposing "discriminate restrictions" on Chinese companies, state-run Global Times reported.



Urging India to reconsider its move, Gao said, "China-India economic and trade cooperation yields mutual benefits." He asserted that China has always asked its companies to comply with international and local rules and regulations in their overseas operations.

"We hope that the Indian side will work with the Chinese side to maintain hard-won bilateral cooperation and development so as to build an open and fair business environment for international investors and services providers including Chinese companies," he was quoted as saying. The Indian government on Wednesday decided to block 118 mobile apps including PUBG MOBILE Nordic Map; Livik, WeChat Work and WeChat in view of the information available that they are engaged in activities, which are prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity, defence and security of India and public order. The decision came amid border tensions with China in eastern Ladakh and nearly two months after the government banned 59 China-linked apps.

China squarely to blame for LAC tension: MEA

The Ministry of External Affairs today said tensions on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) could only be resolved by talks.

"The Indian side is firmly committed to resolving all outstanding issues through peaceful dialogue," said MEA spokesperson Anurag Srivastava at the regular media briefing when asked about the usefulness of previous rounds of talks in view of fresh tensions on the LAC.

Squarely blaming the Chinese troops for four months of tensions on the LAC, the MEA spokesperson regretted that the net result of violations of bilateral agreements and protocol was a breach in peace in the border areas after three decades of tranquillity.

Meanwhile, Army Chief Gen MM Naravane on Thursday began a two-day visit to Ladakh while Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria on Wednesday reviewed IAF's preparedness in the eastern sector.

Pak will suffer heavy losses if it attempts any misadventure against India: Gen Rawat

NEW DELHI (TIP): India's armed forces are capable of handling aggressive Chinese actions in "best suitable ways", Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat said on Thursday, Sept 3. His remarks came against the backdrop of China's fresh attempts to change the status quo in certain areas in eastern Ladakh.

In an interactive session at the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum, Gen Rawat also asserted that India's policy of engagement in the region, if not backed by credible military power and influence, would imply acknowledging China's pre-eminence.

Rawat also warned Pakistan against trying to take advantage of any possible conflict between India and China in eastern Ladakh, saying Islamabad may suffer "heavy losses" for any "misadventure".

"Of late, India has been seeing some aggressive actions by China but we are capable of handling these in the best



Gen Bipin Rawat

suitable ways," Gen Rawat said at the online event while mentioning laid down protocols between the two countries in maintaining peace and tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control.

He said China's infra projects in Tibet Autonomous Region, including completion of a highway renovation

project and development of strategic railway lines, as also recently introduced reforms in Chinese military were being monitored by India and their implications are being considered in devising a strategy for the future.

Noting that Pakistan could take advantage of India's border row with China, the Chief of Defence Staff said it might create some trouble for New Delhi on the northern border.

"Therefore, we have taken adequate precautions to ensure that any such misadventure by Pakistan is sorted and they are not able to succeed in their mission. In fact, they may suffer heavy losses should they attempt any misadventure," he said.

The Chief of Defence Staff spoke extensively about how Pakistan has been engaged in a proxy war against India and pushing terrorists into Jammu and Kashmir and also its attempts to spread terrorism in other parts of the country.

India's Covid tally goes past 39 lakh; recoveries cross 30-lakh mark

NEW DELHI (TIP): India's Covid tally went past 39 lakh on Friday, September 4, with 83,341 fresh cases reported in a span of 24 hours, while the number of recoveries crossed the 30-lakh mark, pushing the recovery rate of coronavirus patients in the country to 77.15 per cent, according to the Union health ministry.

The total number of Covid cases mounted to 39,36,747, while the death toll due to the disease climbed to 68,472 with 1,096 people succumbing to it in a day, the ministry's data updated at 8 am showed.

The Covid case fatality rate has further declined to 1.74 per cent in the country.

There are 8,31,124 active coronavirus cases in the country, which account for 21.11 per cent of the total caseload, the data stated.

India's Covid tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7 and the 30-lakh mark on August 23.

According to the Indian Council of Medical Research, a total of 4,66,79,145 samples were tested for Covid in the country as on September 3, including 11,69,765 on Thursday, Sept 3.

The positivity rate for coronavirus among healthcare workers in three states, Telangana, Maharashtra, and Delhi is double or more than the rate in general population, according to data shared by the union health ministry on Thursday, Sept 3. Positivity rate reflects the proportion of people who test positive among those who are tested.

India's positivity rate currently stands at about 7%. The country has ramped up testing and has been able to conduct over 1 million tests for three days consecutively.

In comparison, the positivity rate among healthcare workers, doctors, nurses, paramedical staff is the highest in Telangana where 18% of those tested were found to be positive. This is followed by Maharashtra with 16% and Delhi with 12%.

The union health ministry has reached out to six states where the positivity rate among healthcare workers is on the "higher side." The other states with high positivity rate among



healthcare workers include – Karnataka where 13% of those tested are found to be positive, Puducherry with 12%, and Punjab with 11%, according to the data shared.

"We have been tracking the positivity rate among the health care workers in the country. They are a precious resource and there is a need to protect them from the infection. We have brought this to the attention of these states and union territories through the ministry of home affairs," said union health secretary Rajesh Bhushan in the press briefing on Thursday. He cited three reasons for higher infection among healthcare workers – protocols for hospital infection control not being followed, protective gear not being used properly, and lack of containment measures in their area of residence.



Airlines get ready for in-flight meal services

Chefs wearing masks, sunglasses, hair nets, and gloves; an automated process using conveyor belts replaced with manual packaging of food; staff strength cut down by 90% to ensure social distancing; and a blaring alarm every 30 minutes reminding workers to sanitise their hands.

These are glimpses from an Air India catering facility, where the activity has increased with the civil aviation regulator allowing in-flight service of meals on board.

Even though flight services resumed on May 25 in a phased manner – about two months after they came to a halt – it was only on August 27 that the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) allowed airlines to serve meals on board.

75 staffers at Sukhdev, Garam Dharam dhabas in Murthal test Covid positive

As many as 65 staffers of famous Sukhdev dhaba in Murthal on NH-44 in Sonapat district have tested positive for COVID-19 while 10 staffers of the adjoining Garam Dharam Dhaba, owned by film star Dharmender, also tested positive for COVID-19.

The Sonapat administration has ordered to seal the duo dhabas till further orders and directed to sanitise the eateries.

As per the information available, the district administration has begun a special drive for the sampling of the workers at the dhabas in Murthal. In continuation of the drive, the health teams have collected samples of approximately 300 workers of Sukhdev dhaba, of which 65 have tested positive for COVID.

Delhi riots: Sharjeel sent to 14-day custody

Delhi court has sent JNU student Sharjeel Imam, arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, to judicial custody for 14 days in a case related to communal violence in northeast Delhi. Imam was arrested by the special cell of the Delhi Police on August 25 for allegedly being part of a "premeditated conspiracy" in connection to the riots during the anti-CAA protests.

Protests over exclusion of Gojri, Punjabi from J&K language Bill

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Central government's decision to add Kashmiri, Dogri, Hindi and English to the list of Jammu and Kashmir's official languages has irked Sikh and Gujjar groups in the Union Territory.

Currently, Urdu is J&K's only official language, but most of the official work done here is in English, which is taken as a workable language as a vast population in the UT is unable to read or write Urdu.

On Monday, Aug 31, the Union Cabinet at a meeting presided over by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had approved the Jammu and Kashmir Official Languages Bill, 2020, proposing to also make Kashmiri, Dogri, Hindi and English official languages of the Union Territory. The Bill will be introduced in Parliament during its upcoming Monsoon session.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh had described the decision as the government's acceptance of a "long-pending demand of the region" and "keeping with the spirit of equality ushered after August 5, 2019".

However, protesting over the exclusion of Punjabi language from the Bill, various Sikh organisations took out a procession in Jammu city. Gujjar groups sought Modi's intervention, asking him to include Gojri in the list of official languages, saying it "deserved inclusion" in view of its being the "oldest, significant and third largest spoken language of Jammu and Kashmir".

Jammu and Kashmir Sikh Gurdwara Parbandak Board chairman T S Wazir claimed that while there were lakhs of Punjabi speaking people shown to be living in Jammu and Kashmir during the 1941 and 1981 surveys and the language was a compulsory subject in schools till 39 years ago, its total neglect has created doubts in the minds of minority Sikh community. Describing it "another onslaught on the identity of the Sikh community" in J&K and against the spirit of Modi's slogan of 'sabka saath, sabka vikas', he said his organisation will intensify its agitation if Punjabi was not given its due place in the Union Territory.



In reply to Cong, FB says it is non-partisan, denounces hate

NEW DELHI (TIP): Amid a raging controversy over Facebook's alleged political bias and interference in India's democratic process, the social media giant has told the Congress that it is non-partisan, denounces hate and bigotry in all forms and strives to ensure that its platforms remain a space where people can express themselves freely.

Responding to concerns raised by the opposition Congress, Facebook's Public Policy, Trust and Safety Director Neil Potts has said it has taken the party's allegation of bias very seriously and will ensure that it remains non-partisan and is committed to maintaining the highest levels of integrity.

The Congress accused Facebook of interfering in India's democratic process and being soft on members of the ruling BJP while applying its hate-speech rules. The Congress had written to Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg after reports by the Wall Street Journal and the Time magazine about the conduct of Facebook and WhatsApp India's leadership team flagged bias and proximity with the ruling BJP.

In his letter to AICC general secretary (organisation) KC Venugopal, who had written to Zuckerberg twice, Potts said, "On hateful content by public figures, we want to assure you that our community standards prohibit attacks against people based on their protected characteristics, including religion, caste, ethnicity and national origin. In line with our hate speech policy, we have removed and will continue to remove hateful content by public figures in India on our platforms."

Bans BJP politician Raja Singh

Under pressure for weeks over its handling of hate speech, Facebook on Thursday, Sept 3, said it has banned BJP politician T Raja Singh from its platform and Instagram for violating its policy on content promoting violence and hate.

Not To Miss: Socio - Political Films

BY MABEL PAIS

"REPRESENT" - Democracy. On Her Terms

"'Represent' pushes all of us to sit with people we may disagree with while still recognizing their worth, and to consider the subconscious creep of our own biases and preconceptions." - **Hillary Bachelder, Director/Cinematographer/Editor**

"Heading into the homestretch of this year's election, 'Represent' feels like a balm. A reminder that, win or lose, there's something to be gained by reigniting people's interest in civil engagement, especially at the local and state level." - **Monica Castillo, RogerEbert.com**

"REPRESENT" follows three women on both sides of the aisle who share the singular goal of improving their community through public service. In the heart of the American Midwest, three women take on the status quo in campaigns that promise to reshape local politics on their own terms.

"Represent" was released in August 2020 to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment (Women's Right To Vote).

Director Hillary Bachelder, with "Represent", offers a tender and often unexpected telling of three passionate candidates, the challenges they face, and a glimpse at what we all have to gain when women shape the future of our communities and ultimately, our country.

She portrays them as full people with flaws, complicated relationships, and moments of vulnerability and opportunities for improvement. "Represent" deepens these portraits by developing stakes that extend beyond the campaign trail, and the arc of the film ultimately continues past election night to paint a richly personal picture of joy, of loss, of mother-daughter relationships, owning your narrative, and of growth.

In 2018, the milestone of the first Muslim and Native Congresswomen finally taking their seats in the halls of power. Yet, the U.S. currently ranks a bleak 82nd in the world for gender parity in politics, a status that has actually worsened over the past 25 years. So what is



Myya Jones - Photo / Music Box Films

standing in between women and the offices they seek? Studies show:

Women self-select at a far lower rate than their male counterparts, and must be asked 7 times on average before deciding to run.

Female candidates struggle to find the financial backing and party-level support that their male counterparts access.

According to a recent UN report, in the U.S., 39% of people still think that men make better leaders. The stories of "Represent" tackle many of these issues head on...

MYYA JONES is a 22-year-old black woman running for Mayor of Detroit. She attempts to spark a youth movement and unseat the incumbent mayor of Detroit. Myya won't give up that easily, and despite a defeat at the polls, in 2018 she's on the campaign trail again- this time for State Rep. She's in it to show other Millennials and women of color that this is their fight, too.

BRYN BIRD, a farmer and working mother in Granville, Ohio, runs for township trustee. Now Bryn must navigate a political system erected to exclude women like her, in a fight for the future and the values of this sleepy Midwest town.

JULIE CHO walks a tightrope between her identities as a Korean immigrant and Republican candidate for State Representative in a liberal Chicago suburb. Julie rejects the GOP's strong-arming and pushes forward to build a grassroots campaign, but as the national rhetoric intensifies and the midterm elections near,



Bryn Bird - Photo / Music Box Films



Julie Cho - Photo / Music Box Films

Julie's shared identities- woman of color, conservative, immigrant- may prove to be her ticket to success or her political undoing.

To learn more and for virtual theater listings, visit thefilmrepresent.com

KEY CREDITS

Featuring: Bryn Bird, Julie Cho, Myya Jones
Director, Cinematographer, Editor: Hillary Bachelder
Producers: Rachel Pikelný, Anne Sobel
Executive Producers: Jolene Pinder, Betsy Steinberg, Gordon Quinn, Sally Jo Fifer, Lois Vossen
Length: 1 Hour 34 Minutes
Release Date: Currently running in Virtual Theater nationwide
Website: www.thefilmrepresent.com

"OUR TIME MACHINE" - Father-Son Bonding

"An uplifting celebration of the love between a son and his father...an elegant, focused piece of storytelling" - **Screen Daily**

Winner: Best Cinematography Award 2019 Tribeca Film Festival

Maleonn, 43, is one of China's most influential conceptual artists today. His father, Ma Ke, was the artistic director of the Shanghai Chinese Opera Theater. After being humiliated and forbidden from working for a decade during the Cultural Revolution, Ma Ke immersed himself in theater. The mysterious excitement of Ma Ke's creative world inspired the young Maleonn, but his father's absences stoked early feelings of resentment.

When Ma Ke is diagnosed with Alzheimer's, Maleonn pours everything into an ambitious new theater project: "Papa's Time Machine," a visually stunning time-travel adventure told with human-sized puppets. At the play's heart are autobiographical scenes inspired by Maleonn's memories with his father. He hopes this will bring them together artistically and personally.

With enthusiasm both domestically and from abroad, the play shows signs of

a promising future. But Ma Ke's condition deteriorates. Maleonn is torn between the original goal to honor his father and the pressure towards commercial success. Ma Ke struggles to contribute to the play, and barely recognizes the play when it is completed.

Facing his father's painful decline, Maleonn becomes more aware of life's complexities. There are no effortless masterpieces or simple solutions. And there's no traveling back in time to retrieve what has been lost.

