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Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary celebrated across the US



India's Ambassador to the US Taranjit Singh Sandhu pays respects to Father of the Indian Nation Mahatma Gandhi at the Gandhi Memorial in Washington, DC on October 2, 2021
Photo / Jay Mandal-on assignment

I.S. SALUJA

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): The Indian Embassy in Washington organized an event on Saturday, October 2 at the Gandhi Memorial opposite the Embassy where India's Ambassador to the US Taranjit Singh Sandhu paid his respects to the Father of the Indian Nation.

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NOBEL PEACE PRIZE: JOURNALISTS MARIA RESSA AND DMITRY MURATOV SHARE AWARD



Maria Ressa (L) co-founder and CEO of the Philippines-based news website Rappler, and Dmitry Muratov (R) editor-in-Chief of Russia's main opposition newspaper Novaya Gazeta jointly won the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO (TIP): Journalists Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov have won the Nobel Peace Prize for their fights to defend freedom of expression in the Philippines and Russia, according to a BBC report.

The Nobel committee called the pair "representatives of all journalists who stand up for this ideal".

The editors are known for hard-hitting investigations that have angered their countries' rulers, and both have faced significant threats.

They were chosen out of 329 candidates.

ALSO READ PAGE 26 FOR ALL NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS

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Eminent Indian Americans recognized for excellence by GOPIO



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

VIENNA, VA (TIP): Eminent Indian Americans were on Sunday, October 3, recognized for their excellence in community service by Virginia State Chapter of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO).

Dr V K Raju was presented the award for excellence in the field of Medicine, Dr Vikram Raya in Entrepreneurship, Prof. Ram B Gupta in Education, Korak

GOPIO Virginia president Jay Bhandari addressing the gathering.

Seen in the picture from L to R: Mrs. Beyer, Congressman Don Beyer, Congressman Gerald E. Connolly, Ambassador Purmanund Jhugroo

Photo / Jay Mandal - on assignment

Ray in Innovation and Research, Prof. Indrajit S Saluja in Journalism, Nilima Mehra in Media, Vinita Tiwari in Arts and Culture and Jenetha Reddy in Philanthropy and Advocacy.

"Indian Americans have significantly contributed to building strong relationships between India and the United States towards economic, social, educational, and cultural progress of

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

The INDIAN PANORAMA

will bring out a special edition in celebration of Diwali on October 29, 2021. Advertisements and articles may please be emailed to salujaindra@gmail.com by October 20th. For questions on advertising, please call 646-431-4064. For all other questions, please call 646-247-9458 or email to salujaindra@gmail.com



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Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York speaks on Thursday following a cloture vote on a measure to raise the debt ceiling - Screengrab / C-Span

The final vote was 50 to 48, with Democrats unanimously in support and Republicans united in opposition. It goes next to the House, where Democratic leaders were prepared to call lawmakers back for a vote.



TATAS REPOSSESS AIR INDIA WITH INR 18,000 CRORE BID AFTER 70 YEARS

NEW DELHI (TIP): For Air India, it is homecoming after 70 years. Tatas have won the bid to acquire debt-laden state-run Air India offering Rs 18,000 crore for acquiring 100 per cent shareholding, a senior government official said on Friday, October 8-a development that means that the airline has come a full circle and now heads back to its original founders.

An SPV of Tata Sons-the holding company of conglomerate-has emerged as a successful bidder, Tuhin Kanta

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-: COMMENT :-

Will India be another Germany under Hitler?

**PROF. I.S. SALUJA**

India has undergone much change since 2014 when Narendra Modi came in as the Prime Minister of India. The nation is now better known abroad for a mix of reasons. To Modi supporters, India has gained popularity because of Modi's charisma and the great work he has done. To Modi's detractors, India has gained more notoriety than popularity. They cite lynchings of a minority community members, atrocities on minorities, including rape of Dalit women, and frequent violation of human rights.

An objective analysis reveals a terrifying pattern reminiscent of Hitler's times. Hitler spoke of the superiority of German race. One cannot miss the same message coming from the BJP and its supporting Hindu organizations - the RSS, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and many more. The hatred of Hitler's Nazi party for the Jews is comparable with the hatred of the BJP combine mentioned above, for Muslims who have been target of lynchings ever since Modi came to power.

Hindutva group in power is speaking the language of Hitler when it comes to punishing Muslims who they describe as anti-national, unpatriotic and even Pakistanis. Just as Hitler put thousands to death in gas chambers, the Hindutva group wants Muslims to be annihilated.

The process was initiated much before Modi became Prime Minister. He was then Chief Minister of Gujarat. In the now infamous massacre of Muslims in the post-Godhra incidents Modi was

seen as the promoter of violence against Muslims. Several police and civil officers besides the credible community witnesses recorded evidence of involvement of Chief Minister Modi, Home Minister Shah and other BJP and Hindutva leaders in the mayhem.

The disturbing reports reaching the then Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee made him make a statement in the Indian parliament on the grim situation and violence against one community called upon Chief Minister Modi to follow the "Raj Dharm" - the duty of the king to treat all equally and to protect all equally.

The pattern, I said earlier above, is quite clear and disturbing. What is different from Hitler pattern in India is the scope of Hindutva hatred which extends to other minorities, too. Christians are as much a target of hatred and violence, as the Muslims.

Add to the list the Dalits and the hundreds of tribes living a subhuman existence who are not considered Hindus by the Hindutva groups which are dominated and controlled by the Caste Hindus. They are tolerated because they have votes which the BJP is always eager to grab.

What happened to the farmers, mostly Sikhs, in Lakhimpur Kheri was to happen, anyways. The kind of language of hate which has been coming from BJP chief Ministers in UP and Haryana was enough to prepare the BJP/RSS/VHP Hindutva cadres to go into action. It is just a warning shot. As they say, the

teaser. The full drama is yet to come from the BJP. And, it falls to a pattern in much the same way as a calculated military strike against an enemy. Imagine a government which looks upon some of its citizens as enemies and treats them as such!

Any just government would not allow a minister accused of homicide to continue in the government. But it happens in Modi government. Any just administration would not let a man accused of brutal killing of people under a vehicle roam free. But it happens in the Yogi government of UP. The BJP Chief Ministers of UP and Haryana behave like autocrats denying people entry into the State without any valid reason. And, what's more, arresting people at will, again without any valid reason. You talk of human rights. Wait and see, you will find them telling people they have no right to life until specifically granted by them.

It all bodes ill for democracy in India. Let the politicians in opposition to the BJP governments know if they don't see the threat to democracy in India now, they may find it too late in one or two years. I only hope, there are enough people in India who would remember the sacrifices made by thousands upon thousands to achieve freedom from foreign yoke and bring to masses the sweet taste of democracy. And I hope they will value the sacrifices of liberators of India and do all that they can to preserve the liberty of each Indian in a functional democracy.

-: READERS WRITE :-

Tremendous Opportunities for India to Secure Outsourcing Business from the US

BY VEN PARAMESWARAN

Covid-19 created the necessity of getting the work done by employees staying home. The corporations have found out that they can save considerable sums by allowing many employees doing their work from home. As a result, many businesses are trying to get the work done from homes on a permanent basis. This will save in rent and cost of all facilities and infrastructure that they provide in office.

Now that the corporations have concluded that many of its employees can deliver their work from their homes, the question arises whether it matters where the employees are located. Also, these days, video conferencing has become routine.

This provides great opportunities

for countries like India where there is an oversupply of qualified employees.

If India knows how to market, it can expand outsourcing business several times.

In India there are MBAs from top schools such as IIM, Ahmedabad; Kolkata; Hyderabad; Bengaluru etc. The graduates from these can deliver more efficient services than the MBA's who work for American corporations in the USA.

The same applies to engineers, accountants, computer professionals, attorneys, etc.

There is a heavy shortage of certain professionals in the USA, such as engineers, computer professionals, and others.

There is no reason for qualified Indians to remain unemployed or

underemployed.

There is a huge outsourcing opportunity for outsourcing, probably bigger than when Infosys and other companies started outsourcing.

However, this can materialize only if Indian outsourcing companies undertake aggressive marketing.

It is my observation that even now, no one in India has taken pains to advertise the high quality of Indian manpower in engineering, science, management, etc.

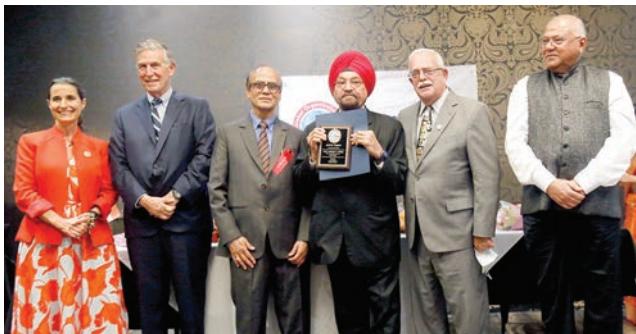
Foreigners recognize the high quality of IIT, not the Indians.

(Ven Parameswaran is former president and CEO of First Asian Securities Corporation, New York City. He is also senior adviser at Imagindia Institute, a think tank in New Delhi. He lives in Scarsdale, New York. He can be reached at vpwaren@gmail.com)

Eminent Indian Americans recognized for excellence by GOPIO



Dr. VK Raju receiving award for Excellence in Medicine
Photo / Jay Mandal - on assignment



Prof. Indrajit S Saluja receiving award for Excellence in Journalism - Photo / Jay Mandal - on assignment



Dr. Vikram Raya receiving award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship - Photo / Jay Mandal - on assignment



Prof. Ram B. Gupta receiving award for Excellence in Education
Photo / Jay Mandal - on assignment



Nilima Mehra receiving award for Excellence in Media
Photo / Jay Mandal - on assignment



A representative of Korak Ray collecting award for Excellence in Innovation and Research -
Photo / Jay Mandal- on assignment



Janetha Reddy receiving award for Excellence in Philosophy and Advocacy - Photo / Jay Mandal - on assignment



Ambassador Purmanund Jhugroo with guests - Photo / Jay Mandal- on assignment



Vinita Tiwari receiving award for Excellence in Arts and Culture
Photo / Jay Mandal - on assignment



A section of the gathering watching with rapt attention a dance performance - Photo / Jay Mandal- on assignment



A scintillating dance performance -
Photo / Jay Mandal- on assignment

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"both these great nations," said GOPIO Virginia president Jay Bhandari.

"Today we are honoring eight brilliant individuals," he said addressing a select gathering in a Virginia suburb of Washington DC.

Congressman Don Beyer who was accompanied by his wife, congratulated the awardees and praised the Indian Americans for their contribution in socio-

economic development of the United States.

"Your work to honor and raise awareness of the important contributions made by people of Indian origin to our nation's economy and their contributions to medicine, science, and the arts, fosters unity and inspires even greater achievements by the Indian Diaspora in the United States," Indian American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi said in a message on the occasion.

Other dignitaries who attended as guest of honor included Congressman Gerald E. Connolly and Ambassador of Mauritius to the US Purmanund Jhugroo.

The packed room of guests appreciated the presentation of classical Indian dances and songs which added color to the graceful formal part of the event.

Indian American astronaut Sirisha Bandla joins Board of Advisers of the Kalpana Chawla Project



Sirisha Bandla has joined board of advisers of the Kalpana Chawla Project for Innovation, Entrepreneurism and Space Studies.

NEW YORK (TIP): As UN celebrates "Women in Space" during World Space Week (Oct. 4-10), Indian American astronaut Sirisha Bandla has joined board of advisers of the Kalpana Chawla Project for Innovation, Entrepreneurism and Space Studies.

The Kalpana Chawla project at the International Space University has been established to honor the Karnal, India, born Dr. Kalpana Chawla, the first woman of Indian descent to go to space, who died in Space Shuttle Columbia disaster in 2003.

The project is focused on developing strong technical and leadership qualities with talented Indian women.

"I am honored to join the Board of Advisors of the The Kalpana Chawla Project. Dr. Kalpana Chawla was not only a great inspiration for me, but also for millions of other young Indian women and girls," stated Bandla in an ISU press release.

"This year's UN World Space Week is particularly relevant because it celebrates the importance of women in space," added Bandla who flew on the Virgin Galactic Unity 22 mission to become the second India-born woman to go to space.

Born in Guntur, India, Bandla moved to the US, where she eventually attended university and graduated with a BS in Aeronautical/Astronautical Engineering from Purdue University, and an MBA from George Washington University.

She's the Vice President of Government Affairs and Research Operations for Virgin Galactic, where she has worked since 2015.

Bandla also announced the graduation of five top scholars from 2021 Space Studies Program (SSP) at the ISU. They are:

RICHAL ABHANG: Richal works as a mechanical engineering student where her task is to design and manufacture prototypes including seismic vibration isolation and dampening systems.

It includes mathematical modelling, CAD, FEA, Manufacturing and Experimentation. She is inclined more towards technical aspects of work and studies. A researcher who enjoys hands-on work and counts physics and fluid mechanics among her favorite subjects.

SUCHESHNA PATIL: An Engineer, Patil has a Masters & Bachelor of Engineering in Biotechnology Degree with experience at reputed Research Institutes as MD Anderson Cancer Center, Methodist Research Institute,

TTU Center for Biotechnology & Genomics with focus on Molecular biology, Stem Cell culture, Cloning, Protein expression, Antibody Validation & Optimization, IHC, and Multiplex IF.

DR. SASWATI DAS: Das is an MD Biochemist from India. As a medical specialist she oversees a broad portfolio of chemical pathology diagnostics, molecular medicine, and quality management.

In addition to her role as a specialist, she has spearheaded Covid-19 response efforts by advocating the development of evidence-informed testing strategy, participating in webinars as a subject matter expert, and capacity building by training laboratory personnel.

She completed her bachelor's in medicine and surgery and her Doctorate in Medicine from the University of Delhi.

Thereafter she trained in Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital, New York USA, and Royal Free Hospital, NHS UK as an international fellow. She has authored many publications on healthcare quality assurance, CAD, biomarkers, and COVID-19.

Her research interests are Cardiac Biochemistry, Prenatal Screening, Neonatal screening, Radiation Biochemistry, Space Medicine, Nutrition Biochemistry, Multi-Omics, and Risk Management.

MONICA EKAL: A PhD student at Instituto Superior Técnico in Lisbon, Portugal, Ekal is researching dynamic uncertainty reduction for on-orbit free-flyer operations. Skilled in robot

estimation, trajectory planning, and control, she has five years of experience in designing algorithms for aerial and space robots, including at EPFL (Lausanne), and MIT (Boston).

Her work has been tested on NASA's Astrobee robotic platform onboard the International Space Station.

DR. GARIMA PATEL: A Senior Physiotherapist with 8+ years of clinical experience in neurological rehabilitation, Patel is the founder director of Movement Inspirant Pvt. Ltd. and currently involved in research related to functional recovery after spinal cord injury and stroke.

Her research interests also include effects of altered gravity on the human body, exercise countermeasures and Women's Health in space. She is an alumnus of AIIPMR and SVNIRTAR (pioneer institutes of physiotherapy in India).

Since 2017, the Dr. KC Scholars has been funding young Indian women of talent to attend the ISU. There has been a total of 16 KC Scholars to date.

The goal is to attract talented Indian women who are postgraduate students with backgrounds in science, medicine, materials, arts, policy, business management, satellite technology, and other space-related areas of focus, who also share Dr. Chawla's selfless and passionate pursuit of education and excellence, ISU said.

Since its founding in 1987, ISU has graduated more than 5200 students from over 110 countries.

Indian-Origin Singapore based Sikh Couple to Release Docuseries on Guru Nanak

SINGAPORE (TIP): An Indian-origin Singaporean Sikh couple will be releasing online a 24-episode docuseries that chronicles the vast expanse of sites that were visited by Guru Nanak during his lifetime.

Amardeep Singh and his wife Vininder Kaur will release the weekly episodes of the docuseries at no cost on the website TheGuruNanak.com, Mr Singh said on Friday, October 8. It will also be available for download.

In the next phase, the docuseries, produced by 'Lost Heritage Productions' and 'SikhLens Productions', will be translated into Punjabi and Hindi.

Over 550 years ago, Guru Nanak travelled across the distant lands of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Tibet, Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka for over two decades on an altruistic pursuit to spread the message of the oneness of creation.

To relate with people of diverse cultures and belief systems, Guru Nanak engaged in philosophical and social dialogue, and through the medium of words and music, he gracefully imparted experiential and spiritual



Amardeep Singh and his wife Vininder Kaur will release the weekly episodes of the docuseries at no cost on the website TheGuruNanak.com

insights, fearlessly challenged the binary constructs of society, and relentlessly opposed gender, religious, racial and class inequalities.

In the 21st century, geopolitical restrictions and cultural mandates impose immense challenges to trace Guru Nanak's extensive travels as approximately 70 per cent of the places he travelled to fall in geographies where filming is difficult.

However, in January 2019, the Mr Singh and Ms Kaur led team embarked on a journey to retrace Guru Nanak's footsteps.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

INDIAN-ORIGIN MAN STEALS THE SHOW IN NEW YORK STREET: HIS VIDEO GOES VIRAL AND GETS 5.6 MILLION VIEWS

NEW YORK (TIP): Little would have this NRI living in the US known that singing a Hindi song on a New York Street would get him so much fame.

Gaurang Rakholia was randomly stopped by popular YouTuber and artiste Reginald Guillaume, and the two agreed to perform "Dilbar mere kab tak mujhe, aise hi tadpaoge", a song by Kishore Kumar. The musical performance has over 5.6 million views and has gone insanely viral.

Guillaume, who goes by the name Guitaro 5000, has been doing his singing on the streets series since 2018. He walks up to random people on the road and asks them to sing alongside him.

Rakholia agreed to his request and sang the song Dilbar mere kab tak mujhe, aise hi tadpaoge.

In the video, we see Guillaume learning the tune in just no time, and after that both of them gave a wonderful performed.

When Gaurang was stooped earlier, he initially, like many others, refused to sing, but he changed his mind and returned. "Oh, he's coming back. How are you doing," Guillaume asked Gaurang.



Gaurang Rakholia was randomly stopped by popular YouTuber and artiste Reginald Guillaume, and the two agreed to perform "Dilbar mere kab tak mujhe, aise hi tadpaoge", a song by Kishore Kumar

Screengrab from video on YouTube

"I only know Hindi (songs)," Gaurang told him, and wondered how the American would sing it with him. Guillaume said "perfect" and assured him that he would take only a few minutes to learn the tunes. Gaurang played the legendary singer's song from the 1982 movie Satte Pe Satta on his mobile phone. Guillaume put on his headphones and listened to the song. A few minutes later, he was ready with his guitar. "I like it already," he said. "Let's do it."

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

Shree Saini is the first Indian American to represent America at Miss World contest

NEW YORK / CHANDIGARH (TIP): Punjab-born Shree Saini will be the first Indo-American to represent America at Miss World contest. She was elected Miss World America 2021 on October 3.

Her maternal grandparents Vijay Luxmi, a retired schoolteacher, and TR Sachdeva, a progressive farmer in Abohar, said "a dream has come true. We are proud of her".

Shree Saini's Miss World America 2021 Crowning Ceremony was held at Los Angeles. She was crowned by Diana Hayden, Miss World 2017, and Tanya Memme, Miss World Canada 2013.

Shree, who is currently Miss World America Washington, also holds the prestigious position of "MWA National Beauty with a Purpose Ambassador", a position she earned by working

tirelessly to help those less fortunate and in need. Her work has been recognized by UNICEF, Doctors without Borders, Susan G Komen, and many others.

The pageant organizers said, "We are certain Shree will continue to immaculately embody 'Beauty with a Purpose', and no doubt will be successful in raising awareness and attention to the Miss World America mission. Stay tuned and follow the Miss World America 2021 journey!"

"We would like to also take this opportunity to give our heartfelt gratitude to Alissa Anderegg for her outstanding role as Miss World America 2020. Alissa has filled her one-year reign with incredible work in raising awareness for Alzheimer's and related dementias," the organizers added.



Shree Saini's Miss World America 2021 Crowning Ceremony was held at Los Angeles. She was crowned by Diana Hayden, Miss World 2017, and Tanya Memme, Miss World Canada 2013.

HOUSTON POST OFFICE NAMED AFTER FALLEN SIKH DEPUTY SHERIFF SANDEEP SINGH DHALIWAL



In recognition of the services of Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal who died in the line of duty, a post office located at Howell Road in Houston has been named after the fallen hero

killed during a traffic stop in northwest Houston, Texas on Sept. 27, 2019.

The family expressed overwhelming emotions as a group of elected officials, law enforcement officers, and Houston community members gathered to honor the fallen hero with a post office naming ceremony.

"We are so grateful and so honored that Sandeep is being memorialized in this way—forever becoming a part of the city that he served faithfully both in and out of uniform," added Pyara Singh.

During his life, Deputy Dhaliwal, who joined the Harris County sheriff's office in 2009, had been a responsible officer and a well-regarded member of Sikh community.

Known for securing a historic, first-of-its-kind accommodation to wear his Sikh articles of faith while serving in uniform in 2015, he was widely regarded for breaking barriers for Sikhs and other religious minorities.

As per a bill introduced by Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher (D-TX); supported by the Sikh Coalition; passed with bipartisan support, including that of Senators Ted Cruz (R-TX) and John Cornyn (R-TX); and signed into law on Dec. 21, 2020, a post office located at Howell Road has been named the Deputy Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal Post Office Building.

"Naming a federal building for Deputy Dhaliwal in his beloved Houston is a deeply meaningful gesture, and we are grateful to Congresswoman Fletcher and the rest of Houston's congressional delegation for their leadership on this effort," said Sim J. Singh Attariwala, Sikh Coalition Senior Policy and Advocacy Manager.

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

SIKH UNANI MEDICINE PRACTITIONER "HAKEEM" SHOT DEAD IN PAKISTAN'S PESHAWAR



Hakeem Sardar Satnam Singh (Khalsa), 45, was shot dead by unidentified gunmen inside his clinic on Thursday, September 30, in Pakistan's northwestern city of Peshawar

PESHAWAR (TIP): A well-known Sikh 'hakeem' (Unani medicine practitioner) was shot dead by unidentified gunmen inside his clinic on Thursday, September 30, in Pakistan's northwestern city of Peshawar, police said.

These were the words of Pyara Singh Dhaliwal, father of late Deputy Sheriff Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal, who was

police said. Singh, who received four bullets, died instantly, they said.

The killers managed to escape from the crime scene.

Police team rushed to the site and encircled the area to nab the culprits. The reason behind the murder was not ascertained yet. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. Singh, a well-known figure in the Sikh community, was running his clinic 'Dharmandar Pharmacy' on Charsadda Road in Peshawar, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. He had been living in the city for the past 20 years. About 15,000 Sikhs live in Peshawar, mostly in the Jogan Shah neighborhood of the provincial capital. Most of the Sikh community members in Peshawar are involved in business, while some also run pharmacies.

The police are investigating the matter from different angles and possibility of terrorism is also being probed.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Mahmood Khan strongly condemned the killing of Singh and directed the police to take immediate steps to arrest the killers.