Through the play's production, he confronts his own mortality. Maleonn finds grace and unexpected joy in this moving meditation on art, the agonies of love and loss, and the circle of life.

There is however, the relationship that has developed with co-director Tianyi. He proposes to her, ready to become a partner and a father, and to carry on forward with a new outlook on his art and life.

This is an evergreen story, relevant for past and future generations and across cultural divides, so long as there is love between children and their parents.

In post-Cultural Revolution China, in a span of 20 years, cities emerged from towns, the economy generated

unprecedented wealth for some while leaving others behind, and new roads and digital networks connected China to the world. These migrations within our country and its rapid digitization have fundamentally changed the way people communicate and relate to one another.

Maleonn and his aging father, both artists, but who came of age on opposite sides of the Cultural Revolution in China.

For the directors and for Maleonn, the struggle to express affection towards one's family goes hand in hand with defining and sharing the meaning behind devoting one's life to art. To learn more and for virtual theater listings, visit timemachinefilm.com

KEY CREDITS

Directors/Producers: Yang Sun & S. Leo Chiang
Editor: Bo Li
Executive Producers: Jean Tsien, Sally Jo Fifer, & Nick Fraser
Writers: S. Leo Chiang & Bo Li
Co-Director: Shuang Liang
Cinematographers: Yang Sun & Shuang Liang
Original Music: Paul Brill
Length: 1 Hour 21 Minutes
Release Date: SEPTEMBER 11



"Our Time Machine" Poster
Photo / Walking Iris Media.

Website: timemachinefilm.com
Facebook: [facebook.com/timemachinefilm](https://www.facebook.com/timemachinefilm)
Instagram: @timemachinefilm
Twitter: #OurTimeMachine

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

Harlem 2020 Film Fest Goes Virtual

Hi FILM FEST 15th edition: September 10-13

Lanie Zipoy's **THE SUBJECT** Opening Night
Craig Davidson's **ISLAND OF BASEBALL**
Closing Night

Gavin Guerra's **LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE**
Friday Night Spotlight Charles Mudede's
THIN SKIN Centerpiece

The 2020 Harlem International Film Festival (Hi) has its 15th edition virtually, September 10-13.

The film festival opens with two films aimed squarely at current issues with Lanie Zipoy's thriller about a documentarian haunted by the Harlem teen's murder he caught on film in "THE SUBJECT", set as the Opening Night selection, followed by Gavin Guerra's documentary on voter suppression, "LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE", selected for the Friday Night Spotlight. Saturday's Centerpiece Screening selection will be Charles Mudede's "THIN SKIN", the film adaptation of Ahomeful Olue's Off-Broadway musical hit play, with the film festival wrapping things up by celebrating the Centennial celebration of the Negro Leagues with the Closing Night selection of Craig Davidson's documentary "ISLAND OF BASEBALL".

The four-day film festival which has become an underrated showcase of relatively undiscovered international cinematic gems and local New York filmmaking talent will put the NYC spotlight on 94 film presentations (32 features, 47 shorts, 9 webisodes, 5 music videos, and 2 VR/360 projects) representing over 25 countries. World premieres include Davidson's "ISLAND OF BASEBALL", as well as Rich Gold's "IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MAD DOG COLL", Daniel Gabriel's "MOSUL", Bahati



A scene from "The Subject"
Photo / harlemfilmfest.org

Best's "THE PATTERSON: ANOTHER BRONX TALE", Sakina Samo's "WAITING", and 5 short films as well.

Harlem International Film Festival's Program Director, Nasri Zacharia, said. "Like many film festivals, we have made the decision to present our slate of essential cinema virtually this year, but that decision has only intensified our desire to cull great world cinema that might have been otherwise overlooked, and deserves a spotlight, as well as to continue our efforts to truly showcase the filmmakers and the setting of our beloved home neighborhoods of Harlem, Upper Manhattan and the Bronx, which we call the HUB".

Opening Night Selection : "THE SUBJECT"
Manhattan Premiere | DIR: Lanie Zipoy | USA | 1h 59m

Phil Waterhouse is a successful white documentary filmmaker with a thriving career, brilliant girlfriend, and lovely suburban home. His last film was a rousing critical and commercial hit. But during its making the film's subject - baby-faced Harlem teenager Malcolm - was murdered, an act Phil caught on tape. Haunted by Malcolm's death, journalists who once lauded him, hound him about his responsibility in the death. Now, someone stalks Phil, recording his every move. The film stars Jason Biggs, Emmy nominee Aunjanue Ellis and Anabelle Acosta.



A scene from "Let The People Decide"
Photo / harlemfilmfest.org

Friday Night Spotlight: "LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE"

Upper Manhattan Premiere | DIR: Gavin Guerra | USA | 1h 48 m

Since the founding of this country, who gets to vote has been a contested issue. "LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE" connects the dots across generations to illustrate how events from over 50 years ago are still reverberating in today's heated political climate. The narrative follows a Then and Now timeline that shares first person accounts from participants in the Civil Rights Movement as well as meeting present day activists that are fighting to preserve the gains of the past and forge a new path forward. The film will also explore the political fallout following the Voting Rights Act, and how the states came to realign politically and race continued to be a common theme in manipulating and exploiting the motivations of politicians as well as those of the electorate.

Centerpiece Selection: "THIN SKIN"
East Coast Premiere | DIR: Charles Mudede | USA | 1h 31m

"THIN SKIN" is a film adaptation of Olou's Off-Broadway hit musical play "Now I'm Fine", about a harrowing period in the comedian and musician's real life. A fever dream of recollections of Olou's experiences escaping a go-nowhere office life dominated by a proselytizing boss, a broken marriage and a wacky mother,

and all of it falling under the aching shadow of his missing father who one day took leave to Nigeria and never returned. And just as Oluo seems to be turning it all around, with his two young daughters in tow, he is struck by an illness that literally causes his skin to dissolve. It's challenge enough to hold your family together and keep a grip on everything without literally having your body fall apart at the same time.

Closing Night Selection: ISLAND OF BASEBALL

World Premiere | DIR: Craig Davidson | US/Cuba | 1h 6m

ISLAND OF BASEBALL tells the almost forgotten story of how some of the greatest black U.S. ballplayers of all time became legends in Cuba playing integrated baseball before Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color barrier in the U.S.

For more information on the Complete Film Slate, festival passes, tickets, and more information on the Harlem International Film Festival go to HarlemFilmFestival.org

ABOUT THE HARLEM INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Celebrating the art of cinema in the home of the Harlem Renaissance, The Harlem International Film Festival (Hi) inspires and entertains by honoring dynamic films by anyone about anything under the sun. Conceived from the belief that we all have unique experiences and perspectives to share, the Festival actively seeks and exhibits fresh work. Hi is committed to exemplifying the eminence that Harlem represents and is dedicated to bringing attention to the finest filmmakers from Harlem and across the globe. To learn more, visit HarlemFilmFestival.org

FUN EVENTS

BY MABEL PAIS

NJPAC: MAGIC FOR HUMANS

Blurbs

"A new breed of magician who's making magic cool again." - Los Angeles Times

"Part magician, part comedian, part social experimenter." -- TV Guide

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT RETURNS TO NJPAC WITH AN ALL-NEW INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE FOR AT-HOME AUDIENCES

JUSTIN WILLMAN - KING OF CREATIVE STUNTS & ILLUSIONS

VIRTUAL SHOW: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2020 AT 7PM & 10PM

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) presents Justin Willman from "Magic for Humans" on Netflix on Saturday, September 12, 2020 for two virtual performances at 7PM & 10PM.

NJPAC, though closed for in-theater presentations, remains open for creative content and new VIRTUAL entertainment presentations. From the comfort and

At-Home Fun Events



Justin Willman - Photo / Courtesy NJPAC

safety of their own homes and with the convenience and ease of Zoom, patrons can participate in never before seen performances.

Justin Willman is known for his creative stunts and illusions that fill audiences with wonder and laughter. He is bringing his humorous and heartfelt style of street magic right to your living room. This interactive show features magic, comedy, and unexpected surprises via Zoom, for one incredible hour that's sure to delight everyone in your family.

VIDEO: A Taste of Justin.....
<https://youtu.be/CHteFqU-7Hs>
TICKETS:

Each ticket allows viewing on one device, patrons can enjoy the show solo or share the fun with family and friends.

During the performance, Justin will see, hear, and interact with the audience in real-time, making this a truly unique experience! Capacity is limited.

For tickets, visit <https://bit.ly/3b2c65I> before they magically disappear...

HOW IT WORKS:

Download Zoom in advance of the event. Try it now at zoom.us

The day before the event, you'll receive an email with the login information for the actual performance.

Join us when the "doors" to the waiting room open 30 minutes before the event's start time, you will be checked in.

You will be allowed entry once the performance is ready to begin. Your video will be live, but your microphone will be muted to begin. You may be unmuted at times throughout the show to interact with Justin.

Enjoy the show!



Ayushmann Khurrana starts physical transformation process

Actor Ayushmann Khurrana has started work on physically transforming himself for his role of a cross-functional athlete in an upcoming love story directed by Abhishek Kapoor.

Ayushmann posted a few pictures on Instagram Story of a virtual meeting with trainer Rakesh Udiyar. "Here we go!" he captioned the frames, along with a powerlifting emoji. Ayushmann tagged his director Abhishek Kapoor in the post.

"It is now certain that Ayushmann is hiding his look. He is purposely being elusive on social media because he doesn't want anyone to get a glimpse of his transformation before he starts shooting. Since he plays a cross-functional athlete for the first time, Ayushmann will have to change his body type completely and that first look is definitely a big visual for everyone to catch hold of. He is definitely protecting his look, or else why would he not upload his images?" a source said.

Ayushmann is right now in Chandigarh, and the source added: "We think he intends to do just that till the first look is released by him," adding: "Abhishek and Ayushmann have definitely planned a big surprise for the audience."

NARGIS FAKHRI IS DATING A NEW YORK CHEF, ENJOYS HOLIDAY WITH HIM

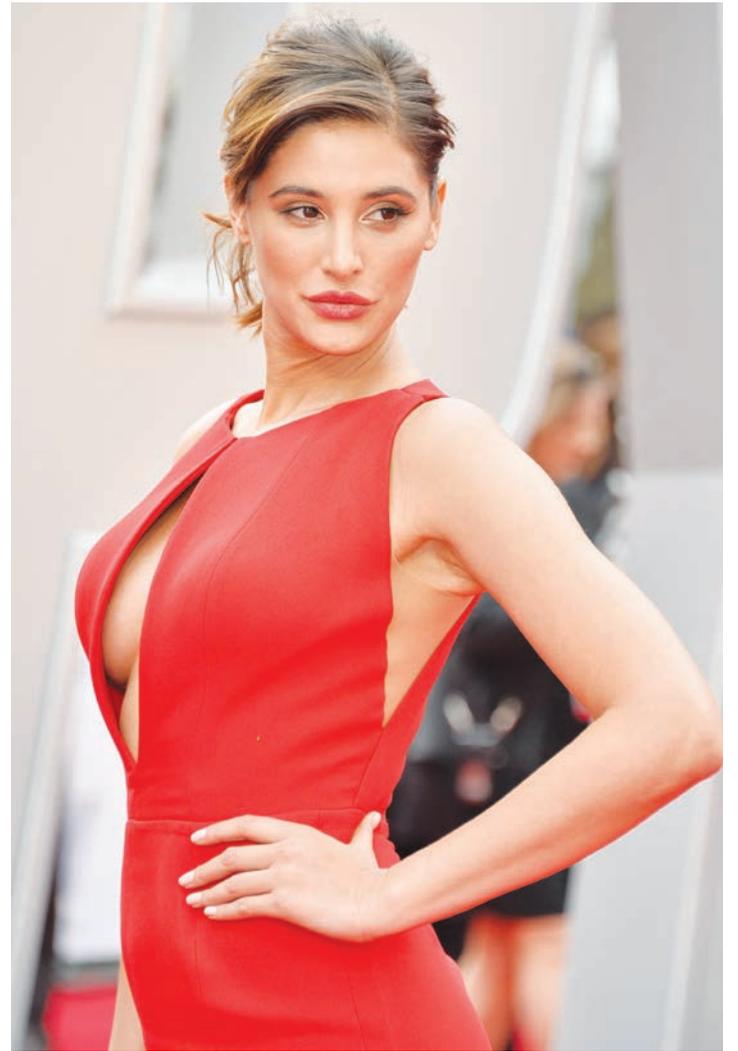
Actor Nargis Fakhri has found love once again. She shared a bunch of new pictures on Instagram on Tuesday, which showed her at a shooting range with her new boyfriend, New York-based chef Justin Santos.

The photos show Nargis at the Thunder Mountain Shooting Range in US, wielding a large rifle and trying her hand at shooting. She is seen wearing a blue denim outfit while Justin is seen in a grey T-shirt and a grey pair of shorts. "When he takes you shooting. Learning to shoot a shot gun with @jsantos1923 That gun was kinda heavy," she captioned her post. The pictures also show Nargis and Justin posing together at the range. Ilena D'Cruz commented on her post, saying, "You twos is so cute!"

Justin also shared pictures from Bash Bish Falls State Park, where he posed against a beautiful waterfall. The pictures were clicked by Nargis.

Nargis broke up with her filmmaker boyfriend Matt Alonzo in January. She even got matching tattoos with him when they were dating. However, she later got it removed. Before Matt, Nargis had also dated Uday Chopra.

Last year, Nargis has impressed everyone with her body transformation. Nargis shared her before-after pictures and captioned her post, "Living life in the public eye can be very difficult sometimes. As much as it is a blessing, it also comes with its downside. Over the last 2 years, I've gained weight. On the left I weighed 178 lbs and on the right, I was 129. I have since lost 20 lbs through making lifestyle changes. If i can do it, so can you. Nurture your mind, body, and soul with positive thoughts and healthy choices. I'm going to bring you on this journey of becoming the best version of myself again, and i want you to join me on this journey too."



Ajay Devgn to Play Villain in Superhero Film?

Ajay Devgn has played an on screen villain in some hit films like Khakhee, Kaal, Company among others and has impressed watchers by embracing his evil side for a character. Now, we hear that Ajay is all set to play an antagonist again in one of his upcoming film with a big production house.

As per a report, Ajay will be playing a supervillain in a superhero movie that will be releasing in cinemas. If in fact this project materialises, it will be interesting to see who will come on board as a hero opposite Ajay. Additionally, it is said that Ajay's role in the film will be more central than the hero's and that is the reason why Ajay said yes to the project.

Meanwhile, Ajay's last theatrical release was Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior. His another film this year, Bhuj: The Pride of India, will be premiering on OTT in the coming months.