In 2018, Charanjit Singh, a prominent Sikh community member, was killed by unknown men in Peshawar. Similarly, news channel anchor Ravinder Singh was killed in 2020 in the city. In 2016, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf National Assembly member Soren Singh was killed in Peshawar. According to the 2017 census, Hindus constitute the largest religious minority in Pakistan. Christians make up the second largest religious minority. The Ahmadis, Sikhs and Parsis are also among the notable religious minorities in Pakistan.

INDIAN-ORIGIN MPS FROM CANADA, UK FLAY 'BRUTAL KILLINGS OF FARMERS' IN LAKHIMPUR KHERI



More Punjab-origin MPs from Canada, UK come in support of farmers, flay Lakhimpur Kheri killings.

BRAMPTON, CANADA / LONDON/ NEW YORK (TIP): More Punjab-origin MPs from Canada and UK have condemned the Lakhimpur Kheri violence in UP where eight people, including, four farmers, were killed on Sunday, October 3.

Canadian MP Maninder Sidhu has also tweeted in favor of farmers.

He tweeted "Thinking of the families of those who have been killed and injured during the farmers protest in Lakhimpur Kheri. Many constituents have reached out to express their concerns over this senseless act of violence and the demand for justice. Violence should never be the answer".

Canadian MLA from BC Rachna Singh tweeted: "I am completely devastated by the news of the brutal killings of four farmers in #Lakhimpur_Kheri India. Farmers have a right to peacefully protest for their rights. They deserve respect and not such barbarity. My condolences to the loved ones of those who lost their lives".

Canadian MP Randeep S Sarai tweeted: Horrified that eight people, including four farmers, were killed on Sunday as violence erupted during a #FarmersProtest in #LakhimpurKheri. It is with a heavy heart that I extend my deepest condolences to the victim's families. May those responsible be brought to justice".

Canadian MP Sonia Sidhu tweeted: "I am left heartbroken after seeing images of the brutal attack at the #FarmersProtest in Lakhimpur Kheri. My constituents are expressing deep concern about the attack and the senseless loss of life. I join Bramptonians' calls that those responsible are brought to justice".

UK Punjab MP Tanmanjeet Singh has released a video stating: "Saddened, but also incensed, by deliberate mowing down of peaceful #FarmersProtest activists in #LakhimpurKheri by a convoy of vehicles. Rather than misrepresenting farmers, Indian media needs to treat them fairly and the authorities must deliver justice."

(Read full story at www.theindianpanorama.news)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE CURRAN SIGNS BILL SENDING \$375 TO MOST NASSAU HOUSEHOLDS

I.S. SALUJA

MINEOLA, NY (TIP): In a letter on October 8 to Nassau residents, Nassau County Executive Laura Curran said, "We got it done. After months of delay by the Legislative Majority, this week I was proud to sign into law the Household Assistance Program, which will be providing a direct one-time payment of \$375 to up to 400,000 Nassau County homeowners and renters. Nassau County's finances are in the best shape they have been in decades thanks to fiscal discipline by my Administration. This has allowed us to push funding from the American Rescue Plan back to our residents and businesses. These direct payments will not only help those who continue to struggle, but also provide a meaningful boost to our local economy. I encourage residents to spend this money in our main streets and support local businesses."

Explaining how the money will reach the Nassau homeowners and renters, she said, "Here's how it works: Households currently receiving Enhanced STAR, Disability & Limited Income, and/or Senior property tax exemptions will receive checks by mail automatically and do not need to file an application. All other households must file an application at NassauCountyNY.Gov/HAP in order to receive a HAP check."

The income levels will determine the paperwork. Households making below \$168,900 need only verify income and residency eligibility in their applications with a 2020 tax return. Households making between \$168,900 and \$500,000 will be required to submit an application with documentation verifying income and a negative economic impact from the



Nassau County Executive Laura Curran Signing the Bill Sending \$375 To Most Nassau Households

pandemic, such as unemployment (e.g., receipt of unemployment benefits during 2020), food or housing insecurity (e.g., receipt of social services benefits, missed mortgage payments, utility arrears, eviction notices), unreimbursed medical bills (e.g., behavioral health costs brought on by the pandemic), increased child-care expenses, COVID 19-related death expenses or unreimbursed remote learning/work expenses including increased internet costs.

The County Executive reiterated in her letter the commitment of the County to getting relief checks to eligible residents "in a safe and effective manner".

Those with technology issues or who need in-person support will be able to make an appointment through Nassau County's HAP Call Center beginning Tuesday October 12th by calling 516-571-1555. HAP Support Centers will be located at the Boost Nassau Resource Center, Eisenhower Park; 60 Charles Lindberg Blvd, Uniondale; 40 Main Street, Hempstead; and 1 West Street, Mineola. "Additional community outreach efforts will be initiated in the coming weeks to ensure eligible residents are aware of the program", Laura said.



Join Queens DA Melinda Katz for a webinar on resources and services addressing

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SUFFER IN SILENCE. YOU ARE NOT ALONE. WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Live Zoom program starts at 3:00 PM

Please register at www.queensda.org/upcoming-events/

QDA Panel Speakers

Ken Appelbaum, Acting Bureau Chief
Audra Beerman, Deputy Bureau Chief
Nicolette Caferrri, Deputy Bureau Chief, Domestic Violence, Animal Cruelty Chief
Mary Kate Quinn, Unit Chief
Howard McCallum, Supervisor
Nicole Reid, Assistant District Attorney

Community Partners Speakers

Susan Jacob, Queens Family Justice Center, Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence
Dale Carter, Safe Horizon
Danny Selim, Arab-American Family Support Center
Rachel Levinson, Met Council
Jeehae Fischer, Korean American Family Service Center
Shanikka White, Women's Prison Association



Arab-American Family Support Center



The Indian Panorama and Indian American Forum to host a panel discussion on 'To New India with Love'-A film by Emmy-nominated Tirlok Malik

NEW YORK (TIP) The Indian Panorama and Indian American Forum are hosting a panel discussion on Emmy-nominated Indian -American filmmaker Tirlok Malik's new short film 'To New India with Love,' which examines the subject of youth aspirations, virtually on October 17th, 2021 at 11 AM, New York EST virtually on Zoom.

This short film is a non-commercial venture, produced with a public-service spirit, appealing broadly to Indians worldwide. It is presented by Padma Shri Dr Sudhir Parikh. The screenplay and dialogues are written by Murtaza Ali Khan and Rakesh Zharotia is the film's editor and assistant director.

The panel discussion will be moderated by Prof. Indrajit S. Saluja, Chief Editor, The Indian Panorama and Dr. Renee Mehrra. The panelists include Dr. Sudhir Parikh, Tirlok Malik, Dr. Azad Anand, Bobby K. Kalotee, Dr. Bhupi Patel, Dr. Urmilesh Arya, Shashi Malik, Animesh Goenka.



A still from Tirlok Malik's 'To New India with Love'. Malik (left) likes to work on Indian themes

Tirlok Malik is best known for making films about Indian immigrants in the US, starting with his pioneering work, 'Lonely in America,' which was shown in 74 countries and as well as on HBO and participated in 37 film festivals, winning several awards. He subsequently made films such as 'Love Lust and Marriage,' 'Khushiyaan,' and 'On Golden Years'. He has also acted in films like 'Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar', 'Lajja', 'Vettaiyaadu Vilaiyaadu', 'Ta Ra Rum Pum', 'Sivaji: The Boss', and 'Mehbooba', among others.

GEORGE ABRAHAM, VICE-CHAIR OF IOCUSA, CONDEMNS THE ATTACK ON FARMERS AND DETENTION OF PRIYANKA GANDHI

NEW YORK (TIP): Vice-Chair of IOCUSA George Abraham has condemned the attack on farmers in Lakhimpur-Kheri and detention of Priyanka Gandhi Vadra by the authorities in UP.

"There is a total breakdown of democratic process in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Isn't it strange that the BJP leaders who incited the riots or the son of a union minister who ran the vehicle over the farmers are remaining free-at-large while a political leader who went to investigate and empathize with the victims is in detention? We strongly condemn the attack on farmers and detention of Priyanka Gandhi from visiting and empathizing with the bereaved families. The incident in Lakhimpur Keri in Uttar Pradesh shows that the BJP government's anti-farmer stand has taken an even uglier turn. Holding a peaceful protest is a fundamental right and it cannot be denied," said George Abraham.

A purported video of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra in which he is heard telling farmers that he would discipline them in two minutes appears to have upset the farmers before the violent incident. "Face me, it will take just two minutes to discipline you fellows," the two-time BJP MP from

Kheri is heard purportedly saying on social media.

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar also made a controversial remark recently that encouraged violence while speaking at a farmers' event in the state. He called upon 1000 volunteers from different regions to pick up sticks and fight "furious farmers."

This has become a pattern of BJP governance where various leaders of their party often make highly provocative and reprehensible statements that result in violence and lives lost. It is a shame that the Modi government that raises FIR against innocuous statements by ordinary citizens appears indifferent to eschewing their cadre's own inflammatory comments.

Priyanka Gandhi also tweeted, "the BJP government is doing politics of crushing the farmers and finishing them. Today's incident shows that this government is using politics to mow down farmers. This is the farmer's country."

IOCUSA calls upon the BJP government to reestablish the dialogue with farmers and bring this long-simmering dispute to an end.

(Based on a press release)

Gandhian Society hosts Gandhi Jayanti celebration at the Indian Consulate

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): The Gandhian Society in partnership with the Indian Consulate in NY hosted the Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations in the Indian Consulate on October 2nd to celebrate the Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Late Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. The event was well attended.

The program started with some favorite Bhajans of Mahatma Gandhi (Bapu) by Varsha Joshi Gandhi. The Gandhian Society has been doing a lot of charitable services in India and USA and some of the donors were recognized during the event for their contributions to sending ambulances to tribal and rural areas. Some of the donors who were recognized were Mukund Thakar, Gita Butala, Hasmukh Patel, Asha Samant, Magan Patel, Dalpat Patel, Ravinder Thota, Dr. Prabhu Rachakonda, Bhadra Butala and others.

There was a digital museum presentation of the proposed Mahatma Gandhi Museum by Balaji Jilla who walked thru the various digital museums that were created in partnership with Birla Group and other donors by Birad Yagnik from India, who will also be working on the proposed project in USA.

The consul General Shri Randhir Jaiswal lauded the services of Gandhian Society in taking forward the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi amongst the diaspora and committed his support to the proposed Digital Museum in New Jersey (USA). He said that the values of Mahatma Gandhi are timeless and universal and one should learn from his vision and simple and good life.

The Deputy Consul General Dr. Varun Jeph who recently took over his duties was warmly welcomed by Rajendar Dichpally on behalf of the Gandhian Society. The Deputy Consul General agreed to attend another event by the society on the request of Mahesh Wani to welcome him and honor him and pledged his support to the activities of the



Society. Mr. Vipul Dev (Consular Services - Political Affairs) also attended the event and praised the Gandhian Society for all its humanitarian work.

Hasmukh Patel thanked all the volunteers, donors and attendees

including Dr. Deepak Naran, Sonal Gadhwai, Gunjesh Desai, Shravan Natakala, Shiva Kumar, and others. The event ended with the singing of the national anthem and light refreshments.

(Based on a press release)



It's time for your flu shot. The CDC warns this upcoming flu season could be severe, so it's more important than ever to protect yourself against the flu. The best way to protect yourself and keep you from spreading the flu to others is to get vaccinated.

The CDC recommends getting your flu shot by the end of October to stay protected throughout flu season. And, you can get a flu shot and a COVID-19 vaccine at the same time.

ISSUED IN PUBLIC INTEREST BY
THE INDIAN PANORAMA



WORLD VEGAN VISION CELEBRATES GANDHI JAYANTI

MAYWOOD, NJ (TIP): World Vegan Vision and the Consulate General of India, New York celebrated Languages of India and Gandhi Birth Anniversary on October 1, 2021 at My Home Adult Day care center in Maywood, NJ. More than 160+ people joined the celebration.

Cultural Consul Mr. Vipul Dev represented the consulate of India and Mr. H.K. Shah and Mrs. Malti Shah, founders of world vegan vision, Padmeshree Dr. Sudhir Parikh, Dr. Sudha Parikh and several community leaders including Dr. Mukund Thacker were also present. Mr. Pradip Kabaria graciously made available the venue for this event at his adult day care center.

Dr. Shrenik Shah, president of world



vegan vision NJ spoke about Mahatma Gandhi and his influence in leading a

healthy lifestyle with a vegan diet.

Many other talented speakers highlighted the life of Mahatma Gandhi in Gujarati, Hindi and English. The sponsors and donors of this program Mr. Kenny Desai, Dr. Mukund Thacker and Mr. Nimish Patel were honored by the Consul Culture and presented with recognition plaques for their support and donation. The support from Indo American Seniors Association of Jersey City was also recognized.

Everyone enjoyed a vegan dinner and were entertained by live singers.

The event was planned and coordinated by World Vegan Vision Public Relations Mr. Nitin Vyas and Senior Executive Mr. Vinod Shah.

AS I SEE IT

Indo-US remarks point to joint terror fight



BY GROUP CAPTAIN
MURLI MENON (RETD)

**"WHILE THE US
WOULD HAVE ITS OWN
ANTI-TERROR
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DOES INDIA DO TO
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AGAINST ELEMENTS
INIMICAL TO INDIA'S
INTERESTS."**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to the US had much more to it than meets the eye. In the joint statements of the two nations - both between President Joe Biden and the PM, and the PM and Vice-President Kamala Harris - there appear to be some clear understanding to address contemporary issues, such as the global fight against Covid and vaccination efforts, besides jointly fighting terror groups posing threats to India and the US.

Surely, not coincidentally, has the US State Department's timely Congressional

A US RESEARCH REPORT HAS NAMED FIVE INDIA-CENTRIC TERROR OUTFITS FUNDED BY THE PAK DEEP STATE.

Research Service Report named five India-centric terror outfits out of the 12 Foreign Terror Organizations (FTOs) being sponsored by the Pakistan Deep State. They include the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM), Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), Hizbul Mujahideen (HM), Harkatul-Mujahideen (HUM) and Harkat-ul-Jihad Islami (HUJI). Other FTOs operating in that country such as the Al-Qaeda - in the Indian subcontinent and Islamic State Khorasan Province (IISKP) - are also capable of launching terror operations against Indian interests.

In an address to the United Nations Security Council, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar sought to make an interesting point likening the threats posed by the Covid pandemic and international terrorism. He said: "No one is safe till everyone is safe" - in both cases.

Though not deemed "official", this report is acknowledged to be credible and authored by renowned experts on the matter. The total capitulation of the Afghan National Army at the hands of the Taliban and the Pakistan role in the fiasco has led Secretary of State Antony Blinken to call for an urgent re-evaluation of the US-Pakistan strategic ties. Twenty US Senators are known to have seconded such a reappraisal, reportedly leading to the turmoil in the Pakistani stock markets and the further depreciation of the Pak rupee against the US dollar.

A recent editorial in an American publication has talked of how Pakistan has continuously and systematically manipulated successive Republican and Democratic presidential dispensations, making the US, and indeed the entire world, less safe. It is time, the author says therein, to "pull the plug" on the US's toxic relationship with Pakistan. The Americans are ruing the nearly \$33 billion given as military and counter-terror aid to their erstwhile ally, which includes \$14 billion as anti-terror incentives.

What the Pakistanis have done, of course, is just the opposite by promoting the ilk of Osama bin Laden, the Taliban and the Haqqani group ever since the US invasion of Afghanistan in 2001. Now, the China-Pak nexus covers military hardware, including tanks, aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). And, the CPEC, to the tune of \$60 billion, is clearly tantamount to "sleeping with the enemy" as far as the US is concerned.

After having violated an agreement with the US not to go nuclear in the 1980s, Pakistan's track record in nuclear proliferation via the AQ Khan Network and the nuclearization of rogue nations such as North Korea is legion. It could well go down the same route with the Taliban as its interests only revolve



PM Modi met during his recent visit to the US the US VP Kamala Harris

around desperate economic considerations and not sensible international aspects.

For all this "turncoating", the US is likely to seek action against Pakistan by moving it to the Black List of the Financial Action Task Force as also by coaxing its allies, such as the UK and Saudi Arabia, to deny military aid to that country.

The recent visit of Pakistan's ISI chief to Afghanistan in support of the new Taliban regime was a clear indicator of where its interests lie. Training and exercises between their militaries and between the intelligence agencies of both Pakistan and China are other matters for Indian and American concern. There is no gainsaying the fact that Pakistan has virtually become a client state of China, the full implications of which would play out by and by.

Now, while the US would clearly have its own anti-terror priorities, what does India do to tackle this hydra-headed monster?

Clarity in national interests is paramount to targeting known anti-national elements within and outside the country, employing all means to neutralizing them. Entities such as Dawood Ibrahim and Hafiz Saeed would be high on India's list, no doubt. Any proposed tie-up with the US, should it materialize, must revolve around action against elements inimical to India's interests.

For other terrorist elements within the country and along our borders, an efficient and seamless coordination between Home and Defense Ministries is the order of the day to ensure coordinated targeting by all agencies and state anti-terror squads.

India has traditionally fought shy of employing its national defense air power to target its own citizens, even for anti-terror objectives. The mix of terror groups in the country is a heady cocktail, calling for dedicated national counter-terror efforts. Cyber warfare and UAVs should be optimally employed to get soft kills solution against the terrorists. Hard kills from the air should be opted for only where collateral damage can be avoided and accurate targeting is a given.

The military wings and national intelligence agencies should marshal their resources to deny breathing space to the terrorists, employing technology where called for to prevail over these enemies of the state. An effective counter-terror campaign orchestrated centrally is called for to make Indians feel safe from the scourge of cross-border terrorist attacks.

The newly formed Quad arrangement should also, down the line, include the counter-terror element as some of our neighbors, such as Pakistan, are opting to invest in low-cost terror assets to achieve their strategic goals in the region.

(Author is a defense analyst)

The Congress is at the crossroads

"The strategic shift must involve a reordering of the institutional structures of the party. But very little has been done in the realm of organizational restructuring to broad base the party and revive intra-party democracy. This is partly because the focal point of the leadership of the Gandhis was not and has not been on party building. Doubts about party regeneration in the past had led to a greater reliance on the government and welfare programs for winning support than on reforming the party to mobilize the electorate. The response of the leadership to most fundamental issues was generally governmental rather than political. The lack of organizational heft was a severe limitation hampering its ability to reap the political dividends that could have accrued to the party from the unprecedented welfare spending by the UPA government. Organizational decline has impeded its capacity to engage with mass politics. This remains unchanged even when the party is in opposition."

The judgment by contemporary writers of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's leadership is almost uniformly harsh and unforgiving. It is common to contrast the strength of the formal organization and leadership of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) with the deterioration and decay of the Congress party, especially the central leadership's failure to reverse this downslide. The contrast between the Congress and the BJP is stark, not in terms of decision-making, which is centralized in both cases, but in terms of overall political management.

The Congress party faces three major challenges - it has to elect a leader capable of keeping the party united, reconstruct its organizational structure across the States, and project and propagate a clear alternative ideological narrative to the BJP. These challenges are more apparent after the 2019 debacle in the general election and the leadership vacuum following Mr. Gandhi's resignation as president and the party's abject failure to elect a president to replace him.

Signs of changes

The fallout of Navjot Singh Sidhu's resignation as State Congress chief in Punjab almost 72 days after he was 'undeservingly' appointed to that post has exposed the fault lines in the party. While criticism by the media, the BJP and other Opposition politicians was on predictable lines, the absence of debate and consultation in the party regarding leadership change in Punjab just months ahead of the next Assembly elections (early next year) is a matter of wider concern.

Even though there is no perceptible effort to rebuild the organization and institute formal leadership at various levels, there is a noticeable effort to revive the party through ideological changes pushed by Mr.



A revised ideological line combined with an organizational revamp can bring the party back in the reckoning

Gandhi. Ideologically, he wants to take the Congress in a left-of-center direction. Despite reservations within the party and outside to his unremitting critique of the Prime Minister, Mr. Gandhi has readily advanced ideological criticism of the Hindu right at every juncture. Additionally, he has pointedly attacked cronyism, which according to him has favored a few corporate entities. He has also taken up the welfare and economic concerns of the poor.

The recent decision to induct two feisty critics of Hindutva, Kanhaiya Kumar and Jignesh Mevani, into the party's fold is an indication of this shift. This shift follows from Mr. Gandhi's widely reported statement in July to workers of his party's social media department (in an online event), "There are many people who are not scared, but are outside the Congress. All these people are ours. Bring them in," he had said, adding, "And those scared within our party should be shunted out. They are RSS people and they should go, let them enjoy. We do not want them; they are not needed. We want fearless people. This is our ideology. This is my basic message to you."

The left turn

This is not the first time the Congress has turned leftward. Indira Gandhi through a series of measures after the 1969 split in the party, which later included the nationalization of banks, abolition of privy purses and nationalization of general insurance, dramatically appropriated the left platform. The second left turn happened under Congress president Sonia Gandhi's leadership when the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) which formed the government in 2004 with the support of the Left Front went on to implement the rural employment guarantee scheme and other rights-based legislations. The circumstances that made these ideological shifts possible was the fact that Congress was in power in the Centre and in most States which enabled it to implement these policies. Effectively, the party has relied on the state to promote such policies. The third left turn is taking place under Mr. Gandhi when the Congress is in the Opposition, which makes the task more difficult except in these circumstances.

To regain and reconfigure

The current strategic shift indicates an attempt to regain ideological coherence and reconfigure the traditional social base of the party. Historically, as a party of consensus, the Congress had always come to power on a centrist platform reflecting its varied social base, including, most notably, its support from the lower sections of Indian society. Centrism and consensual politics, which explained its early success, do not seem to work in a divided polity. A party which once famously claimed to represent everyone seems to have lost the support of most groups in India's deeply polarized polity.

The party no longer enjoys Dalit support, competing for their vote with regional parties and the BJP; it has lost the support of upper castes who prefer to vote for the BJP; it has no support from the Other Backward



BY ZOYA HASAN

Classes (OBC) except in some States such as Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh thanks to State leaders; and the Muslim vote has drifted to regional parties or whoever can offer an alternative to the BJP.

The appointment of Charanjit Singh Channi, a Dalit, to replace Captain Amarinder Singh, a Jat Sikh, as Punjab's Chief Minister or supporting OBC Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel over his rival T.S. Singh Deo in Chhattisgarh is an attempt to reconstruct its social base. It signals a message to the non-upper castes that they can hope to wield power through the Congress, which traditionally has had the upper castes dominate its leadership structure.

This demonstrates once again the power of ideology as an instrument of political mobilization. But appointment of people with appropriate credentials is not enough. The Congress has to spell out and narrativize the ideological change such as it is. Ideology and organization, moreover, are interconnected; both need to be taken on board in the party's overhaul. The ideological message needs to be communicated to the people. In the 2019 campaign for the general election, Mr. Gandhi pushed Nyuntam Aay Yojana (NYAY) - a minimum income guarantee scheme - but the party failed to communicate this scheme to the people; eventually it was overtaken by the PM Kisan scheme (or the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi plan, a central scheme to augment the income of the small and marginal farmers) and the Balakot air strikes on targets in Pakistan (2019).