Apart from this, Ajay is also featuring as lead hero in Maidaan, a sports biopic and Kaithi remake, which is a thriller. Ajay is also



signed on to play a role in SS Rajamouli's RRR.

As for Ajay's next release Bhuj: The Pride of India, it is set during the Indo-Pak war of 1971 and narrates the story of Indian Air Force pilot Vijay Karnik and 300 women of Madhapar village in Gujarat's Kutch district, who played a crucial role in helping India win the war. Directed by Abhishek Dudhaiya, the film also stars Sonakshi Sinha, Sanjay Dutt, Nora Fatehi and Sharad Kelkar.

Sonali Bendre goes back to work, shares video from shoot day

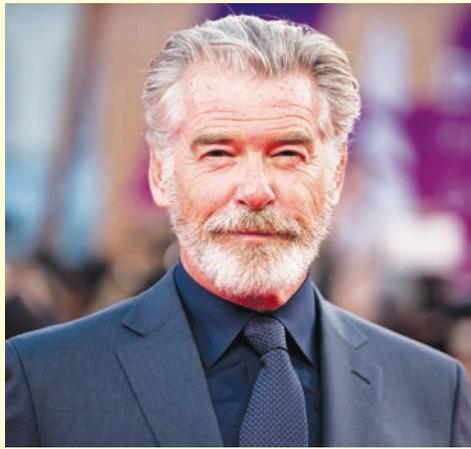
Getting back to work amid the new normal, actor Sonali Bendre on Wednesday shared a glimpse of her shooting day with her fans. "Back to work #ShootDay," she captioned a video posted on Instagram.

The video showcased her journey from home to the sets and how the necessary precautions are being taken care of. In the beginning, the actor is seen sporting a face mask and travelling to the shooting location. Upon reaching the studio's entrance the actor is seen getting herself sanitised. She then goes on to get her body temperature checked, and finally she gets her makeup done by professionals in PPE kits.

The short clip then captures random glimpses from the set as the actor proceeds to shooting. It concluded with a selfie of Bendre with her teammates sporting face masks. More than 38,000 fans watched the video, as the actor got back to work.

Her celebrity friends including Tahira Kashyap, Maheep Kapoor among many others left applause and thumbs of emojis as they wished her good luck on getting back to work.





Pierce Brosnan to star in 'The Last Rifleman'

Actor Pierce Brosnan is all set to star in Terry Loane's next directorial project 'The Last Rifleman'.

According to a report, the forthcoming movie revolves around the story of a World War II veteran living in a care home in Northern Ireland. The story is inspired by World War II veteran Bernard Jordan who, at the age of 89, escaped his care home in East Sussex, boarded a bus to Portsmouth, got on a ferry to France, and made his way to Normandy for the 70th-anniversary commemorations of the D-Day landings in June 2014.

Talking about the flick, the director, Loane said: "With the recent anniversary of the end of WW2, I feel the timing is perfect to tell this story, while an ever-diminishing handful of veterans are still with us to share their lives."

While the writer of the movie, Kevin Fitzpatrick noted: "Bernard Jordan's daring journey caught the nation's attention and highlighted the spirit that epitomised the Second World War generation."

BRAD PITT, NICOLE POTURALSKI ARE SEEING EACH OTHER

Hollywood star Brad Pitt and German model Nicole Poturalski were spotted together at a Kanye West concert in November. As per a source, the two are dating each other and are enjoying a vacation in each other's company.

According to a report, the 56-year-old star Pitt and Poturalski are a couple and it appears that the relationship may go back as far as nine months. Poturalski who goes professionally by Nico Mary, and bears a resemblance to Pitt's ex Angelina Jolie along with Pitt was seen this week boarding a private jet from Paris to the South of France.

A source told the outlet: "They are seeing each other. They're enjoying a vacation together." The 'Once Upon a Time in Hollywood' star arrived from LAX to Paris to meet up with Poturalski, who flew to the City of Light from Berlin.

But photos have surfaced of the duo sitting together in a VIP box at rapper Kanye West's concert at the Hollywood Bowl way back in November.

In the pictures, Pitt certainly seems to be smitten with Poturalski, as the two laughs and appear to be deep in conversation.

As reported by the publication, (Around the same time, there were rumours Pitt was dating Alia Shawkat. The actor joined them at the same concert and was seen at a Los Angeles art show with Pitt. She later revealed they're just friends.)

Previously an obscure model, Poturalski may have been hinting at the relationship for months on social media. She's posted pictures on Instagram referring to her "better half," including one shot of herself solo in Los Angeles with the caption, "Missing my strolls with my Love."



Rihanna admits she 'still loves' her 'true love' Chris Brown

Rihanna will never stop loving Chris Brown. The singer spoke to Oprah Winfrey for the Sept. 2 episode of Oprah's SuperSoul Conversations, and got deep about her relationship with Chris. During the chat, she admitted that Chris is her "true love," and said that she considers him the "love of [her] life."

"We've been working on our friendship again and now we're very, very close friends," Rihanna explained. "We've built a trust again, and that's it. We love each other and we probably always will. That's not anything that we're going to try to change. That's not something you can shut off if you've ever been in love."

However, RiRi confirmed that she and Chris are not seeing each other romantically again. "He's in a relationship of his own," she said (Chris welcomed a son with Ammika Harris in 2019). "I'm single. But we have maintained a very close friendship ever since the restraining order's been dropped. We've just worked on it little by little. It has not been easy."



KOURTNEY KARDASHIAN HILARIOUSLY COMPARES HERSELF TO AN ALIEN

Kourtney Kardashian, 41, was feeling like a whole new person after receiving a glam makeover. So much so, she compared herself to an alien — a completely gorgeous one, that is — thanks to a contour that gave her high cheekbones and smoky eyeshadow that gave liveness up her peepers, courtesy of MUA Wendi Miyake. The Poosh blogger snapped a mirror selfie of her high-fashion beauty look and shared it to Instagram on Sept. 2, writing, "greetings earthlings."

Asides from Kourt's glam looks on Instagram, fans have also been preoccupied with her relationship status concerning Scott Disick. The father of her children Mason, 10, Penelope, 8, and Reign, 5, has reportedly split for good from Sofia Richie — furthermore, Scott and Kourtney were even spotted getting dinner together at Nobu Malibu on Aug. 28.



Arrest warrant against Sharif

LAHORE (TIP): A Pakistani court on Thursday directed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to execute a non-bailable arrest warrant against former prime minister Nawaz Sharif in a 34-year land allotment case, according to media reports.

During the plot allotment hearing, Model Town Police Inspector Bashir Ahmed told Lahore Accountability Court's Judge Asad Ali that Sharif was not at his residence.

Last month, the accountability court had issued a bailable arrest warrant and served summons at all known addresses of the three-time PM. — PTI

Afghan government says mother's name can go on birth certificates

KABUL (TIP): The Afghan government has accepted a proposal to put mothers' names on their children's birth certificates, in a rare win for women's rights activists in the deeply conservative country.

Campaigners have for years pushed for women to be named on official documents, including children's birth certificates, which like Afghan identity documents carry only the name of a person's father, under the hashtag #Whereismyname.

But they have faced opposition in the conservative and patriarchal Muslim country, where some see even using a woman's name as offensive.

A woman's name often does not appear on the invitation to her wedding — only those of her father and husband-to-be or even on her grave.

This week the cabinet's legal affairs committee, headed by Vice President Mohammad Sarwar Danish, agreed to a proposal to change the law and allow the names of both parents.

"The decision to include the mother's name in the ID card is a big step towards gender equality and the realisation of women's rights," Danish's office said in a statement.

The legal amendment still needs approval from the country's male-dominated parliament and must then be signed off by the President.

It was drafted by Naheed Farid, an independent lawmaker who chairs the parliamentary commission on women's affairs, and other MPs to be presented to the house after its summer break ends on September 21.

The move came as the Afghan government prepared for talks with the Taliban following a US peace deal with the militants signed in February.

Many Afghan women worry that deal does not safeguard their rights, and fear that a US troop withdrawal and the re-emergence of the Taliban in Afghan politics could destroy their hard-won gains, from education to freedom of movement.

The Taliban enforced a strict interpretation of Islamic law that included public lashings, flogging and stonings.

Reuters

In historic verdict, Bangladesh Hindu widows to get share of husbands' properties

DHAKA (TIP): In a historic verdict, the Bangladesh High Court has said that Hindu widows are entitled to shares in all properties owned by their late husbands and not just their homesteads.

Previously Hindu widows in the country were only entitled to their spouses' homesteads and not other assets like agricultural land.

However, human rights activists said that Wednesday's verdict was just a little progress and not an achievement.

Advocate and activist, Dipty Sikder told IANS: "This verdict is of course one step forward in the fight for the establishment of equality between men and women. But there's still a long way to go to achieve the goal for equal rights of Hindu women."

"The Hindu leaders have never played a positive role for the Hindu widows of Bangladesh. Only we the human rights activists have been fighting for 50 years first initiated by the country's legendary activist, Begum Sufia Kamal.



"Still we wish them to come with us to achieve Kamal's goal of a Uniform Family Code." Meanwhile, Rana Das Gupta, General Secretary of the Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council hailed the verdict, telling IANS: "We always welcome any positive verdict like this." A single High Court bench of Justice Miftah Uddin Choudhury passed the order on Wednesday after finalizing a case in this regard.

After 83 years (since 1937), Hindu

widows will now get their rights on their husbands' assets.

Barrister Syed Nafiul Islam, one of the lawyers for the plaintiff said: "After this verdict, they (widows) will get a share of agricultural land too." The strictest part of the Hindu law in the country is the distribution of property among girls.

Enacted in 1937, the law deprived women of the right to inherit their husbands' properties.

One Jyotindra Nath Mandal of Khulna filed a case in 1996 seeking a court order to deprive his dead brother's wife (sister-in-law) of their father's assets.

The lower court said that widows had rights only to the area of the houses in which they lived, and not to agricultural property.

Later, the district judge expressed a different opinion, that widows also had rights to agricultural land in the same manner as their husbands.

The matter was then brought to the High Court. IANS

AFGHANISTAN FREES 200 TALIBAN PRISONERS TO PUSH PEACE TALKS

KABUL (TIP): Afghanistan has freed nearly 200 Taliban prisoners to spur long-delayed peace talks, as a team of negotiators readies to fly this week to Qatar's capital, Afghan officials said on Wednesday.

The prisoners formed part of a group of 400 jailed "hardcore" Islamist separatists whose stalled release had appeared set to delay talks between the government and the insurgent group to end nearly two decades of war.

"The Afghan government has released another batch of the remaining Taliban prisoners and the work is still underway to move the prisoner exchange process forward," Sediq Sediqqi, a spokesperson for President Ashraf Ghani, said in a statement.

He did not give the exact number,

however. Two officials said the release from the main jail in the capital Kabul took place on Monday and Tuesday, at the same time that the Taliban freed six Afghan special forces. About 120 prisoners remain to be freed in line with Taliban demands, including six whose release some Western governments, including Australia, have objected to.

"We want to finish the prisoner swap so we could start the peace process as soon as possible," said a senior government official. A source said it could be completed by Wednesday. A government-mandated negotiation team is likely to fly on Thursday to Doha, said Fraidoon Kwazon, the spokesman for Abdullah Abdullah, the head of the High Council for National Reconciliation. — Reuters

Landslides, flash floods kill 30 in northwest Pak

PESHAWAR (TIP): Landslides and flash floods triggered by torrential rains in northwest Pakistan for the last one week have killed 30 people, injured 38 others and damaged over 100 houses, officials said on Thursday.

Heavy rains have wreaked havoc in Swat, Buner, Shangla, Upper Kohistan and Chitral districts of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Closed roads are being opened for traffic in the affected areas and tourists are shifted to the safer places.

Relief goods have been dispatched to the affected districts.

The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) said that 30 people have been killed and 38 others injured in the flooding in the last one week.

Over 100 houses have been damaged due to flooding. PTI

Malaysia to bar long-term pass holders from India, Indonesia, Philippines

KUALA LUMPUR (TIP): Malaysia on Tuesday said it would bar entry of long-term immigration pass holders from India, Indonesia and the Philippines from September 7, in a bid to curtail imported coronavirus cases amid a spate of new clusters in the country.

Health authorities in Southeast Asia's third-largest economy have recorded over 9,300 cases as of Tuesday, and 128 deaths, with new cases found in clusters detected in at least four states.

The entry ban on pass holders from the three countries will include permanent residents, expatriates, students and



those on spouse visas and participants of Malaysia's 'My Second Home' programme, senior minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob said.

"The decision was made on the advice

of the health ministry to clamp down on the spread of imported COVID-19 cases," Ismail Sabri said in a televised news conference.

India is the third most affected country by the pandemic behind the United States and Brazil, with its coronavirus tally reaching nearly 3.7 million on Tuesday.

A total of 7,505 people have died of the coronavirus in Indonesia, the highest in the region, while the Philippines, which has reported over 224,000 cases, has seen a continuous rise in infections. — Reuters

Now the number 1 News Publication for Indian Americans
Opinio's technology helped increase interaction, engagement and monetization for The Indian Panorama



Source - Alexa
* Comparison between web visibilty - NY NJ Newspapers

**BUSINESS GROWTH
THROUGH
DIGITAL MARKETING**

WEB DESIGN

ORGANIC SEO

DIGITAL MARKETING

TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Time Is Money, What's your time Really Worth?

Got questions? We have answers! 
opiniomedia.com  just great, simple tech!

care@opiniomedia.com

Simplify your marketing with Opinio Media™

IT'S NOT WHAT BRANDS SAY, IT'S WHAT PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT MATTERS

INTELLIGENCE FOR TOMORROW

OPINION DEVELOPMENT

DIGITAL EVOLUTION

PLANS STARTING \$49/MONTH

Starter

Premium

Pro

\$49
per month

\$99
per month

\$199
per month

THE SCIENCE OF SOCIAL PR & BRANDING



Let's Talk.

Call us now @ 646-431-4064

OPINIO MEDIA, INC | 124 DEAN STREET, HICKSVILLE, NY 11801

HK media mogul cleared of intimidation charge

HONG KONG (TIP): A Hong Kong court declared media tycoon and pro-democracy activist Jimmy Lai not guilty of criminal intimidation on Thursday, ending one several cases against him after his high-profile arrest last month under a new national security law.

Thursday's verdict was for a case that dates back to 2017 and was unrelated to his arrest. Lai, who is a key critic of Beijing, had used foul language when confronting a reporter from Oriental Daily News, a major competitor to Lai's tabloid Apple Daily. The police, however, only charged him in February this year. The mainland-born media magnate had pleaded not guilty. Dressed in a light grey suit and green shirt, he smiled after the verdict was read out and shook hands with supporters who filled the courtroom. He was arrested for suspected collusion with foreign forces on August 10. — Reuters

Defendants acquitted in slayings of Slovak reporter, fiancée

PEZINOK (SLOVAKIA) (TIP): A panel of judges in Slovakia has acquitted a businessman accused of masterminding the slayings of an investigative journalist and his fiancée.

Judge Ruzena Sabova at the Specialized Criminal Court in Pezinok announced the verdict on Thursday.

The judges cleared the businessman, Marian Kocner, and one co-defendant of murder in the killings of journalist Jan Kuciak and fiancée Martina Kusnirova, both 27.

A third defendant was convicted and sentenced to 25 years in prison for his role in the slayings.

The prosecution can still appeal.

Kuciak was shot in the chest and Kusnirova was shot in the head at their home in the town of Velka Maca, east of Bratislava, on Feb. 21, 2018.

Kuciak had been writing about alleged ties between the Italian mafia and people close to the then-prime minister when he was killed.

Alena Zsuzsova, his alleged accomplice were both acquitted. on Thursday two defendants of murder charges the slayings of an investigative journalist and his fiancée, a crime that shocked the country and led a government to fall.

The state prosecution has requested 25-year prison terms for three defendants, one of them a businessman accused of ordering the killings and two his accomplices.

They all pleaded not guilty to murdering journalist Jan Kuciak, and fiancée Martina Kusnirova, both aged 27.

Judge Ruzena Sabova at the Specialized Criminal Court in Pezinok, which handles Slovakia's most serious cases, announced the verdict on Thursday. —AP

Germany has provided no proof of Navalny poisoning, says Russia

MOSCOW (TIP): Russian President Vladimir Putin's spokesman brushed off allegations Thursday that the Kremlin was involved in poisoning Putin's most determined critic, accusing Germany of not providing Moscow with any evidence about the condition of Russian dissident Alexei Navalny.

Navalny, a politician and corruption investigator, fell ill on a flight to Moscow on August 20 and was taken to a hospital in the Siberian city of Omsk. He has been in an induced coma for more than a week in a Berlin hospital after being flown from Siberia to Germany for treatment more than a week ago.

German authorities said Wednesday that tests showed "proof without doubt" that he had been poisoned with a chemical nerve agent from the Novichok group. British authorities identified the Soviet-era Novichok as the poison used on former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter in England in 2018.

But Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov insisted Thursday that Russian authorities still had not received any evidence from Germany to back up their allegation.

"We haven't received any information so far," Peskov said. "We hope that it will happen soon and will help figure out what caused the condition the patient is in right now."

Peskov reiterated that Russian specialists in Omsk tested Navalny for poisonous substances and didn't find any in his system. He said Russian investigators conducting a preliminary inquiry into Navalny's illness should know "what our German colleagues found and established."

Following his stay in Omsk, Navalny was moved two days later to Berlin's Charite hospital after German Chancellor Angela Merkel personally offered the country's assistance in treating him. He's now in stable condition, but doctors expect a long recovery and haven't ruled out that the 44-year-old Navalny could face long-term effects to his health.



Merkel on Wednesday called Navalny's poisoning an attempted murder that aimed to silence one of Putin's fiercest critics and called for a full investigation.

"There are very serious questions now that only the Russian government can answer, and must answer," Merkel said.

Asked about Peskov's comments on Thursday, Merkel said "naturally I am aware of what is being said now" but refused to comment further.

"I made a comprehensive statement yesterday about what we will do now and in the coming days," she told reporters at the chancellery after meeting with Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven. "And of course a lot depends on the respective reactions by the Russian government. But I don't want to add anything further."

Germany's Justice Ministry has confirmed they have received Russia's request for information, but would not provide details on the response.

Leonid Volkov, Navalny's longtime ally and campaign strategist, told the German RTL broadcaster Thursday that an independent investigation in Russia is unlikely and put the blame in the Kremlin.

"An attack of such level and of such coordination couldn't be not authorized by Mr. Putin," Volkov said.

"I don't know what legal consequences this should be," he said. "But I know for sure what I want to have as an outcome, and this is the political or a moral, ethical consequence: I really want that no foreign leader ever would shake hands with Mr. Putin." Lofven, joining a chorus of other world leaders, called for Russia to investigate and punish those involved.

"We need to respond," he said. "Something happened on an aircraft within Russia, within Russian jurisdiction, so I think it's fair to say the ball is in your corner now to investigate."

Merkel also declined to comment on the growing pressure for her to use a joint German-Russian pipeline project as leverage in getting Russia to provide answers on Navalny.

Germany's opposition Greens party urged her to end to the Nord Stream 2 pipeline project, which would deliver Russian gas directly to Germany under the Baltic when completed, bypassing Ukraine. AP

'Do we have enough soap?' - children ask Norway PM about virus

OSLO (TIP): Prime Minister Erna Solberg told Norwegian children on Thursday she was confident a vaccine against the novel coronavirus will be found and that the disease could become one of the many diseases kids are vaccinated against.

She spoke at her third news conference held specially for children, with adults not allowed to ask questions, since the crisis began. At the first such briefing on March 16, Solberg told children it was "OK" to feel scared about the pandemic.

"I think we'll be able to find a vaccine and that means that corona will continue to exist but because we will be

vaccinated we will not become ill or not so ill from it," Solberg said, adding that, when she was little, she was sick with measles.

"That is a disease that almost all children in Norway are vaccinated against now, but that was a very dangerous disease when I was little ... Now it (the coronavirus) will be like with the measles or rubella."

Other questions asked by children and sent in advance via children's TV programme Supernytt included: "Do we have enough soap?", "Does Norway have any money left after the pandemic?" and "Could we have Antibac that smells

nice?" "It would be nice, wouldn't it, if it smelled like flowers," said Solberg.

"But the most important is that it works ... And sometimes you find Antibac that smell better than others." Norway would have enough supplies of soap to cope with the pandemic, Kjell Ingolf Ropstad, the Minister for Children and Family, told the same news conference.

Schools in Norway reopened from April 27 and resumed as normal after the summer holidays on Aug. 17. Pupils do not need to wear face masks but they must try to keep socially distant during breaks. Reuters

Thousands protest against Bulgarian government, scuffle with police

SOFIA (TIP): Thousands of Bulgarians rallied in front of the parliament in Sofia on Wednesday in one of the biggest protests so far in two months of demonstrations calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Boyko Borissov.

Tensions rose in the late hours after some protesters threw over 100 small bombs and firecrackers at police. Officers brought a water cannon and cordoned off the square in front of the parliament. Some 60 people were arrested, police said.

Protest leaders appealed for a peaceful rally and said provocateurs attacked the police. Earlier on Wednesday scuffles broke out between protesters and police, who fired pepper spray and arrested 35 people.

Protesters threw eggs, apples and garbage. They also shook police vehicles, and about 100 officers were affected by pepper spray aimed at them by protesters, Sofia Police Chief Georgi Hadzhev said. Health officials said some 45 people including police officers, were treated in hospitals.

The rally took place on the first sitting of parliament after summer recess. Protesters called it the "Grand National Uprising" in response to the government's plan for a new constitution.

Protesters accuse three-times premier Borissov and Chief Prosecutor Ivan Geshev of failing to fight the corruption that erodes the rule of law and benefits



powerful tycoons in the European Union's poorest country.

In parliament, President Rumen Radev called for the resignation of Borissov's centre-right government and appealed to deputies to dismiss plans for a new constitution.

"It was not the lack of new constitution that brought the people on the streets, but the lack of morality in the leadership, the erosion of statehood and the corruption," he said. Borissov has pledged to resign if parliament approves his call for the election of a grand national assembly that would vote on a new constitution

that should improve the independence of the judiciary and halve the number of deputies.

Protesters and opposition parties have dismissed the proposal as a ploy aimed at keeping Borissov, 61, in office longer as the vote on whether Bulgaria should have a new constitution may take place in November at the earliest.

The ruling coalition, undaunted by the protests, said it was starting debates for a new main law in the parliament, although for the time being it does not have enough votes to push ahead with its plan. Reuters

Typhoon pummels South Korea with flooding, damaging winds

SEOUL (TIP): A powerful typhoon ripped through South Korea's southern and eastern coasts with tree-snapping winds and flooding rains on Thursday, knocking out power to more than 270,000 homes and leaving at least one person dead.

With winds blowing up to 126 kilometres (78 miles) per hour, Typhoon Maysak was offshore east of the city of Sokcho on Thursday morning and heading toward North Korea, said South Korea's weather agency. It expected Maysak to weaken to a tropical storm within hours.

North Korea's state TV showed widespread flooding in the eastern coastal cities of Wonsan and Tanchon, but the country didn't immediately report any casualties.

Japan's coast guard was searching for a livestock ship carrying 42 crew members that made a distress call off a southern Japanese island in seas roughened by the typhoon.

Rescuers safely plucked one crew member from the sea, but information wasn't immediately available on the reason for the ship's distress.

More than 2,400 South Koreans evacuated their homes due to the



typhoon, which damaged or flooded dozens of homes and vehicles, ripped off signboards and toppled scores of trees, utility poles and lampposts. A woman in the southern city of Busan died after being injured by shattered window glass.

Four nuclear power reactors near Busan automatically shut down because of electricity supply issues, but no leak of radioactive materials was detected, South Korea's Ministry of the Interior and Safety said.

As of Thursday morning, officials have managed to restore electricity to about 199,400 of the 278,600 homes that lost power. The outages were mainly in southern mainland regions, including Busan and the southern resort island of Jeju.

More than 950 domestic flights were cancelled while rail services in some

southern and eastern regions were halted due to safety concerns.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency had said officials were working urgently to minimize damage from Maysak, which was forecast to make landfall in the country's northeastern region in the afternoon.

KCNA said buildings, roads, railways, cropland and drainage systems were examined and fishing boats were moved to safety, while "scrupulous" protective measures were applied to power stations to ensure stable power supply during the storm.

Maysak caused mostly minor damage on the Japanese island of Okinawa on Tuesday and is the second typhoon to hit the Korean Peninsula in as many weeks.

Typhoon Bavi damaged homes, buildings and crops on the peninsula last week but caused no apparent casualties.

Another storm in the Pacific was blowing north and forecast to affect northern Asia by the weekend. Tropical Storm Haishen, with sustained winds of up to 90 kph (56 mph), could gain in ferocity before slamming into Japan's southern islands of Kyushu and Shikoku before reaching the Korean Peninsula on Monday. — AP

Beijing airport receives international flights

BEIJING (TIP): Beijing's main international airport on Thursday began again receiving international flights from a limited number of countries considered at low risk of coronavirus infection.

Passengers flying in from Cambodia, Greece, Denmark, Thailand, Pakistan, Austria, Canada and Sweden, must show a negative nucleic acid test for coronavirus before boarding, city government spokesperson Xu Hejian told reporters.

Passenger arrivals will be limited to roughly 500 per day during an initial trial period and all will need to undergo additional testing for the virus on arrival, followed by two weeks of quarantine.

The first flight under the new arrangement, Air China CA746, arrived from Pnom Penh, Cambodia just before 7:00 am.

Beginning in March, all international flights to Beijing had been redirected to a dozen other cities where passengers were tested and processed before being allowed to travel on to the Chinese capital.

China has gone weeks without new cases of local infection and on Thursday recorded 11 cases brought from outside the country. China has recorded a total of 4,634 deaths from COVID-19 among 85,077 cases since the virus was first detected in the central Chinese city of Wuhan late last year, sparking the global pandemic. — AP

Czech Senate president meets Taiwan leader; China protests

TAIPEI (TIP): The Czech Senate president met with Taiwanese leader Tsai Ing-wen on Thursday morning during a rare trip by a foreign dignitary to the self-ruled democratic island that rival China called an "open provocation".

Tsai presented a medal for Jaroslav Kubera, the recently deceased predecessor of Czech Senate President Milos Vystrcil.

Kubera died in January before making the trip and Vystrcil said China's pressure, including a warning from the Chinese Embassy against congratulating Tsai on her reelection, contributed to his decision to travel to the island.

Tsai called Kubera a "great friend" and gave a nod to Vystrcil's speech on Tuesday, saying his words "I'm a Taiwanese" had touched many hearts.

"Our actions are telling friends in Europe and all over the world, whether Taiwanese or Czechs, we will not succumb to oppression, will bravely speak up, actively participate in international affairs, and contribute our capabilities," she said.

Beijing is furious about the Czech delegation's visit, with the foreign ministry summoning the Czech Republic's ambassador to lodge stern representations and saying the trip amounted to "flagrant support of Taiwan independence." AP

HOW TO CHOP VEGGIES TO MAXIMISE THEIR NUTRITIONAL VALUE

Vegetables provide us with a lot of nutrients. But did you know that the way we chop and peel vegetables impacts their nutrient content? And if you are now wondering whether you have been doing it wrong all this while, here are some expert tips from dietitian Garima Goyal that will help you in the kitchen.

Washing is the first rule

Washing before cutting or peeling is the right way not just for removing dirt and harmful bacteria present on the outer layer of the vegetables but also to retain all the water-soluble vitamins present in them. Washing vegetables after chopping or peeling might result in losing the beneficial water-soluble vitamins.

Don't use a dull knife

Many studies have suggested that vegetables may get damaged if cut with a dull knife. A blunt knife is more likely to cause unwanted damage than a sharp one. The blunt blade of a dull knife makes the vegetable more prone to electrolyte leakage which also includes the oozing out of potassium and calcium from them. This leakage, in turn, results in an increased amount of foul odour production.

Peeling

Peeling the vegetable very closely to the skin and keeping the peeled layer very thin is the best possible way to derive maximum amount of nutrients from it. Interestingly, many studies have also seen an impact of hand peeling of vegetables like carrots with a simple store-bought peeler to the ones that are peeled through a



machine in a factory setting. The harmful bacteria including E.coli and Listeria innocua are less likely to be present on the vegetables that are peeled by hand than the ones which undergo machine peeling process i.e. processed versions of these vegetables.

Chopping method

Dicing the vegetables very finely is not beneficial. It has often been seen that the more finely we tend to chop the vegetables to make them look nice and even, the more damage we are doing to its nutrients. Very finely chopped vegetable is more prone to fast spoilage than those which are roughly chopped. This method of chopping may make the vegetables lose their moisture and natural colour, thereby reducing its nutrient content as well. If you plan on keeping your vegetable handy for use by storing them, opt for cutting or chopping them into larger pieces.



By Tript Arora

CONNOISSEUR'S CHOICE



BABY CORN CIGARS

Baby Corn Cigars are deep fried starters made by blanching them and coating them with a flour coating and deep fried. They are enjoyed by both kids and elders alike. They taste best with mayo based dips and cheesy dips. I enjoy them with tomato ketchup too.