Programs versus reform

In any case, radicalization without institutionalization is not sustainable. The strategic shift must involve a reordering of the institutional structures of the party. But very little has been done in the realm of organizational restructuring to broad base the party and revive intra-party democracy. This is partly because the focal point of the leadership of the Gandhis was not and has not been on party building. Doubts about party regeneration in the past had led to a greater reliance on the government and welfare programs for winning support than on reforming the party to mobilize the electorate. The response of the leadership to most fundamental issues was generally governmental rather than political. The lack of organizational heft was a severe limitation hampering its ability to reap the political dividends that could have accrued to the party from the unprecedented welfare spending by the UPA government. Organizational decline has impeded its capacity to engage with mass politics. This remains unchanged even when the party is in opposition.

The faultlines

Nearly two and a half years after its second consecutive defeat in parliamentary elections, the party still remains without a full-time president. That is the crux of the problem. It does not have a properly constituted Congress Working Committee (CWC) for institutionalized deliberations and decision-making. Even the Core Group formed by Sonia Gandhi in 2004 is invisible as power is concentrated in the Gandhi triumvirate. Rahul Gandhi is calling the shots without holding any formal position. Not surprisingly, many of the decisions taken today seem ad hoc and do not appear to be part of an overall plan on how to move forward. Yet, we cannot write off the Congress which has roots all across the country. The revised ideological line combined with an organizational revamp can bring the Congress back in the reckoning.

(Author is Professor Emerita at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her forthcoming book is titled Ideology and Organization in Indian Politics: Growing Polarization and the Decline of the Congress Party (2009-19))

Is Lakhimpur Kheri a watershed moment for the BJP in UP?



BY GEORGE
ABRAHAM

WHAT WE ARE WITNESSING IS A TOTAL BREAKDOWN OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM IN THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH. THE GOVERNMENT IS YET TO ARREST ASHISH MISHRA, THE SON OF THE UNION MINISTER, ALTHOUGH AN FIR WAS FILED BY POLICE THEMSELVES WHILE THE POLITICAL LEADERS WHO WENT TO EMPATHIZE WITH THE BEREAVING FAMILIES WERE EITHER ARRESTED OR BLOCKED FROM ENTERING LAKHIMPUR. THE U.P. GOVERNMENT DETAINED PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA, A GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ALL-INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE, FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS BEFORE BEING ARRESTED. IT IS INDEED A CLEAR VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF INDIA'S CITIZENS. SECTION 144 OF THE LAW ALLOWS RESTRICTING THE MOVEMENT OF MORE THAN FOUR PEOPLE IF THERE ARE VALID REASONS. HOWEVER, THE ILLEGAL DETENTION AND ARRESTS POINT TO AUTHORITIES WHO LACK ANY RESPECT FOR THE LAWS OF THE LAND OR THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF ITS CITIZENS.



Family members of farmers gather to mourn their death as eight people including farmers were killed in Tikunia, Lakhimpur Kheri. - Photo / Courtesy Deepak Gupta/HT

The heinous and barbaric killings of four farmers protesting peacefully in Lakhimpur have again shown the world the slide towards anarchy and lawlessness in Uttar Pradesh, a state ruled by Yogi Adityanath, a hardcore Hindutva leader as its Chief Minister. The resultant revenge killings are also a blot on a democracy based on rule of law where people should not take the law into their own hands.

As seen in video footage on social media, a speeding jeep accompanying other vehicles runs over the farmers from behind appears to be an intentional act to harm the victims. It is alleged that the son of India's Minister of State for home affairs was involved in this incident, and there are reports of shots being fired during the melee. Angry farmers were then said to have killed the three occupants, BJP workers, of the vehicle that was set ablaze.

What we are witnessing is a total breakdown of the law enforcement mechanism in the State of Uttar Pradesh. The government is yet to arrest Ashish Mishra, the son of the union minister, although an FIR was filed by police themselves while the political leaders who went to empathize with the bereaving families were either arrested or blocked from entering Lakhimpur. The U.P. government detained Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, a General Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee, for more than 24 hours before being arrested. It is indeed a clear violation of the rights of India's citizens. Section 144 of the law allows restricting the movement of more than four people if there are valid reasons. However, the illegal detention and arrests point to authorities who lack any respect for the laws of the land or the constitutional rights of its citizens.

In addition, the union minister of State Ajay Kumar Mishra continues to serve in the ministry at the pleasure of Prime Minister Modi despite his deep involvement with his son in this nefarious scheme to teach the protesting farmers a lesson. A purported video of Union Minister of State for Home in which he is heard telling farmers that he would discipline them in two minutes appears to have upset the farmers before the violent incident. "Face me, it will take just two minutes to discipline you fellows," the two-time BJP MP from Kheri is heard purportedly saying on social media.

Incidentally, Ajay Kumar

Mishra is no stranger to crime. Before he entered State-level electoral politics, Mr. Mishra was in the year 2000 accused of murdering a youth leader of the Samajwadi Party in Tikunia. A local sessions court acquitted him and three others in March 2004 in the murder case of Prabhat Gupta alias Raju.

A criminal appeal filed by Prabhat Gupta's brother Rajeev Gupta is pending before the Allahabad High Court, which had in March 2018 reserved the judgment in the appeal, but since it could not be delivered later that year, Gupta's family prayed for it to be heard again. The last hearing in the case was on February 5, 2019.

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar also made a controversial remark recently that encouraged violence while speaking at a farmers' event in the State. He called upon 1000 volunteers from different regions to pick up sticks and fight "furious farmers." This has become a pattern of BJP governance where various leaders of their party often make highly provocative and reprehensible statements that result in violence and lives lost. It is a shame that the Modi government that raises FIR against innocuous statements by ordinary citizens appears indifferent to eschewing their cadre's own inflammatory comments.

In addition, the internet is cut in the area to prevent people from communicating with each other. Now the government becomes the judge of what the people should listen to. In a democracy, these political leaders are supposed to serve the people. However, they have become the overlords now deciding and deciphering what is in our best interest, what news we should watch, and what messages we should read.

There is no doubt that the Lakhimpur violence marked an escalation in continuing protests of the farm laws that the farmers say would affect their livelihoods. The government shows no urgency in resuming dialogue, although over 600 farmers lost their lives during this ten-month-old protest that some characterized as the longest and biggest in history. It is a shame that a democratic government shows a total disregard to the aspirations of India's farmers, and 85 percent of them are small and marginal.

This ongoing pandemic has been devastating to the Indian economy. However, the country averted mass starvation only because the government's granaries (Food corporation of India) were overloaded, and the poor and downtrodden were the big beneficiaries of the generous food distribution. Now that the collection and storage under the current farm laws will be handed over to a bunch of crony capitalists, a future crisis may bring unintended but inevitable consequences for the people of India.

Throughout history, voices of the people, the poor and the powerless, have been crushed under the wheels of the State, and their protests were being shut down. However, every time, it would only embolden the masses, and for the U.P. government under Yogi Adityanath, Lakhimpur Kheri may be a watershed moment to face an awakened voter in the not-so-distant future.



Ajay Kumar Mishra, member from Kheri Lok Sabha constituency in Uttar Pradesh. Lower court acquitted Mr. Mishra in 2004 but the criminal appeal in a murder case is still pending before the Allahabad High Court.

Photo / loksabhapnic.nic.in/Members

(The author is a former Chief Technology Officer, the United Nations and Vice Chair of Indian Overseas Congress USA. He can be reached at gta777@gmail.com)

Legislator Solages Honors Senior Council woman Dorothy L. Goosby during Celebration of Hempstead Town Hall Plaza Dedication

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (TIP) - Nassau County Legislator Carrié Solages (D - Lawrence) joined residents, advocates, and his colleagues in government to celebrate the dedication of "Senior Councilwoman Dorothy L. Goosby Plaza" at Hempstead Town Hall on Saturday, Oct. 2.

During a ceremony that drew hundreds, including U.S. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer, New York State Attorney General Letitia James; State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli and a

plethora of other state, county and town officials, revelers lauded Senior Councilwoman Goosby's decades of advocacy for voting rights and more equitable representation in Town government.

Her efforts culminated with her election to the Hempstead Town Board in 1999 - the first African American to achieve such a victory - and a court decision which ended at-large voting for Hempstead Town Board seats in favor of the current system of six council districts.

"For more than a decade, Dorothy Goosby battled to open the halls of government in America's largest township to every one of its citizens. When she prevailed, she achieved a transformational victory that reverberates to this day," Legislator Solages said. "It is truly fitting for her legacy to be enshrined at Hempstead Town Hall, where her tenacity, fearlessness and resolve changed the course of history and opened doors for so many who followed in her footsteps."



Solages honors Goosby. From left: Legislator Solages, Senior Councilwoman Dorothy L. Goosby and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer at Hempstead Town Hall on Saturday, Oct. 2.

Photo / Office of Legislator Carrié Solages

Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur and Indian Consulate Celebrate Gandhi Jayanti



Consul General Randhir Kumar Jaiswal addresses the gathering

NEW YORK CITY (TIP): A special program celebrating the unique and revered relationship between Mahatma Gandhi and his spiritual mentor Shrimad Rajchandraji who shaped his freedom achieving ideas and beliefs of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation (India), the revolutionary leader who paved the path for millions with the profound philosophy of non-violence is a name and legacy that every person around the globe recognizes was held on October 2nd 2021 at the Consulate General of India, New York.

The occasion was celebrated in the presence of Consul General Randhir Jaiswal, Padma Shri Dr. Sudhir Parikh, Parliament of World Religions Board chair member Nitin Ajmera, New York District Leader Neeta Jain, and President and Founder of the International Academy for Multicultural Cooperation Audrey Kitigawa,

The celebrations focused on highlighting the relationship between Mahatma Gandhi and his spiritual mentor, Shrimad Rajchandraji, a spiritual revolutionary and poet-philosopher of the 19th Century Honored

as the spiritual guide of Mahatma Gandhi, Shrimad Rajchandraji was a tremendous formative influence on the Father of the Nation, shaping his ideas and guiding his beliefs. He played a pivotal role in the making of the Mahatma, on which basis Gandhiji achieved India's independence and inspired generations. Their legacies continue to offer new paradigms to global peace and human progress.

The special occasion continued with the commemoration of the 125th anniversary of the creation of Shrimad Rajchandraji's magnum opus, 'Atmasiddhi Shastra' - a 142-verse epic spiritual masterpiece. To quench the genuine thirst of a seeker, Shrimadji lays a clear and cogent path of self-discovery by sharing the six spiritual truths in this scripture. It is a brilliant clarification on the diverse perspectives of spirituality, inspiring individuals across backgrounds to realize their greatest potential. Simplifying the essence embedded within every verse of Atmasiddhi Shastra for seekers around the globe, world-renowned spiritual leader and founder of Shrimad Rajchandra Mission

Dharampur, Pujya Gurudevshri Rakeshji has authored a lucid commentary in English on the legendary poetic masterpiece. The book is a step-by-step guide to self-realization that offers a credible and achievable path to self-discovery - surpassing the boundaries of class, religion or age.

In honor of Gandhi's birth anniversary, Honorable Consul General Randhir Jaiswal along with Padma Shri Sudhir Parikh commemorated the special book cover reveal of Pujya Gurudevshri Rakeshji's concise and complete commentary on the Atmasiddhi Shastra. It is a masterclass in spirituality for the modern seeker in the form of a book that is a deeply personal experience. Pujya Gurudevshri Rakeshji's succinct commentary on Atmasiddhi Shastra is a confluence of philosophy and practicality, doctrine and devotion, logic and love, with a scientific approach.