We Need

10 Baby Corns, Oil for deep frying

FOR COATING:

- 2 Tbsp all purpose flour (Maida)
- 2 Tbsp Gram flour (Besan),
- 2 Tbsp Semolina,
- 2 Tbsp Corn flour,
- 1 Tbsp Oregano,
- ½ Tsp. Turmeric Powder,
- 1 Tbsp Kashmiri Red chilli Powder,
- 6-7 Pods of Garlic,
- 2 Green Chillies,
- ½ Tsp Black pepper powder,
- Pinch of Baking soda.
- 1 Tsp Salt or to taste.

Here We Go

- Take half a litre water in a pan. Add 1 Tsp of salt in it. When the water starts boiling add baby corn. Keep boiling them for 3 minutes. Switch off the flame and drain them. Keep aside.
- Grind green chillies and garlic together.
- In a bowl add gram flour, all purpose flour, cornflour and semolina. Add 100 ml of water and prepare a smooth batter of coating consistency. Add green chilli and garlic paste.
- Now add salt, turmeric powder, kashmiri Red Chilli powder, oregano, black pepper powder and Baking soda to the batter. Mix well.
- Heat oil on medium flame. Coat Baby corn with batter and drop one by one in medium hot oil. Fry till golden brown. Serve hot with any dip or sauce.

TIPS

- Don't overboil otherwise they will lose their crispness.
- Batter should be of thick consistency and should not drip while coating



You Can reach me at: www.triptasfoodtunnel.com
Email: triptasfoodtunnel@gmail.com.
Instagram: [@triptasfoodtunnel](https://www.instagram.com/triptasfoodtunnel)

Japanese women swear by Camellia Oil for hair and beauty

Camellia Oil is a lesser-known cold-pressed oil that is known for its non-greasy texture and anti-ageing properties. This oil is known to work well on both the skin and hair contains moisture-retention properties. It also gets absorbed by the skin very easily as it is thin and works wonders on it as it contains Omega-6 fatty acids.

This oil is also known to promote cell regrowth and makes the skin flexible and plump.

Camellia Oil for hair

This creamy and golden coloured ingredient has been the go-to for the Japanese women and is used as a leave-in product in damp hair. A little is known to go a long way for it makes the hair incredibly glossy and manageable.

Some benefits of using this oil on hair include:

- Restores the hair's natural shine
- Repairs breakage and reverses split ends
- Prevents dandruff
- Eases scalp itchiness and dryness

Camellia Oil for skin

This fast-absorbing oil penetrates deep into the skin and



restores its elasticity and boosts moisture. It is light and therefore doesn't block pores and repairs damage to the skin that has been caused by too much exposure to sun, pollution and more.

This oil also helps in getting rid

of blemishes and wrinkles, ensuring the skin looks flawless.

The best way to use this oil on your face is to take a small amount and spread all over your face. Do not rub it, just pat it till it is absorbed by the skin.

'SOUP-AND-SHAKE' DIET PLAN TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO DIABETICS IN THE UK

To tackle the rise of type 2 diabetes, thousands of people will be offered a 'soup-and-shakes' weight loss plan on the UK National Health Service (NHS). While a successful trial of the of the low-calorie diet has already taken place, The Guardian reports that it will now be expanded and rolled out to 5,000 patients.

It is known that type 2 diabetes, which is one of the most common forms of diabetes around the world, is caused when the insulin hormone does not properly regulate glucose in the body. With time, it can also cause other health problems with the eyes and the heart. It is also believed to be linked with the problem of being overweight.

"This is an important first step to ensure that people with type 2 diabetes can access a remission programme within the NHS and benefit from the groundbreaking findings of the Diabetes UK-funded DiRECT research," Bridget Turner, director of policy campaigns and improvement at Diabetes UK, was quoted as saying in The Guardian.

The NHS has said that a whopping 2 million people in England are at risk of developing type 2 diabetes, thereby increasing the additional risk of suffering a heart attack or stroke. As such, the



'soup-and-shakes' weight loss plan can help.

The outlet quoted Professor Jonathan Valabhji, NHS national clinical director for diabetes and obesity as saying: "There has never been a more important time to lose weight and put their type 2 diabetes into remission, so it's good news for thousands of people across the country that practical measures like this are increasingly available on the NHS."

It is being said that the year-long diet plan will try to find out who benefits from "total diet replacement products such as specially-formulated low-calorie shakes and soups" for at least three months, besides supporting to increase their exercise levels.

The trial results had previously shown that almost half of those who had gone on the reduced-calorie diet, had achieved diabetes remission after one year.

Obese people might be at a higher risk of COVID-19 complications, studies find

A troubling connection between two health crises: coronavirus and obesity have been explored in a novel review of COVID-19 studies.

From COVID-19 risk to recovery, the odds are stacked against those with obesity, and a new study led by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill raises concerns about the impact of obesity on the effectiveness of a future COVID-19 vaccine.

Researchers examined the available published literature on individuals infected with the virus and found that those with obesity (BMI over 30) were at a greatly increased risk for hospitalization (113%), more likely to be admitted to the intensive care unit (74%), and had a higher risk of death (48%) from the virus.

A team of researchers at UNC-Chapel Hill's Gillings School of Global Public Health, including lead author Barry Popkin, a professor in the Department of Nutrition and member of the Carolina Population Center, collaborated with senior author



Meera Shekar, a World Bank health and nutrition specialist, on the paper published in Obesity Reviews.

For the paper, researchers reviewed immunological and biomedical data to provide a detailed layout of the mechanisms and pathways that link obesity

with increased risk of COVID-19 as well as an increased likelihood of developing more severe complications from the virus.

Obesity is already associated with numerous underlying risk factors for COVID-19, including hypertension, heart disease type 2 diabetes, and chronic kidney and liver disease.

Metabolic changes caused by obesity - such as insulin resistance and inflammation - making it difficult for individuals with obesity to fight some infections, a trend that can be seen in other infectious diseases, such as influenza and hepatitis.

During times of infection, uncontrolled serum glucose, which is common in individuals with hyperglycemia, can impair immune cell function.

"All of these factors can influence immune cell metabolism, which determines how bodies respond to pathogens, like the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus," says co-author Melinda Beck, professor of nutrition at Gillings School of Global Public Health.



Vitamin C intake is key to better muscle strength in later life

Older people who eat plenty of vitamin C - commonly found in citrus fruits, berries, and vegetables - have the best skeletal muscle mass, according to new research.

Published in the Journal of Nutrition, the study was lead by the University of East Anglia (UEA).

This is important because people tend to lose skeletal muscle mass as they get older - leading to sarcopenia (a condition characterised by loss of skeletal muscle mass and function), frailty, and reduced quality of life.

Lead researcher Prof Ailsa Welch, from UEA's Norwich Medical School said: "As people age, they lose skeletal muscle mass and strength. People over 50 lose up to one per cent of their skeletal muscle mass each year, and this loss is thought to affect more than 50 million people worldwide. It's a big problem because it can lead to frailty and other poor outcomes such as sarcopenia, physical disability, type-2 diabetes, reduced quality of life, and death."

The professor added: "We know that Vitamin C consumption is linked with skeletal muscle mass. It helps defend the cells and tissues that make up the body from potentially harmful free radical substances. Unopposed these free radicals can contribute to the destruction of muscle, thus speeding up age-related decline. But until now, few studies have investigated the importance of Vitamin C intake for older people. We wanted to find out whether people eating more Vitamin C had more muscle mass than other people."

The research team studied data from more than 13,000 people aged between 42-82 years, who are taking part in the EPIC (European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition) Norfolk Study.

They calculated their skeletal muscle mass and analysed their vitamin C intakes from a seven-day food diary. They also examined the amount of vitamin C in their blood.

Dr Richard Hayhoe, also from UEA's Norwich Medical School, said: "We studied a large sample of older Norfolk residents and found that people with the highest amounts of vitamin C in their diet or blood had the greatest estimated skeletal muscle mass, compared to those with the lowest amounts."

PAGE SPONSORED BY

DR. SATISH AND GITANJLI ANAND



DR. SATISH ANAND
Former Chairman, Board of Trustees, AAPI National
E-Mail: sanandmd@gmail.com

GITANJLI ANAND
Former President, India Association of Long Island (IALI)
E-mail: gitanjlianand@gmail.com

Earth may have been wet ever since it formed: Study

Earth's water may have come from materials that were present in the inner solar system at the time the planet formed, suggests a new study.

The findings of this study, published in the journal *Science*, are surprising because the Earth's building blocks are often presumed to be dry. "Our discovery shows that the Earth's building blocks might have significantly contributed to the Earth's water," said lead author Laurette Piani, a researcher at the Centre de Recherches Petrographiques et Geochimiques (CRPG, CNRS/Universite de Lorraine) in Nancy, France.

The researchers determined that a type of meteorite called an enstatite chondrite contains sufficient hydrogen to deliver at least three times the amount of water contained in the Earth's oceans, and probably much more.

NASA selects potential mission to study dynamics of the Sun

NASA has picked five proposals for concept studies of missions to help improve understanding of the dynamics of the Sun and the space environment with which it interacts around Earth.

The information will improve understanding about the universe as well as offer key information to help protect astronauts, satellites and communications signals—such as GPS—in space, the US space agency said. Each of these proposals will receive \$1.25 million to conduct a nine-month mission concept study following which NASA will choose up to two proposals to go forward to launch.

Microsoft rebranding Bing search engine for better visibility

Microsoft is working to rebrand its search engine Bing and the developer community has witnessed visible changes to the service in the recent past.

There's no official announcement to date but Microsoft has either expanded what appears to be A/B testing - where some people see the old Bing brand and logo and some see "Microsoft Bing" - or has completely switched to the new style, according to Paul Thurrott, an award-winning technology journalist and blogger.

The new brand and logo 'Microsoft Bing' appear to have made their way to the Bing homepage too.

It makes sense as Microsoft is a much bigger brand than just Bing. The tech giant has also renamed its Office 365 offering as Microsoft 365.

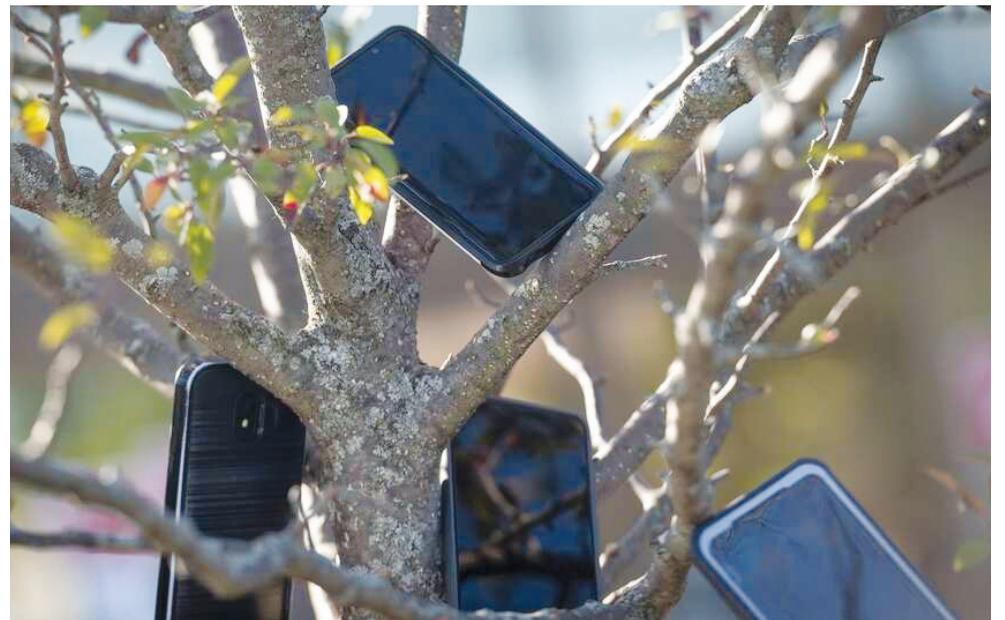
Amazon drivers hanging phones in trees to get more work

A strange phenomenon has emerged near Amazon.com Inc. delivery stations and Whole Foods stores in the Chicago suburbs: smartphones dangling from trees. Contract delivery drivers are putting them there to get a jump on rivals seeking orders, according to people familiar with the matter.

Someone places several devices in a tree located close to the station where deliveries originate. Drivers in on the plot then sync their own phones with the ones in the tree and wait nearby for an order pickup. The reason for the odd placement, according to experts and people with direct knowledge of Amazon's operations, is to take advantage of the handsets' proximity to the station, combined with software that constantly monitors Amazon's dispatch network, to get a split-second jump on competing drivers.

That drivers resort to such extreme methods is emblematic of the ferocious competition for work in a pandemic-ravaged US economy suffering from double-digit unemployment. Much the way milliseconds can mean millions to hedge funds using robot traders, a smartphone perched in a tree can be the key to getting a \$15 delivery route before someone else.

Drivers have been posting photos and videos on social-media chat rooms to try to figure out what technology is being

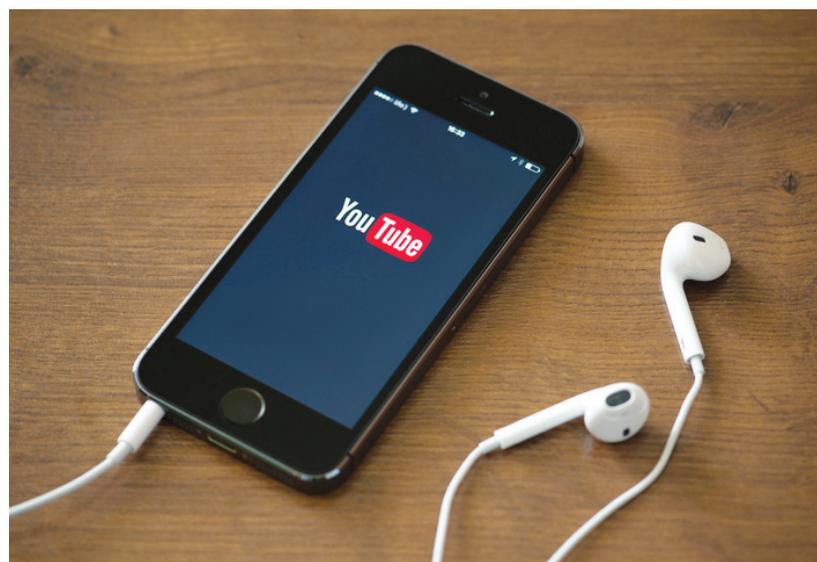


used to receive orders faster than those lacking the advantage. Some have complained to Amazon that unscrupulous drivers have found a way to rig the company's delivery dispatch system. In an internal email seen by Bloomberg, Amazon said it would investigate the matter but would be unable to divulge the outcome of its inquiry to delivery drivers. The company, through a spokeswoman, declined to comment.

Bloomberg reviewed photos and video of smartphones in trees outside Whole Foods and Amazon delivery stations. They show drivers approaching the phones and syncing them with their own devices, then sitting or standing nearby waiting for an alert about a route.

An Uber-like app called Amazon Flex lets drivers make deliveries in their own cars. For many with other jobs, it's a way to earn extra money in their spare time.

YouTube testing 'Picture-in-Picture' mode for its iOS app



Google-owned YouTube has reportedly started testing the 'Picture-in-Picture' (PiP) mode for its iOS application.

According to a report in 9TO5Mac, the mode is available for iPad users since iOS 9 and Apple has also enabled the feature for its iPhone range with iOS 14 update.

YouTube has started testing native support for the Picture-in-Picture mode in its iOS app.

The feature is only working with a few videos at the moment, meaning that YouTube is still testing the feature with a limited number of users.

Once a user has the mode

enabled, it would work just like in any other app that supports it.

One can start playing a video and then close the app to continue watching it in a smaller window.

The video floats over the iOS home screen or any other app the users are using.

YouTube only allows users to playback videos in the background if they subscribe to YouTube Premium, which means PiP may be restricted to paying users.

The service is available in India for Rs 129 per month, while a family subscription that allows up to 5 users will cost you Rs 189 a month.

Apple, Google build virus-tracing tech directly into phones

Apple and Google are trying to get more US states to adopt their phone-based approach for tracing and curbing the spread of the coronavirus by building more of the necessary technology directly into phone software.

That could make it much easier for people to get it on their phone even if their local public health agency hasn't built its own compatible app.

The tech giants on Tuesday launched the second phase of their "exposure notification" system, designed to automatically alert people if they might have been exposed to the coronavirus.

Until now, only a handful of US states have built pandemic apps using the tech companies' framework, which has seen somewhat wider adoption in Europe and other parts of the world.

States must choose whether they want to enable the Apple-Google system. If they do, iPhone users in those states will automatically be able to opt into the system without having to download an app. They'll be prompted with a notification asking if they consent to running the system on their phones.

For people with Android phones, Google will automatically generate an Android app for public health agencies that phone users can then download.

The companies said they expect Maryland, Nevada, Virginia and Washington, DC, to be the first in the US to launch the new version of their tool.

Virginia says nearly half a million residents have downloaded its app since the state in August became the first to launch a customized pandemic app using the Google-Apple framework.

But state officials have said their app doesn't work as well outside Virginia, although they expect a group of coordinating public health agencies to get a national server up and running before long so other states can join in.

LOAN MORATORIUM

SC bars non-NPA accounts from being declared NPAs for 2 months

Amid TikTok sale, another Chinese tech firm sells US operations

As the Donald Trump administration has asked ByteDance to sell operations of its most popular short video platform TikTok in the US, a Chinese hotel management solutions provider has become another victim to sell its business in the country.

Shiji Group, a China-based global hospitality technology provider which has Kempinski hotel as one of its clients, said on Tuesday that its board has approved the decision to sell its 100 per cent controlled US subsidiary StayNTouch to MRC, a US hotel operating company, after a White House administrative order, reports The Global Times.

"Shiji will apparently become another Chinese victim to be forced to sell its US business after ByteDance, TikTok's parent company, amid a trend of US government's crackdown on Chinese technology companies on the ground of 'threatening national security,'" Liu Dingding, a Beijing-based independent Internet analyst, told the Global Times.

According to the Shiji's official website, the company had acquired StayNTouch, a US-based company that provides cloud-based hotel management solutions.

Amazon adds 7,000 more UK jobs

E-commerce giant Amazon is adding 7,000 more permanent jobs in the UK by the end of the year, in the latest sign that demand for online shopping and services is booming amid the pandemic.

The company said Thursday that the jobs will be created at Amazon warehouses, sorting centers and delivery stations across the United Kingdom as well as its corporate offices. That's on top of 3,000 new employees it has already added this year. The extra staff will raise its permanent British workforce to more than 40,000 by the end of 2020.

Retailers and other traditional industries in Britain affected by the coronavirus crisis have been forced to lay off workers, and there are fears unemployment could spike as the government phases out a salary support package.

On the other hand, surging demand for deliveries means e-commerce is a bright spot for hiring.

"This huge expansion announced in the UK by Amazon comes as little surprise, given the massive surge in sales the tech giant has experienced, as the e-commerce sector boomed during the pandemic," said Susannah Streeter, an analyst at financial services firm Hargreaves Lansdown.

More than 50 Amazon sites in the UK will take on the new staff. A new warehouse that opened in May and two more scheduled to open in the autumn will each hire more than 1,000 new workers. The warehouses, in northeast and central England, are outfitted with state-of-the-art robotic technology.

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Supreme Court on Thursday, (Sept 3) ordered that accounts that have not been declared non-performing assets as on August 31 should not be declared so until it finishes hearing the plea related to waiving interest on installments during the period of the loan moratorium scheme, Live Law reported. "Accounts not declared NPA as on August 31 not to be declared NPA for two months," the court directed. It said it will hear the matter again on September 10.

Considering the economic impact of the lockdown imposed to fight the coronavirus crisis, the RBI had on March 27 said that banks would be allowed to grant a moratorium of three months on payment of all installments due between March 1 and May 31. On May 23, it said that banks can extend the moratorium until August 31. However, the RBI had said it would be imprudent to go for a forced waiver of interest, risking the financial viability of the banks it was mandated to regulate and putting the interests of the depositors in jeopardy.

The case was heard by a bench comprising Justices Ashok Bhushan, R Subhash Reddy and MR Shah. Bhushan said in his order that banks should take no action against borrowers that is coercive.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre and the RBI, said that the steps needed to be taken by the



authorities had to take note of three key points: the reduction of immediate pressure of payment of installments, the revival of all possible sectors and the restructuring of stressed assets.

Mehta added that the idea of a loan moratorium was to defer repayment with the aim of easing the financial burden caused by the coronavirus and not to waive-off any interest. "The effort is that those who are affected by Covid and facing distress get the benefit and those who are defaulters are not able to take benefit," he told the top court. The solicitor general added that the coronavirus had a different impact on every sector.

Bhushan told Mehta that the main grievance of the petitioners was that they had not been given the adequate relief amid the coronavirus crisis. "The main grievance of the petitioners is that they have not been given the adequate relief and the National Disaster Management Act

and the Disaster Management Act has not been active to give relief," Bhushan noted.

Mehta told the court that in a circular on August 6, the RBI has detailed a plan on restructuring of loans, which takes care of the concerns raised by the petitioners. He added that an expert committee will come up with sector-specific guidelines on September 6.

On Wednesday, Mehta had argued that a number of banks were dealing with various loans and borrowers, reported The Hindu. The push is to revive the economy and the sectors, he said, adding that most of the Indian economy runs on small enterprises.

"We cannot look at recovering the economy by ignoring the banking sector, so that they do not become financially unstable," Mehta said, according to Live Law. "This is indeed a difficult way forward."

The bench was hearing petitions challenging the interest component of the moratorium circular.

On Wednesday, advocate Rajiv Dutta, appearing for petitioner Gajendra Sharma who had taken a loan from a bank, told the bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan, R Subhash Reddy and MR Shah that the interest on loan would continue to accrue during the moratorium period and would be added to the principal, Bar and Bench reported.

Reliance Industries to acquire Future Group's retail biz for Rs 24,713 crore



MUMBAI (TIP): Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries has announced the acquisition of the retail, wholesale, logistics and warehousing businesses of Kishore Biyani's Future Group for Rs 24,713 crore. The acquisition was done through the company's subsidiary Reliance Retail Ventures.

Reliance Retail will now have access to close to 1,800 outlets of Future Group's Big Bazaar, Easyday, Central, and Foodhall stores, which are spread across 420 cities in India. "Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL), subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd will acquire the retail and wholesale business and the logistics and warehousing business from the Future Group as going concerns on a slump sale basis for lumpsum aggregate consideration of INR 24,713 crore," the company said in a

statement.

The deal will help Reliance Retail accelerate and provide "support to millions of small merchants in increasing their competitiveness and enhance their income during these challenging times," the company added.

The acquisition is being done as part of the scheme in which Future Group is merging certain companies carrying on the aforesaid businesses into Future Enterprises Limited. The transaction had reportedly been in the works for months, according to NDTV. As part of the deal, the retail and wholesale undertaking businesses are being transferred to Reliance Retail and Fashion Lifestyle Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Retail Ventures. Besides this, the logistics and warehousing undertaking is being transferred to RRVL.

At \$2.3 trillion, Apple more valuable than UK's top share index

LONDON (TIP): The market cap of Apple has touched \$2.3 trillion, surpassing the entire value of all the companies in the Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 Index, also called the FTSE 100 which is the UK's top share index.

While Apple's market value is around \$2.3 trillion (1.7 trillion pounds), all the companies in the FTSE 100 have a combined value of 1.5 trillion pounds, reports the BBC.

"Apple shares fell back on Wednesday, but remained ahead of the London index at the close of trading on Wednesday".

Demand for Apple's shares reportedly boosted by the company's decision to divide its shares to make it easier for individuals to invest in the company.

Apple's board of directors had approved a four-for-one stock split, effective from August 31.

Weathering the Covid-19 pandemic, tech giant Apple last month scripted history by becoming the first American firm to hit the \$2 trillion mark by valuation.

Apple stock rose to cross the threshold — \$467.77 per share — that helped it touch the \$2-trillion mark.

The iPhone maker passed the \$1-trillion mark for the first time nearly two years ago.

If Apple were a country, it would be classified as the ninth richest one with such market valuation.



Shree Ganeshaya Namah



**VEDIC ASTROLOGER NASTUR
BEJAN DARUWALLA**

**By Vedic Astrologer
Nastur Bejan Daruwalla
is available for astrological
consultations.**

**He can be reached at
info@bejandaruwalla.com
and on phone**

**+91 8141234275
for astrological
queries**

www.bejandaruwalla.com



Chirag Bejan Daruwalla with his father late Bejan Daruwalla

The Indian Panorama brings you Weekly and Birthday Horoscope from the World's most trusted Vedic Astrologer Nastur Bejan Daruwalla.

Weekly Horoscope September 7 - September 13, 2020

ARIES: Ganesha says you have been able to reflect on your past and identify a pattern of behavior that you know is not good for you. But you are as stubborn as ever and are not willing to change. You let your heart make all your decisions and they could be wrong most of the time, as they will be subjective. Your intuition will also tell you to distance yourself from certain people, projects and preoccupations.

TAURUS: There has been a tremendous change in your outlook. You understand a little more about the power that you have within you. There will be a lot of entertaining in this phase and you will be making many new contacts. You will gain appreciation for your hospitality and charm and wit and be the soul of the party. There will also be some restructuring at work and you will look at many new areas of improvement and progress.

GEMINI: The 3 P's - Promotions, profits and prestige are at the core of this period. You involve yourself with initiatives that empower you to forge ahead. A significant rise in energy levels translates into long, productive hours at work. For those in the media, in particular, brand - building, media planning, and profit maximization become primary concerns.

CANCER: You will think and ponder over what you really want out of life. Most people are not working in areas that they are best suited for, are in the wrong job and hang in there out of compulsions. We can say the same thing about marriage but that's a different issue and we will go into that later. Ask yourself in no uncertain terms what you want in your life today. You deserve to have the best. There is only one life and so don't make too many compromises.

LEO: The level of conviction in your beliefs will be astounding. You have so many unanswered questions, but it doesn't stop you from feeling this way. Your confidence and charisma will soar. You have realized that it is good to have problems and unanswered questions in order to challenge yourself to find solutions. This is also the time for a new love and you may begin to feel an uncontrollable attraction to someone who has recently come into your life.

VIRGO: You are counting the days for some kind of renaissance to happen, not realizing that it has already begun. You can't see yourself changing, but it's apparent by the way people respond to you. It could be a combination of social re-engineering, doing the same things a little differently, or your recent good fortune in the stock market that is fueling this attraction; there could be any number of reasons.

LIBRA: Innovation is the buzz word this period. Technologies outside your industry will force you to learn, to acquire, to adapt, to change. You will be on a learning spree as you incorporate new technologies in your workplace. There will be rapid expansion and you reap the whirlwind. There will be a re-allocation of funds and resources to maintain a sustainable growth rate.

SCORPIO: You are jet-setting, globetrotting and reconnecting with old friends and relatives. It could be that you have been promoted to a position of authority too quickly. You will be hard put to cope with the new assignment but you manage it well in the end. You will learn to develop your people skills and other emotional competencies that come with time and experience.

SAGITTARIUS: By now you have established credibility and a power base. You have been judged by your actions and are finally in a comfort zone. There is applause, money, rewards, felicitations. Live in the now and enjoy every moment. Make the purchases you have always wanted to even if it means spending too much. Life is fleeting and you have done well. So loosen your purse strings.

CAPRICORN: Huge investments and large purchases may become a necessity. You deal with loans and funds, joint - finances and raising capital. You look at scaling up production. You must commit to only as much as you can deliver. Demand is practically impossible to predict if you are introducing a new product. You are worldly and wise enough to realize that you cannot afford to be lackadaisical.

AQUARIUS: You are feeling very entrepreneurial. You will soon be able to place people in key positions so that you can be free from everyday concerns and focus on the development of new businesses. Your family rallies around you and there is greater love and appreciation around the dining table. Expenses will mount and there could be travel for work.

PISCES: Ganesha facilitates both material and higher gains. The focus will be on adding value and building your portfolio of assets. The acquisition of wealth, the infusion of capital, joint accounts, loans, funds, an inheritance or perhaps even a lottery, may be around the corner. There is a strong indication of a sudden unexpected gain this period.

Birthday Horoscope September 7 - September 13, 2020

SEPT 7: Even with your fine taste for luxury and life's material riches, you sense today the value of a more soulful, spiritual identity and the mutual rewards and sensitivities it brings with others.

SEPT 8: It's hard to keep at a regular daily routine with work or health if the emotional landscape is convoluted and requires constant adjustments.

Late afternoon is your best shot for improvements.

SEPT 9: Hidden wealth can show up as needed

funds, spiritual expansion, hope for the future, and optimism that attracts good opportunity and private support. Look for positive within as well.

SEPT 10: If you feel entitled to more than you've got or that you're working harder than incoming rewards, someone may surprise you with a nest of emotional complications to maneuver through.

SEPT 11: Ganesha says there are obstacles to harmonious interactions if someone feels confined

because of another's jealous or possessive streak.