This book will be launched on 21st October and is now available for pre-orders on Amazon and other leading online platforms. Owing to the massive demand from readers worldwide, a dedicated website for the book

www.atmasiddhishastra.com was also launched.

The book has been lauded with advanced reviews and best wishes from revered saints, industry experts, and opinion leaders worldwide.

About Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur: Shrimad Rajchandra Mission

Dharampur is a global spiritual movement founded by Pujya Gurudevshri Rakeshji, for seekers across 108 centers in five continents. Based on the philosophy and principles laid by Shrimad Rajchandraji, the great Indian saint & philosopher, who was also the spiritual mentor of Mahatma Gandhiji, the organization is led by the vision of Realizing One's True Self and Serving Others Selflessly. The organization's social initiative to offer service and bring joy to the lives of the underserved sections of society - Shrimad Rajchandra Love and Care enjoys Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 2020.

(Based on a Press Release)



A view of the gathering

Trump DC hotel incurred more than \$70 million in losses while Trump was president, documents show

WASHINGTON, DC (TIP): Former President Donald Trump racked up more than \$70 million in losses over a four-year period from his Washington, DC, hotel, while publicly claiming that the hotel was making more than tens of millions of dollars, according to documents released by the House Oversight Committee, says CNN.

It's the first time that congressional investigators have reviewed and released details of the former president's financial information. The Manhattan district attorney and New York attorney general investigators have reviewed Trump's financials, but none of that has been made public.

Trump's income from the Trump International Hotel reported in public financial disclosures dating from 2016 to 2020 totaled more than \$156 million, the committee said Friday.

But in that four-year period, Trump's DC hotel actually suffered a net loss of more than \$70 million while he was president and had to be loaned more than \$27 million from one of Trump's holding companies, DJT Holdings LLC, from 2017 to 2020, according to hotel financial statements the committee obtained.

More than \$24 million was not repaid and was instead converted to capital contributions, the committee said.

The documents include details that Congress chased for years during Trump's presidency, specifically information about foreign payments to Trump businesses, over which House Democrats unsuccessfully sued for under the emoluments clause of the Constitution. The emoluments clause, an anti-corruption provision written by the nation's founders,



Trump International Hotel, Washington, DC

said Congress should be able to approve any gifts to officeholders from foreign governments. But despite the House's years-long interest in an autopsy of Trump's finances, congressional approval of foreign payments to the Trump Organization took in never happened.

The committee also claimed that General Services Administration documents showed that Trump received "undisclosed preferential treatment" from Deutsche Bank on a \$170 million construction loan.

The terms of the loan required the Trump Hotel to start repayments on the principal in 2018, but the terms were revised that year to allow the Trump Hotel to defer those payments by six years.

In July, the GSA turned over documents that included Trump Hotel's audited financial statements from 2014 through 2020 prepared by Weiser Mazars LLC, Trump's accounting firm and three years' worth

of Trump's statements of financial condition compiled by Mazars.

Various House committees have also been pursuing Trump's tax returns and other financial documents from Mazars USA and Deutsche Bank for years, unsuccessfully.

The documents released Friday raise "troubling questions" about the lease with the General Services Administration and the "agency's ability to manage the former President's conflicts of interest during his term in office when he was effectively on both sides of the contract, as landlord and tenant," the Oversight Committee's Democratic chair Carolyn Maloney wrote in a letter Friday to the GSA.

The committee is also requesting that the GSA produce more documents by the end of two weeks.

The GSA, which manages federal buildings and land, awarded the lease for the Old Post Office building in 2012. Trump opened the hotel in 2016, when he was the Republican nominee for President.

Since then, the Oversight Committee has been investigating conflicts of interest regarding GSA's management of the Trump hotel lease.

When he took office, Trump resigned from his companies but transferred his assets to a trust run by his sons, allowing him to still benefit financially from the DC hotel and his other businesses.

In 2019, the inspector general of the GSA said the agency "ignored the Constitution" when deciding to maintain the lease of the building to the hotel after Trump was elected to the White House.

Homage to Father of Non-violence on his 152nd birth anniversary



Consul General, Mr. Amit Kumar, Mrs. Surabhi Kumar, Dr. Santosh Kumar and Mayor of Skokie George Van Dusen



Dr. Sonty, Awilda, Gonzalez, Bharti Desai, Mrs. Surabhi Kumar, Consul General Amit Kumar, Dr. Santosh Kumar, Mayor of Skokie George Van Dusen, Dipti, Shree



Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations 2021

CHICAGO (TIP): Consulate of India, Chicago collaborated with The Gandhi Memorial Foundation, Chicago to celebrate the auspicious day of Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary on October 2nd, 2021, at Heritage Park in Skokie.

The Consul General of India at Chicago Mr. Amit Kumar and Mrs. Surabhi Kumar graciously joined Dr. Santosh Kumar-President of Gandhi Memorial Foundation of Chicago, Dr. Sriram Sonty-Vice President, Dr. Vijay G. Prabhakar - Vice-President, Mr. Suresh Bodiwala - Trustee, Dipti Shah-Treasurer, Awilda Gonzalez-Director-At-Large, Bharti Desai-Director-At-Large and Shree Gurusamy - Secretary.

The event commenced with Consul General Amit Kumar who addressed the guests. He highlighted India's freedom struggle and the significant role played by Mahatma Gandhi, who walked the path and preached non-violence throughout his life. He highlighted "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav", which is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of India's progress and the glorious history of its

people, culture, and achievements. Consul General praised the Gandhi Memorial Foundation of Chicago Team of Board Members, Metropolitan Asian Family Services (MAFS) staff and Consul General staff members lead by Mr. Ranjeet Singh ji, for doing an excellent job in organizing this important event.

His inspiring speech was followed by the Mayor of Skokie, George Van Dusen, during his speech he said that Township of Skokie is fortunate to have the life-size statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Heritage Park since October 2, 2004. He praised and appreciated the Indian American Community for their support and friendship.

Following that, seniors from Metropolitan Asian Family Services aptly sang the famous Bhajan, "Raghupati Raghava Rajaram", a song which was extensively used by Mahatma Gandhi to project a secular and composite vision of Indian society.

Next, Dr. Santosh Kumar - President of Gandhi Memorial Foundation of Chicago addressed the guests in her motivating speech. She sincerely thanked

Honorable Consul General and his wife for taking their precious time to collaborate and to join this memorable event. She mentioned that Mahatma Gandhi inspired her as a teenager to choose Law as her career rather than being a physician for what she studied for. Gandhiji's freedom struggle and the injustice done to the motherland emboldened her to become an Attorney to fight for the oppressed. In her speech, she felt the valid reason to talk in Hindi as Hindi being the official language of India. In her assertive speech she emphasized the great saying of Mahatma, "No Religion is higher than the Truth and Righteousness!" She said that Mahatma taught Dedication, Sacrifice and to Stand against Oppression and Wrongful forces, which induced chaos amongst people. A nation should join as one and not get influenced by these wrongful forces. In her speech she urged everybody to follow that and if asked if they were ready to do that! She thanked Dr. Chadrakant Modi and his wife Dina Modi for donating the 12-foot statue of Mahatma Gandhi, to the Village of

CONT'D ON PAGE 34

The Eye Foundation of America UK Board Meeting held

FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF THE EFA DR. RAJU TRAVELED TO LONDON TO CONDUCT THE FIRST EVER MEETING OF THE UK BOARD



Dr. VK Raju with Uzbekistan ambassador H.E Said Rustamov



Dr. Raju with Dr. Sekhar Mehankali (advisory board of EFA UK) at the House of Lords in London.



Dr. Raju with board of directors of EFA UK. Seen in the picture, from L to R: Doctors Ashwini Misro, Radhika Misro, VK Raju, and Raj Koppada.

NEW YORK / LONDON (TIP): Dr. VK Raju, founder and president of the Eye Foundation of America recently traveled to London to conduct the first board meeting of the Eye Foundation of America (UK). Along with the board of directors he had a dinner meeting with friends of The Eye Foundation of America (UK).

In a conversation with The Indian Panorama editor Prof. Indrajit Saluja, Dr. Raju said he made a lot of new friends who showed enormous interest in the foundation and its dream of a world without childhood blindness. "It is

just the beginning in UK", he said.

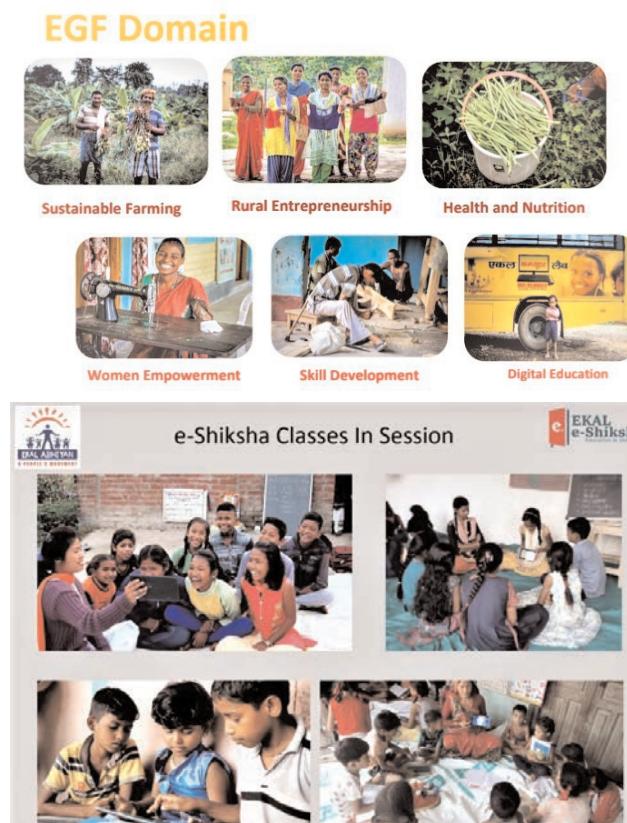
Dr. Raju was a guest of embassy of Uzbekistan and attended Uzbekistan's 30th Independence Day celebration at Lords. The Eye Foundation of America UK is involved in preventing and treating childhood blindness and beyond in Uzbekistan.

Ekal's Aggressive March Towards 'Mission 2025'

BY PRAKASH WAGHMARE

On September 18, "Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of USA - EVF" hosted a day-long virtual 'National Conference' with 220 registrants from U.S., Canada and India. Although touted to be a national gathering, Ekal-India had a sizable presence in it, along with some representation from Ekal-Canada. The primary objective of this conference was, not only to review the scalability of 'Ekal Abhiyan' projects (an umbrella organization of Ekal's various logistic operations), but also, to align the aspirations of Ekal-America and Ekal-India for future goals. With the Covid-19 pandemic affecting rural life, this conference had the arduous task of remapping success milestones for 'Mission 2025', outlined earlier in Yr.2020. Ekal-India team presented revitalized facets of 'Ekal Abhiyan', namely 'Digital Literacy', 'Arogya Foundation', 'Gramothan Foundation', 'E-Shiksha', and 'Global Communication', with a focus on the covid-19 pandemic, skill development and economic empowerment. The host team along with Ekal-Canada was composed of members of the board of directors, working committees, regional & chapter presidents and the youth wing. This Pan-American team introduced the topics like innovativeness and accountability in capital projects, technology roadmap, fund-raising targets, cutting-edge technology for project management, and youth involvement.