SEPT 12: A great idea serves as the recovery point for money-home affairs. Expect support, growth, approval, and insight into how to grow more profits.

SEPT 13: The best time to get out and about is during the morning - a friendly brunch? That keeps laughs and lively connections going into the afternoon

PITRU PAKSHA: PAYING HOMAGE TO ANCESTORS

THE 16-DAY 'PITRU PAKSHA' STARTED ON SEPTEMBER 2 AND WILL END ON SEPTEMBER 17

Shradh or Pitru Paksha is a period when Hindus remember their ancestors by offering prayers. The 16-day period this year started on September 2 and will end on September 17. 'Shradh' is a way of expressing heartfelt gratitude towards parents who are no more, for having helped them be what they are today. According to scriptures, rituals performed during 'shradh' bring peace to the departed.

'Pitru Paksha' is the period from 'Bhadrapada Purnima' to 'Sarvapitri Amavasya'. 'Pitru Paksha' is considered by Hindus to be inauspicious as the death rites are performed during 'Shradh' or 'Tarpan'. The last day of 'Pitru Paksha' is known as 'Sarvapitri Amavasya'. It is also known as 'Pitru Amavasya' or simply 'Mahalaya'. It is the most significant day of 'Pitru Paksha'.

Shradh 2020: Day and dates

- 1st September: Purnima Shradh
- 2nd September: Pratipada Shradh
- 3rd September: Dwitiya Shradh
- 5th September: Tritiya Shradh
- 6th September: Chaturthi Shradh
- 7th September: Panchami Shradh
- 8th September: Shashthi Shradh
- 9th September: Saptami Shradh
- 10th September: Ashtami Shradh
- 11th September: Navami Shradh
- 12th September: Dashami Shradh
- 13th September: Ekadashi Shradh
- 14th September: Dwadashi Shradh
- 15th September: Trayodashi Shradh
- 16th September: Chaturdashi Shradh
- 17th September: Amavasya Shradh

Dos and Don'ts

- According to the scriptures, do not do any auspicious work in pitru paksha days.
- Do not buy any vehicle or new items during this time.
- Also, do not consume non-vegetarian food at all.
- The person performing Shradh rituals should not cut his nails. He should not have a shave or haircut.
- Don't chew tobacco, smoke cigarette or consume alcohol. Don't indulge in such bad practices. It hampers fruitful result of performing Shradh karma.
- If possible, don't wear slippers in the house for all 16 days.
- It is believed that Pitru comes in your home in any form in the fortnight of Pitru Paksha. Therefore, in this fortnight, no creature should be disrespected. Rather, any creature coming to your door should be given food and be hospitable.
- The person performing the Shradh in the Pitru Paksha should strictly observe Brahmacharya.
- In Pitru Paksha, it is considered forbidden to eat some things, like gram, lentils, cumin, black salt, gourd and cucumber, mustard greens etc. should not be eaten.
- Don't use iron vessels for rituals.



- Instead use gold, silver, copper or bronze vessels to please your ancestors.
- If Shradh Karma is done at a particular place then it gives special fruits. In these places Gaya, Prayag, Badrinath; the ancestors get salvation.
- Those who cannot perform Shradh Karma on these holy pilgrimages for any reason can donate tarpan and bodies to any holy place in their home courtyard.
- But for the tarpan and pind daan, use your plot only. The ancestors do not get the donation given at the door of another or at the door of another person. Black sesame has special significance for the donation of ancestral body.
- Therefore, black mole should be used for Shradh Karma. For this, do not forget to use white sesame.
- Shradh Karma shouldn't be performed during evening, night, dawn or dusk.
- In Pitru Paksh, cows, brahmins, dogs, ants, cats and ravens should eat as much as possible. And all of these should not be recognized as loss.

Things to Remember

Pitru paksha period is considered very inauspicious. So shradh rituals are performed carefully in guidance of knowledgeable pandits or brahmins. Before that you should know these important points.

Which day to perform Shradh?

which is seen as a special place to perform the rite.

Who should perform Shradh?

It is essential that Shradh be performed by the son usually the eldest or male relative of the paternal branch of the family, limited to the preceding three generations. However, on Sarva pitru amavasya or matamaha, the daughter's son can offer Shradh for the maternal side of his family if a male heir is absent in his mother's family.

Pitru Paksha Food

The food offerings made to the ancestors are usually cooked in silver or copper vessels and typically placed on a banana leaf or cups made of dried leaves. The food must include Kheer (a type of sweet rice and milk), lapsior other beans (a sweet porridge made of wheat grains), rice, dal (lentils), the vegetable of spring bean (guar) and a yellow gourd (pumpkin).

Pind Daan - Rites of Shradh

The male who performs the shradh should take a purifying bath beforehand and is expected to wear a dhoti. He wears a ring of darbha grass. Then the ancestors are invoked to reside in the ring. The shradh is usually performed bare-chested, as the position of the sacred thread worn by him needs to be changed multiple times during the ceremony. The shradh involves pind daan, which is an offering to the ancestors of pind (cooked rice and barley flour balls mixed with ghee and black sesame seeds), accompanying the release of water from the hand. It is followed by the worship of Vishnu (in form of the darbha grass, a gold image, or Shaligram stone and Yama. The food offering is then made, cooked especially for the ceremony on the roof. The offering is considered to be accepted if a crow arrives and devours the food; the bird is believed to be a messenger from Yama or the spirit of the ancestors. A cow and a dog are also fed, and Brahmin priests are also offered food. Once the ancestors (crow) and Brahmins have eaten, the family members can begin lunch.

The shradh is performed on the specific lunar day during the Pitru Paksha, when the ancestor usually a parent or paternal grandparent died. There are exceptions to the lunar day rule; special days are allotted for people who died in a particular manner or had a certain status in life.

Importance of Sarvapitri amavasya

Sarva pitru amavasya is the most important day of the Pitru Paksha. It is intended for all ancestors, irrespective of the lunar day they died. Those who have forgotten to perform shradh can do so on this day. A shradh ritual performed on this amavasya is considered as fruitful as one conducted in the holy city of Gaya,

PAGE SPONSORED BY

ARISH K. SAHANI

Serving Since 1972

Please Call or Write for Your Insurance Needs

Arish K Sahani (Father)

Shiv Sahani (Son)

Priya Sahani Sood (Daughter)

718 - 271 - 1906

arish.sahani@gmail.com



"If Hindus don't maintain Hinduism, who shall save it?"

"If India's own children don't cling to their faith, who shall guard it?"

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

M&H Studio
ਮੁਲਤਾਨੀ ਸਟੂਡੀਓ ਬੇਗੋਵਾਲ ਵਾਲੇ

347- 901-6131 Wedding, B.Day, Ring Ceremony, 347-257-1595
Multi Cam Setup,
Live Coverage Jib Crane ,Drone &
All Type of Photo Video Coverage

ਮੁਲਤਾਨੀ ਸਟੂਡੀਓ ਬੇਗੋਵਾਲ ਵਾਲੇ ਅਤੇ
ਗੁਰਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਹੋਠੀ ਨਿਉ ਯੋਰਕ ਵਾਲੇ
ਰਲ ਕੇ ਸੇਵਾ ਦੇ ਰਹੇ ਹਨ

Email:-gur193@yahoo.com Email:-gur293@gmail.com

Indian Visa Center

VISA / OCI PIO / PASSPORT
APPLICATION ASSISTANCE CENTER

349 S. Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801

DEEPAK BANSAL
Email: deepakbansalny@gmail.com
Cell: 516.304.8808 Fax: 516.218.8009

LADOO MATRIMONIAL
ਰਿਸ਼ਤੇ ਹੀ ਰਿਸ਼ਤੇ RISTHE HI RISTHE

We Provide Worldwide Services

Jetander Sapra
212-470-7175, 516-309-0236
ladoomatrimonial@gmail.com
jetandersapra@gmail.com
261-03, Hillside Ave, Floral Park-11004
www.ladoomatrimonial.com

Do you want to succeed in a very rewarding career?

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
IS HIRING
Do you want to capitalize on your ability to produce?
COME CHECK IT OUT!

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

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

Rohan Handa
Executive Partner
New York Life

NEW YORK LIFE

Get to the Point

#1
Indian American Weekly
Since 2006

The INDIAN PANORAMA
EVER TRUTHFUL
A DELIGHTFUL READING EVERY WEEK

Widest Coverage
Your Trusted Partner in Business
The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419, Tel: 646-247-9458
Dallas Edition - P.O. Box 121695, Arlington, TX 76012
www.theindianpanorama.news

WE THANK OUR CUSTOMERS FOR THEIR TRUST & LOYALTY

26 YEARS OF EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE

INDO US EXPRESS, INC
HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK

WORLDWIDE COURIER FREIGHT-FORWARDER
DOMESTIC & LOCAL DELIVERY

CALL US AT: 212-447-5720 or FAX 516-932-3750
ALTERNATE NUMBER: 347-538-7041
OR EMAIL US: INDOUSEXPRESS@GMAIL.COM
www.indousexpress.com

GREAT SERVICE, 7 DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR!
CALL ABOUT OUR SPECIAL RATES
TO INDIA/WORLDWIDE

R & R Dental Lab

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



- We make all kinds of Acrylic, Metal and Flexite Dentures, applying high quality technology by experienced technicians.
- We repair, relines night guards etc.
- We do delivery and pick up. Quick delivery on the same day.
- EMERGENCY new dentures SAME DAY service



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

SONU INSURANCE AGENCY INC.

Insurance, Money Transfer, Tax Preparation

Specializing in:

- Auto ● Home ● Business
- Construction
- Workers Compensation

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



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

CALL TODAY
OPEN 9 AM to 6 PM

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



77 North Broadway Hicksville, NY 11801
127-24 101 Ave. Richmond Hill, NY 11419
(516) 932-3400
www.hprealty1.com

- Residential & Commercial Real Estate
 - Single Family, Multi-family, Investment properties
 - Hotels/Motels, Gas Stations, Restaurants
 - Relocation Assistance - brokers licensed in New York and Indiana
- Insurance Services
 - Home Life and Health
- Mortgages *(provided by affiliate lenders)*
 - New Purchase Refinance
 - Hard Money Loans Business/SBA Loan

**ARE YOU BEHIND ON YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS?
IS THE BANK GIVING YOU A HARD TIME FOR MORTGAGE DEFERRAL OR FORBEARANCE?
STOP FORECLOSURE!
CALL THE EXPERTS AT HP REALTY FOR MORTGAGE RELIEF ASSISTANCE**



Pal Singh Dhillon
Licensed Real Estate Broker
QA Software Engineer, E-Pro Certified
Notary Public
(516) 304-2630



Jeet Dhillon
Licensed Real Estate Broker
New York and Indiana
(516) 830-0352

hprealty1@gmail.com



हिन्दी बोलना, पढ़ना, लिखना सीखिए !!

LEARN SPEAKING, READING, WRITING HINDI



हिन्दी भाषा और भारतीय संस्कृति कार्यक्रम
(युवा हिन्दी संस्थान और हिन्दी संगम प्रतिष्ठान द्वारा प्रस्तुत)

YUVA HINDI SANSTHAN AND HINDI SANGAM FOUNDATION

PRESENT

HINDI LANGUAGE AND INDIAN CULTURE PROGRAM

TWO SEMESTERS-FALL 2020 AND SPRING 2021.

LEARNING THROUGH INTERPRETIVE, INTERPERSONAL, PRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ELIGIBILITY : K-12 (Early Elementary (GR.1-2); Elementary (Gr. 3-5); Middle (Gr. 6-8); and High (Gr. 9-12) School students (Beginners and Intermediate levels).

FALL SEMESTER DATES: SEPTEMBER 20- DECEMBER 6, 2020 EVERY SUNDAY

SPRING SEMESTER DATES : FEBRUARY 7- APRIL 25, 2021 EVERY SUNDAY

TIME : 9.30 AM-11.30 AM ON SUNDAYS WITH 10 MINUTES RECESS 10.20-10.30 AM

ADMISSION FEE : \$250 PER SEMESTER PER PARTICIPANT, PAYABLE BY SEPT 15, 2020 (FALL 2020) AND JANUARY 15, 2021 (SPRING 2021)

TO APPLY, GOTO

<https://bit.ly/YHS-HSFONLINEHINDIPROGRAM2020-21>

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

PROGRAM THEME: STORYTELLING

WHAT IS IN IT FOR ME? IMPROVE PROFICIENCY IN SPEAKING, READING AND WRITING HINDI; LEARN INDIA'S CULTURE, TRADITIONS, HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY; REAL LIFE CONVERSATION

WHY A TWIN SEMESTERS PROGRAM? THE TWIN SEMESTER PROGRAM HELPS CONTINUED HINDI LEARNING; FOREIGN LANGUAGE CREDITS; SEAL OF BILITERACY.

CURRICULUM : BASED ON THE BACKWARD DESIGN PRINCIPLES, ACTFL PROFICIENCY GUIDELINES, STARTALK BEST PRACTICES. THE THEME, 'STORYTELLING', A CONTINUUM IN THE SPRING SEMESTER.

TEACHING TOOLS : ZOOM, GOOGLE CLASSROOM, BOOK CREATOR, IDEABOARDZ.

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED : PRACTICE READING, RECOGNIZING AND WRITING HINDI ALPHABETS

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION FOR
ALL SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

QUESTIONS? EMAIL OR CALL : ASHOK OJHA, PROGRAM DIRECTOR,
yhsbensalem2012@gmail.com; Tel. 732-318-9891

<https://21stcenturyhindi.com>

PAINTING IN JAIPUR, YOGA IN RISHIKESH

Top destinations to pursue new hobbies

Those who love to travel, can only think about new escapades and experiences. This pandemic has forced them to stay at home and cancel their many plans. But, it certainly has not stopped them from dreaming about travelling once more. In fact, it was recently found that people had been flagging places on Google Maps, and among them, the city of Paris in France topped the list of the most-saved place — suggesting that once the pandemic is over and it will be safe to travel again, they would like to visit the cultural bastion in Europe.

In India, meanwhile, people are looking forward to domestic travelling, too. As such, Booking.com — a digital travel company — has revealed the top-endorsed destinations by Indian travellers who want to bring their new hobbies to life. So, it has been found that while Bengaluru, New Delhi and Hyderabad are the top-endorsed destinations for food, Puducherry, Shimla and Rishikesh are among the top three destinations for people who enjoy walking. The cities of Jaipur, Udaipur and Kochi are recommended for art, and Rishikesh, Varkala and Goa are endorsed as best destinations for yoga. Additionally, Indian tourists endorsed Kasol, Manali and Munnar as the most-recommended destinations for hiking, and Jaipur, Ooty and Varanasi for scenic photography.

It is true that in lockdown, people have discovered and developed new hobbies, and Booking.com's endorsement data reveals recommendations on destinations based on popular activities, to curate the top local destinations to bring favourite hobbies to life when it's safe to do so again.

Food in Bengaluru, Karnataka

For anyone looking for a culinary adventure, the city of Bengaluru is making its mark on the food map, offering a range of delicacies including dosas, Bisi Bele Bath and Mysore Pak. Besides Bengaluru, the other endorsed destinations for food include New Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Amritsar.

Walk around Puducherry, Tamil Nadu

For those looking to stretch their legs, the sophisticated coastal town of Puducherry is the ideal escape. Home to many pristine beaches, it is perfect for those looking to gulp in fresh air. Puducherry is one of the top-endorsed destinations by travellers who love walking. With its French Quarter, its tree-lined streets, mustard-coloured villas and chic boutiques, the town is idyllic. Once in Puducherry, you can also embrace spirituality at Sri Aurobindo Ashram,



enjoy South Indian and French cuisine, and learn scuba diving, when it is safe to do so.

A brush with creativity in Jaipur, Rajasthan

Jaipur is a must-visit for artsy travellers. Home to hundreds of art galleries, ancient forts, and famous independent designers, Jaipur is the ideal destination for art lovers. Must-sees include the famous Hawa Mahal, Albert Hall Museum and the Amber Fort. The Pink City will also let you try your hands at the traditional art forms like bandhani,

block printing, stone carving and pottery making.

Yoga at Rishikesh, Uttarakhand

Yoga has been one of the many ways in which people have detoxed their mind in lockdown. They have dreamt of practising asanas in the serenity of Rishikesh. Home to the many yoga ashrams — and also hailed as the birthplace of yoga — Rishikesh attracts many travellers who come in search of peace. With mighty hills surrounding the destination, Rishikesh is the home of Hatha Yoga, Shivananda Yoga, and Vinyasa Yoga. It also has a rich Vedic spiritual history.

Hiking in Kasol, Himachal Pradesh

Travellers who have spent their lockdown doing fitness training and workouts can look forward to putting that training to great use in the Himalayas. Kasol is one of the most recommended destinations on the portal for hiking. Nestled in the Parvati Valley, Kasol is the base point for popular treks like the Kheerganga trek, the Sar Pass trek, Malana, Tosh and Rasol. When it's safe to travel again, this beautiful city of Himachal Pradesh will leave you breathless and definitely test your stamina!





Spain grab 1-1 draw in Germany as internationals resume

Spain defender Gaya scored deep into stoppage time to salvage a 1-1 draw against Germany as the UEFA Nations League started without fans Thursday, Sept 3, ending a 10-month international break. The Valencia defender scored in the sixth minute of injury to time to cancel out Timo Werner's opening goal on his return to his hometown Stuttgart.

With international football returning for the first time since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, all 54 games that are scheduled to take place across the continent over six days are taking place with strict hygiene measures, including the exclusion of fans. Players had to pass mandatory pregame tests for Covid-19.

Werner, who was born in Stuttgart and went on to become the club's youngest scorer, gave Germany the lead in the 51st minute. He finished off a move started by a cross-field ball from Ilkay Gündogan, with debutant Robin Gosens providing the cross.

Barcelona winger Ansu Fati came on for the second half to become Spain's youngest debutant since Ángel Zubieta in 1936. The 17-year-old had an injury-time equalizer ruled out for a foul by Sergio Ramos in the build-up. But there was still time for Rodrigo Moreno to set up Gaya for the equalizer, with the defender converting from close range.

IPL: CSK to start training

Skipper MS Dhoni and all other Chennai Super Kings players, except for the Covid-19 afflicted duo of Deepak Chahar and Ruturaj Gaikwad, will start training from Friday evening after clearing a third round of testing for the virus. The results are a major relief to the franchise, which was hit by 13 positive cases last week. The IPL 2020 is due to start on September 19 and will be played in Dubai, Sharjah and Abu Dhabi.

"The training starts from today. All others, apart from the 13, tested negative for the third time. Those who tested positive will only be tested after the isolation period (two weeks) is over," CSK CEO KS Viswanathan told PTI. Chahar and Gaikwad, along with 11 staff members of the contingent, will be tested twice by the end of next week when their 14-day isolation period gets over. They need to return with two negative tests before being allowed to train. Chahar is a first team starter in this line-up while Gaikwad is being groomed for the top-order in place of veteran Suresh Raina, who quit the tournament citing personal reasons and is unlikely to make a comeback.

Staying with Barcelona not completely ruled out by Messi

Staying with Barcelona may be an option for Lionel Messi after all. A day after the Spanish club reaffirmed its position not to facilitate a transfer, Messi's father-agent did not dismiss the possibility of his son reconsidering his decision to leave. Jorge Messi left the prospect open after being briefly questioned by the Cuatro television channel on Thursday on whether he was considering the possibility of Messi staying for now and leaving for free next year.

The affirmation came a day after there was no agreement in the first meeting between Jorge Messi and Barcelona president Josep Bartomeu. Jorge Messi had said upon arriving in Barcelona on Wednesday that he saw it "difficult" for his son to keep playing for Barcelona.

Lionel Messi last week told Barcelona he was invoking a contract clause that allowed him to leave for free at the end of the season, but the club claimed that the clause had expired in June. Barcelona said it wanted Messi to stay until the end of his contract in June 2021. The contract has a buyout clause of 700 million euros (\$837 million).

Barcelona said it has offered the Argentine a two-year extension that would keep him with the club through the 2022-23 season. It also wanted to meet personally with the player to try to convince him to stay and finish his career with the club where he started playing nearly 20 years ago.

Neither part made concessions in Wednesday's meeting in Barcelona, with Jorge Messi confirming that his son wanted to leave and Barcelona reaffirming that it will not accept his transfer request.

They have not scheduled another round of negotiations, but Barcelona said it still hoped Messi would change his mind about leaving.

Messi has yet to speak publicly since



the 8-2 loss to Bayern Munich in the Champions League quarterfinals, one of the worst in the player's career and in the club's history. The defeat capped a disappointing season for Barcelona, the first without a title since 2007-08.

The 33-year-old Messi had been outspoken against club officials during the season and he hasn't shown up at the club since the squad returned to training

on Monday. He also skipped the required coronavirus tests the team underwent on Sunday. The player's representatives claim the clause allowing him to leave the club for free should still be valid because the season was pushed back by the coronavirus pandemic.

Barcelona is scheduled to begin its season against Villarreal in the Spanish league at the end of the month.

Serena sets up US Open showdown vs Sloane Stephens

NEW YORK (TIP): Yes, Serena Williams won in straight sets again. And yes, she moved into an all-American showdown at the US Open against Sloane Stephens.

Still, this victory did not quite go according to plan.

Her serve only so-so at times, her footwork a bit off, Williams got by and got through Thursday night against an opponent ranked just 117th, beating Margarita Gasparyan 6-2 6-4 and letting out a cry of "Yes!" at the end that reverberated in a nearly empty Arthur Ashe Stadium.

It sounded more like relief than excitement. "The only thing holding me back is that I get frustrated," said Williams, who has won six of her 23 Grand Slam singles titles at Flushing Meadows and was the runner-up the past two years.

"But I'm out here, I'm fighting. It was just a minor setback. If anything, it could help me know what not to do next time."

That'll be Saturday against Stephens, the 2017 US Open champion.

It is their seventh match-up; Williams leads 5-1, including victories in the past four meetings in a row, but they last played at the 2015 French Open. Stephens' lone head-to-head victory came all the way back at the



2013 Australian Open.

Djokovic puts unbeaten run on line on Day 5

Top-seeded Novak Djokovic puts his undefeated record in 2020 on the line in a third-round match on Day 5 against No. 28

Jan-Lennard Struff. It's a rematch: Djokovic beat Struff 6-3 6-1 last week at the Western & Southern Open, part of the 17-time Grand Slam champion's 25-0 start to the season.

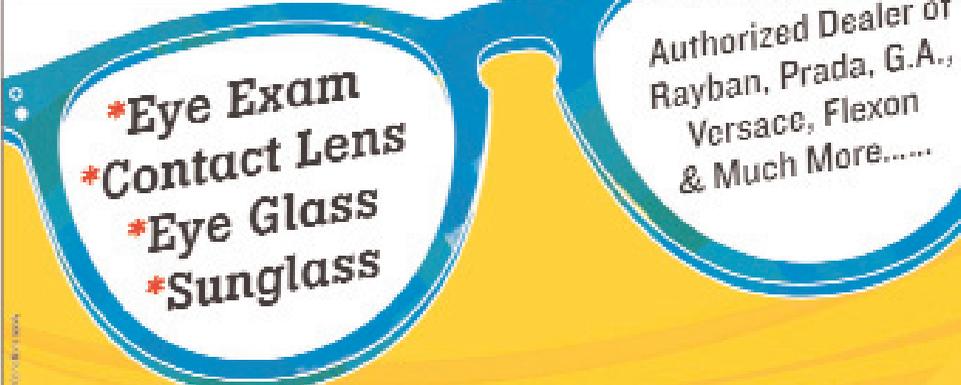
In other men's play on Friday, No. 4 seed Stefanos Tsitsipas faces No. 27 Borna Coric, and No. 5 Alexander Zverev faces No. 32 Adrian Mannarino.

EAST WEST OPTICIANS



***Eye Exam**
***Contact Lens**
***Eye Glass**
***Sunglass**

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



MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED



263-18 Hillside Avenue, Floral Park, N.Y. 11004
Phone: 718-335-6000; 718-533-6664
Phone / fax: 718-457-5988, Phone /Text: 718-514-0025

Order Online: www.eastwestopticians.com
Email: anilguptaus@yahoo.com
Mon to Sat : 12.00 P.M to 7.00 P.M. Sunday with Appt.

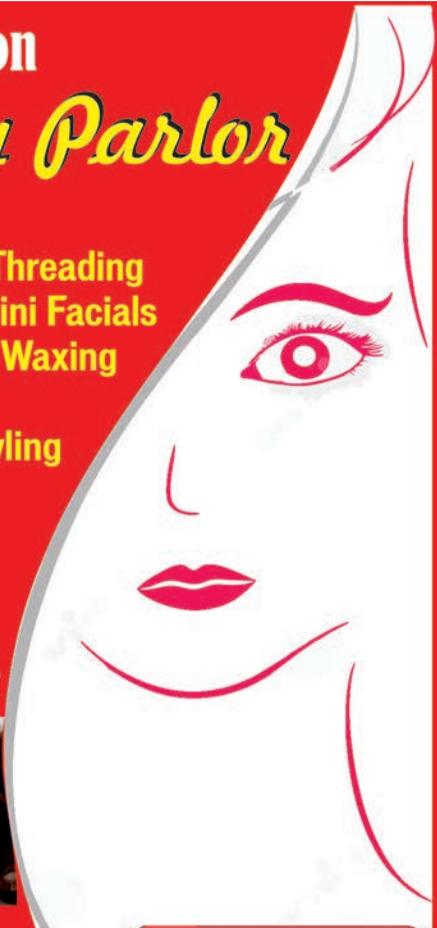
Full Service Unisex Salon

Rita's Beauty Parlor

THREADING SPECIALIST
SPECIALIZING IN :

- Eyebrow Threading
- Ayurveda Herbal Facials • Mini Facials
- Full Body Waxing • Brazilian Waxing
- Bridal Makeup • Mehendi
- Unisex Hair Cuts and Hair Styling
- Fruit Based Color Highlights and Ladies Body Massage

Soothing Relaxing Atmosphere
Quality Services
High on Hygiene & Sanitized Parlor






Open Tuesday to Sunday
10.00 am to 7.30 pm

454 S BROADWAY, HICKSVILLE, NY 11801
516-622-9300 / 347-608-9424

Email: ritabeautyparlor@aol.com
www.ritasbeautyparlor.com

Call now
and say coupon **TIP50FF**
to avail discounts
BOOK ONLINE APPOINTMENT

Dr. Frederick M. Ruffen Audiologist

Restoring your ear power

CELEBRATE THE SOUNDS OF YOUR LIFE





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

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

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

LOCATIONS

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

OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT / WALK INS WELCOME

ATLAS ROLL OFF CORP.

DISPOSAL SITE

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

For construction Debris,
Demolition & Cleanouts



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

Roll Off Container Service

10, 15, 20, 30 & 40 Yards

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

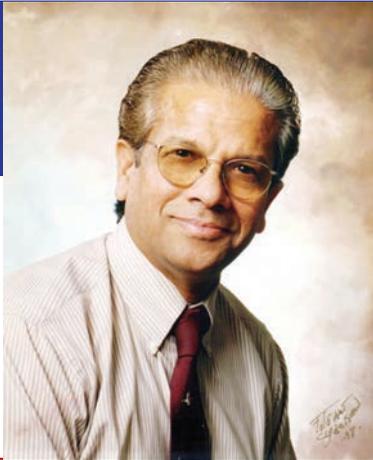
Reasonable low rates ** All major credit cards accepted

718-345-6451

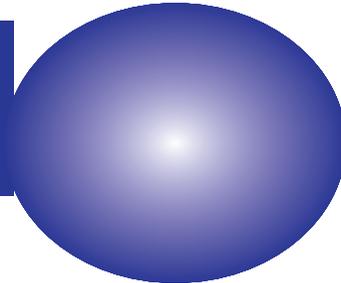


CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE

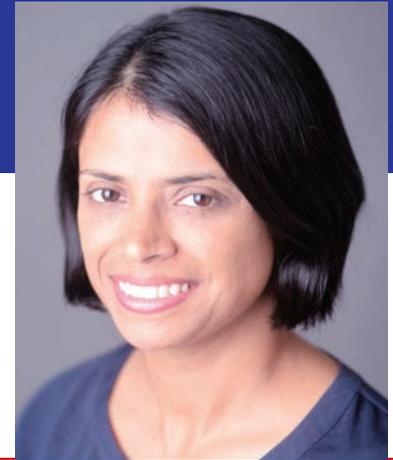
Dr. VK Raju and Dr. Leela Raju of the Eye Foundation of America will be glad to answer any eye related concerns of the readers of The Indian Panorama during this difficult period of Coronavirus onslaught



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



DR. LEELA RAJU IS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AT NYU LANGONE MEDICAL CENTER



They can be reached at
eyefoundationofamerica.org@gmail.com

Get to the
Point



The **INDIAN PANORAMA**

EVER TRUTHFUL

A DELIGHTFUL READING EVERY WEEK

Widest Coverage

Your Trusted Partner in Business

The Indian Panorama

P.O. Box No. 190067, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419, Tel: 646-247-9458
Phone: 646-247-9458 Fax: 347-632-0001 email: editor@theindianpanorama.com

www.theindianpanorama.news