In essence, all the panelists pushed for a well-coordinated aggressive march towards the milestones of progress, pegged as 'Mission 2025'. Lot of awe-inspiring information about Ekal achievements came out in various presentations. Ekal-India, keeping an eye on the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative (self-sustaining, self-reliant 'Bharat') floated by the Hon. PM Modi plans to showcase 35,000 villages as the 'Pragat Sanch' (progressive clusters) with holistic development that would incorporate digital literacy, health & hygiene, skill training, sustainable farming and value-based education. A small portion of these clusters would be turned into quintessential 'Adarsh Gram' (Model Villages), as a role-model template for the future. Ekal is currently leaning towards launching digital technology, at every level of its activities and operations. Ekal-USA, therefore highlighted the E-Shiksha methodology and the preliminary timetable to expand it across Ekal school map. As a dynamic organization, Ekal is perpetually broadening its base, worldwide. With a newly established presence in France and Thailand, the



total number of countries with Ekal affiliate branches is now 12. During the school closures in the U.S., the Ekal-youths, not only helped to publicize virtual concerts with their social media expertise but also, raised funds through athletic activities, talent shows and skills developing tutorials. Being socially conscientious, the youth earnestly took part in their community food drives, tree-planting projects and outreach programs for the seniors in need.

On the covid-19 front, Ekal's success in rural-tribal areas is staggering. Because of the aggressive safety campaign, herbal medications, nutritional food provisions and isolationist tactics that Ekal field volunteers vigorously promoted there, the pandemic's effect on rural folks was very minimal. Field volunteers, not only countered the misinformation about the vaccine by asserting its benefit but also, made it worry-free with videos of their own vaccination. This led the vaccination rate to 71% in some corners. While overcoming various hurdles unique to a village set up, Ekal never ever lost the sight of keeping all its supporters well informed

about the steps it was taking in successfully arresting the spread of the deadly virus. This flow of incessant communication not only strengthened donor's trust in 'EVF', but also was reflected in their generous support for this institution. In Yr. 2020 Ekal-USA, with virtual events had raised almost \$10 million, with \$6.5 million coming in from the year-end magnificent gala. To that end, Ekal-USA once again confirmed that the eagerly awaited glittering virtual Gala would be hosted on Saturday, November 13, 2021.

At the conference's conclusion, as the host and President of Ekal-USA, Sureshji Iyer summarized various proposals of the panelists for 'Mission 2025'. While unveiling the roadmap for the benefit of participants, he explained in a nutshell that, although the number of schools would remain the same at 102,000 mark, the number of villages for E-Shiksha (education through tablets) would go up from current 1,170 schools to all 102,000 schools; Arogya services (Healthcare) from 1,200 villages to 35,000; Ekal-on-wheel vans (mobile digital training) from 29 to 60; Tailoring ctrs from 33 to 150; Integrated Village Development Ctrs (IVD) from 12 to 31; and Gramothan Research Ctr (GRC) from 15 to 31. During the five-year goal period, 50% of schools, 15 GRCs, and 25 IVDs are expected to become self-sustaining, subject to third-party assessment.

(Press release)

*Prepared to handle surge of 5 lakh Covid-19 cases a day:
Govt*

The central government has said that it is prepared to handle a surge of up to 5 lakh coronavirus disease (Covid-19) cases a day. It, however, stressed that this does not imply that such a high number of infections will be reported in the future.

"The dynamics of the virus after vaccination and infection which can lead to herd immunity...we do not have a straight formula for that. As one can see, despite the administration of vaccines, cases are being reported and we are still learning. The preparation will be of the level to make us safe. We move with preparation of 4.5 to 5 lakh cases per day surge but it does not mean that it will happen, should happen or may happen," Niti Aayog member (health) VK Paul said at a press conference on Thursday, Oct 7.

Paul further said there is no issue of Covid-19 vaccine availability in the country now and urged people to come forward to take the second dose to be fully vaccinated.

Speaking about the different strains of Covid-19, Paul said that there is no new variant of concern as per the data available at present.

Discussing \$-400 deal with US, says India

India said on Thursday, Oct 7, it is in talks with the US regarding its deal with Russia for the S-400 air defence system, which faces the threat of possible sanctions under an American law.

"This has been [part of] the discussion between our two countries for some time. It was raised and we have discussed it and explained our perspective. And discussions on this are ongoing," external affairs ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi told a regular news briefing.

He was replying to a question on US secretary of state Wendy Sherman's criticism of India's deal with Russia on Wednesday.

Sherman, who is on a three-day visit to India, told journalists that any decision on possible sanctions on the S-400 deal will be made by President Joe Biden and Secretary of State Antony Blinken. The S-400 deal figured in Sherman's talks with foreign secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla.

"We've been quite public about any country that decides to use the S-400. We think that is dangerous and not in anybody's security interest," Sherman had said.

Lakhimpur Kheri violence: 2 arrested; SC seeks status report on accused

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Supreme Court on Thursday, October 7, directed the UP Government to file a status report in 24 hours on the action taken by it, including the arrest of all accused named in the FIRs for murder, with regard to the Lakhimpur Kheri violence in which eight persons, including four farmers, had been killed, even as two accused were arrested and Ashish Mishra, son of MoS Ajay Mishra, was summoned for questioning.

However, Ashish Misra, who was summoned after being booked in the Lakhimpur Kheri case, has failed to appear before the authorities for questioning.

A Bench led by CJI NV Ramana said the report should give details on the arrest of the accused in the murder cases, including that of a journalist.

Terming the incident as "extremely unfortunate", the Bench, also comprising Justice Surya Kant and Justice Hima Kohli, asked the UP Government to provide immediate medical treatment to the mother of deceased Lovepreet Singh. "Get her admitted to the nearest government hospital," UP Additional Advocate-General Garima Prashad was told. "We direct the learned Additional Advocate-General to look into the matter personally and provide best medical treatment to the mother of the deceased in a reputed government medical college/hospital," the Bench ordered.

Prashad told the court an SIT was probing the matter and the state government had set up a commission of inquiry headed by Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava (retd) of the Allahabad High Court. The Bench asked her to mention everything, including information regarding PILs on the issue pending in the Allahabad High Court, in the report to be filed by the state government and posted



Four farmers were mowed down by an SUV in Lakhimpur Kheri when a group agitating against the Centre's three new farm laws was holding a demonstration against the visit of UP Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya.

Judicial panel set up

UP Addl Advocate-General Garima Prashad said an SIT is probing the matter and the UP Govt has set up an inquiry commission headed by Justice PK Srivastava, who had retired from the Allahabad High Court.

Why are you silent on Lakhimpur incident, Kapil Sibal asks PM Modi

Senior Congress leader Kapil Sibal on Friday, October 8, questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence over the Lakhimpur Kheri incident, saying just "one word of sympathy" was needed from him. In a tweet, Sibal said, "Lakhimpur Kheri Horror. Modi ji, Why are you silent? We need just one word of sympathy from you. That should not be difficult!"

RBI keeps repo rate unchanged at 4%, maintains accommodative stance

MUMBAI (TIP): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das announced the new monetary policy on Wednesday. Declaring an accommodative monetary policy stance, the RBI governor informed that the repo rate would remain unchanged at 4 per cent for the eighth straight time.

The reverse repo rate was also kept unchanged at 3.35 per cent to keep a check on inflation and take out the economy following the ravages of the second wave of the pandemic. The MSF bank rate was also not changed.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das announced the new monetary policy after a three-day meeting of the six-member Monetary Policy Committee



RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das

(MPC). He informed that the MPC decided to continue with the accommodative policy stance to sustain growth and mitigate the impact of the Covid crisis.

"Recovery of the Indian economy is gaining traction and it's in better shape than last MPC meeting," Shaktikanta Das said, adding that the RBI took more than 100 measures since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.

He further informed that the growth impulses were strengthening and inflation trajectory was better than anticipated. "We hope to sail towards normal times, due to resilience of economic fundamentals of our economy," the RBI governor added.

How were the drugs taken to the ship in Mumbai?

The high-profile Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) bust in the financial capital of the country has left a series of difficult conundrums for the public to understand, further deepening the mystery.

The NCB has so far arrested around 18 people in the drugs case, including, Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan's son -- Aryan Khan who has been sent to 14 days of judicial custody.

But even as the case is progressing further, there are some layers, when unearthed, raise eyebrows. The first thing, which comes into our mind is how was the contraband taken to the luxury ship? The NCB had said that during the raid, it recovered various popular party drugs like cocaine, MDMA, ecstasy, mephedrone and charas. Of all the contraband, the cocaine was 13 grams, charas 21 grams, 22 pills of MDMA and five grams MD. It is yet 'unanswered' as to how the starkids were able to procure these drugs. The NCB's swoop, which shook the Bollywood's core as the future potential superstar-kid of the one of the reigning actors was involved, almost sounded unbelievable till a picture of a dazed Aryan sitting on a bench inside the agency's office in south Mumbai emerged from nowhere.

A bald man, who was later identified as an alleged Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Kiran Gosavi, clicked a picture with the starkid on the ship deck triggering a row that BJP activists were involved in the October 2 raid conducted by the NCB on the luxury ship Cordelia Cruise. Another BJP leader Manish Bhanushali was seen hauling out some of the accused, including Aryan and Arbaaz Merchant. How did a private person who is a BJP activist hand over the accused? -- another unanswered question.

Bharat Biotech to produce world's first malaria vaccine

India's Bharat Biotech will be producing part of the world's only malaria vaccine that has been developed by Pharma major GSK, and was recently approved by WHO (World Health Organisation).

However, it may take a couple of years before the vaccine is launched in the market for use. In January, this year, Hyderabad-based vaccine major announced that it entered a product transfer partnership with the pharma major GSK for its malaria vaccine, RTS, S/AS01E1. As part of this partnership, GSK would transfer RTS manufacturing technology to Bharat Biotech to produce the S antigen component of the malaria vaccine, and the license on all rights pertaining to it. GSK will retain the production of the adjuvant of the vaccine (AS01E) and will supply it to Bharat Biotech.

After Kashmiri Pandit chemist, militants kill 2 teachers in Srinagar

NEW DELHI (TIP): Amid increasing targeted attacks on civilians in the past few days in the Kashmir Valley the militants on October 7 gunned down two school teachers including a woman in the Eidgah area of Srinagar, which sources Jammu & Kashmir Police said, the manner in which killings were executed showed an imprint of ISIS and Taliban elements presence.

A police officer has confirmed that all teachers of the school were lined up and their ID cards and mobile phones were checked. After ascertaining their respective religions, the militants allowed most of them (presumably Muslims) to leave the place and later a Hindu (man) and a Sikh (woman) were killed at around 11.15 am, he said.

The deceased have been identified as Supinder Kour, a resident of Alochi Bagh area of the city here, and Deepak Chand, a resident of Jammu. Kaur was working as principal and Chand as teacher at Government Boys School, Sangam, Srinagar.

With Oct 7 killings of the teachers, which drew widespread condemnation, took the number of civilians killed in the last five days in Kashmir valley to seven, including six in capital Srinagar only.

On October 2, militants shot dead Majid Ahmad Gojri, a resident of Chattabal Srinagar, at Karan Nagar. Later that night, another civilian Mohammad Shafi Dar, resident of Batamaloo, was shot at and injured at SD Colony Batamaloo. He succumbed to injuries a few hours later.

On October 5, three civilians, including Makhan Lal Bindroo, owner of Srinagar's most famous pharmacy, were shot dead by militants. Within a span of two hours in separate incidents in Srinagar and Bandipora districts, militants killed two more.

Bindroo, owner of Bindroo Medicate, was shot dead by the assailants from point blank range while he was at his pharmacy. Within an hour, militants struck in the Hawal area of the city, killing a non-local street vendor, who was identified as Virender.

Within minutes of the second killing, militants shot dead Mohammad Shafi Lone at Naidkhai in Bandipora district in



A family member of Deepak Chand, a teacher who was killed during a militant attack, being consoled by relatives in Jammu. PTI

north Kashmir.

Meanwhile, J&K political parties and leaders poured in their condemnation over the killings.

"Shocking news coming in again from Srinagar. Another set of targeted killings, this time of two teachers in a Govt school in Idgah area of the city. Words of condemnation are not enough for this inhuman act of terror but I pray for the souls of the deceased to rest in peace," National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah said on Twitter.

Lamenting that the Centre's claim of building a "Naya Kashmir" has actually turned it into a "hellhole", former J&K Chief Minister and PDP President Mehbooba Mufti in tweet said, "Disturbing to see the deteriorating situation in Kashmir where a minuscule minority is the latest target... It's sole interest is to use Kashmir as a milch cow for its electoral interests."

Source: TNS

200 Chinese troops stopped at Arunachal border in latest face-off with Indian Army

NEW DELHI (TIP): The Indian and Chinese troops engaged in yet another face-off last week in which around 200 PLA soldiers were intercepted close to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh.

The face-off between the Indian and Chinese troops happened last week during a routine patrol close to the border with China. Sources have said the Indian troops intercepted around 200 Chinese soldiers close to the border.

Later, the troops of both sides disengaged after the local commanders resolved the issue.

Sources have said the engagement between the two sides lasted for a few hours and was resolved as per the existing protocols. There was no damage caused to the Indian defences during the engagement.

Meanwhile, India on Thursday, October 7, said it expects China to work towards an early resolution of the remaining issues along the borders of eastern Ladakh while sticking to the bilateral agreements and protocols.

Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said India has reiterated that the "provocative" behaviour and "unilateral" measures by the Chinese side resulted in disturbance of peace and tranquillity in the area.

Asked about reports of incursions by the Chinese side, Bagchi said he cannot comment on that kind of military aspects and that the Ministry of Defence would be able to



reflect on that.

"It is our expectation that China will work towards early resolution of the remaining issues along the line of actual control in eastern Ladakh while fully abiding by bilateral agreements and protocols," Bagchi said at a media briefing here.

He also noted that External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had held discussions with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in Tajikistan on the sidelines of the SCO summit last month and conveyed India's stand.

Source: India Today

India in history this Week

OCTOBER 8 TO OCTOBER 14, 2021

08 OCTOBER

1932 Indian Air Force was established.



1936 Famous Hindi writer and novelist Premchand died.

1998 India became a member of the Flight Safety Foundation.

2004 Monsanto's patent on Indian wheat revoked.

2005 Thousands died due to earthquake in Kashmir.

1926 Bollywood actor Rajkumar was born.

09 OCTOBER

1920 Aligarh's Oriental College was converted into Aligarh Muslim University.

1942 Freedom fighter Bibi Amar Kaur hoisted the national flag at the Lahore Jail Gate. She was arrested and sent to Ambala Jail.

1949 The first governor of independent India, C. Rajagopalachari, officially inaugurated the territorial army.

1976 International direct dialing service started between Bombay (now Mumbai) and London.

2008 The central government formed a committee of experts to save oil from the mafia.

1945 Famous Indian sarod maestro Ustad Amjad Ali Khan was born.



2007 China accused India of violating the agreement.

10 OCTOBER

1756 The British army led by Governor General Robert Clive recaptured Calcutta.

1910 The first All India Hindi Conference was organized in Varanasi under the chairmanship of Madan Mohan Malaviya.

1906 Indian novelist RK Narayan was born.

1954 Famous Indian actress Rekha was born.

2011 India's famous Ghazal singer Jagjit Singh passed away.

1978 Rohini Khadilkar became the first woman to win the national chess competition.

1991 India won the team title of the World Carrom Competition.

1992 The second Hooghly Bridge 'Vidyasagar Setu' opened.

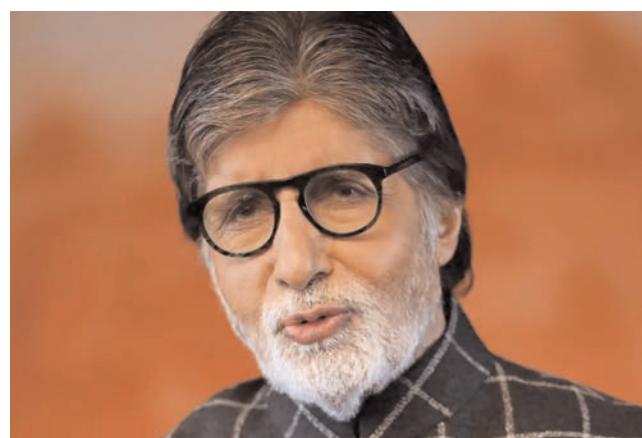


2014 Nobel Prize was announced to Kailash Satyarthi of India.

11 OCTOBER

1902 The veteran socialist leader Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan was born.

1916 Social worker Chandika Amritrao Deshmukh was born.



1942 Bollywood emperor and century great Amitabh Bachchan was born in Allahabad district of Uttar Pradesh.

1987 India's Peace Army launched Operation Pawan in Sri Lanka. The campaign was waged to liberate Jaffna by destroying the LTTE's occupation.

1737 An earthquake in Calcutta (now Kolkata) killed 3 lakh people, half the city was devastated by this natural disaster.

2001 Trinidad-born Indian-born British writer Vidyadhar Suraj Prasad Noypal was announced to be awarded the 2001 Nobel Literature Prize.

1930 Jawaharlal Nehru was released from Naini Central Jail.

2008 Prime Minister Manmohan Singh flagged off from Naogaon station and flagged off the first train to run in the valley of Kashmir.

12 OCTOBER

1967 Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, a fighter, fierce thinker and socialist politician of India's freedom struggle died.



1968 Equatorial Guinea, a country located in Central Africa, gained independence from Spain and this day was declared the national day of this country.

2008 Sister Alphonsa of Kerala became the first female saint of India.

1888 First revolutionary and later Gandhiji's follower Perrin Ben was born.

13 OCTOBER

1987 The evergreen actor, singer Kishore Kumar, bid the world an adieu.



1895 The first Test captain of India's cricket team, C.K. Naidu was born.

1999 Atal Bihari Vajpayee became the Prime Minister of India for the third time.

2013 A stampede in Datia district of Madhya Pradesh killed 109 people.

2011 Instructions have been given to use the words of Urdu, Persian, general Hindi and English instead of the difficult words of Hindi used in offices.

2004 Famous Hindi film actress Nirupa Roy passed away.

1542 Mughal emperor Akbar was born in Amarkot, Sindh.

14 OCTOBER

1882 The University of Punjab was established in modern Pakistan.

1956 Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar accepted Buddhism in Nagpur with 3,85,000 followers.

1240 Razia Sultan, the first female ruler of India, died.

1643 Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah I of Delhi (India) was born.

1774 The First Continental Congress declared colonial rights in Philadelphia.

1953 The Estate Duty Act came into effect in India.

2008 The Reserve Bank of India announced the release of an additional 200 billion rupees to meet the needs of mutual funds.

2010 The ongoing 19th Commonwealth Games in the capital Delhi ended.



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Yami Gautam has a skin condition called Keratosis-Pilaris

Yami Gautam took to her social media handle to share her journey of self-acceptance. Yami posted a series of her unedited pictures on her Instagram handle.

While expressing herself, the actress said, "Hello, my Insta family. I recently shot for some images and just when they were about to go in for post-production (a common procedure) to conceal my skin-condition called Keratosis- Pilaris, I thought, 'Hey Yami, why don't you embrace this fact and accept it enough to be okay with it.'"

The actress continued, "For those who haven't heard about this, it's a skin condition wherein you get tiny bumps on the skin. I promise they aren't as bad as your mind and your neighbour aunty makes it out to be. I developed this skin condition during my teenage years, and there is still no cure for it. I've dealt with it for many years now and today finally, I decided to let go of all my fears and insecurities and found the courage to love and accept my 'flaws' wholeheartedly. I also found the courage to share my truth with you."

Kriti Sanon and Rajkummar Rao share new poster; fans wonder what's cooking

Kriti Sanon and Rajkummar Rao have shared a new poster on social media. Though the actors haven't shared anything about the picture, their fans are already going gaga over their new look. Many are even wondering if this is a teaser to a new project they've signed together.

Kriti Sanon and Rajkummar Rao are set to star in Dinesh Vijan's next film. Now, it is not clear if the new poster they shared on Instagram is related to this project. In the picture, Kriti and Rajkummar are seen sitting on the floor. Rajkummar is seen in an angry mood, while Kriti looks confused in the picture. The poster read, "Ab humara hero kya karega?"

Rajkummar Rao shared the same post.

For the unversed, last year in February, Rajkummar Rao and Kriti Sanon had announced their next. It was said that the film will commence shooting in Chandigarh and also feature Aparshakti Kurana, Paresh Rawal and Ratna Pathak Shah. Produced by Dinesh Vijan, the film will be directed by Abhishek Jain. There was an announcement of their next film

Rajkummar Rao and Kriti Sanon had earlier shared screen space in 2017 film Bareilly Ki Barfi, touching many a heart with their small-town love story.

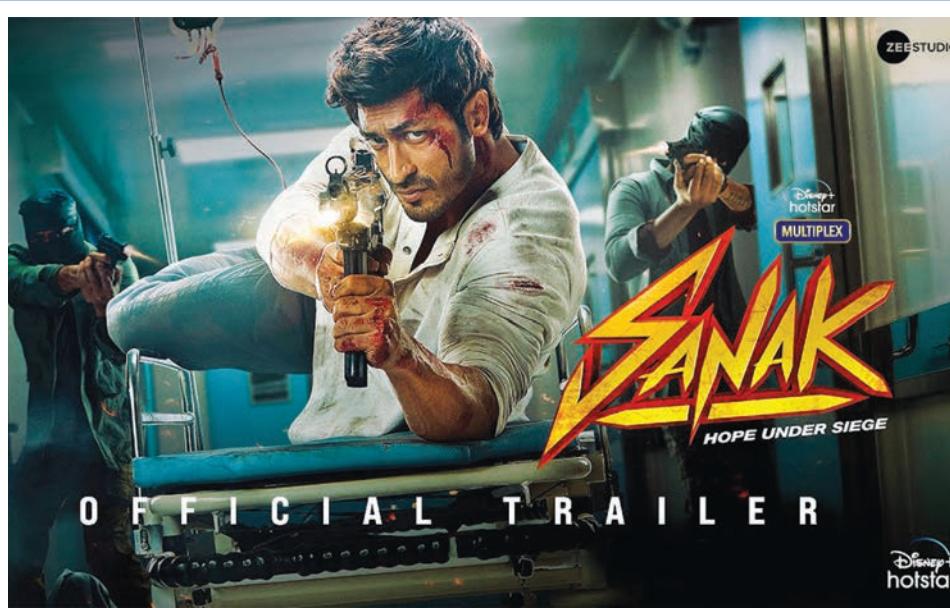
Rajkummar and Kriti's next film will be shot in Chandigarh. It also stars Aparshakti Khurana, Paresh Rawal and Ratna Pathak Shah. It is produced by Dinesh Vijan and directed by Abhishek Jain.



Sanak trailer out: Vidyut Jammwal is one-man-army in hostage situation

Vidyut Jammwal's action thriller, Sanak: Hope Under Siege, will release on Disney+Hotstar on October 15. Directed by Kanishk Varma, the film's trailer dropped on Tuesday, October 5. In Sanak, Vidyut gets into action mode to save the love of his life and other hostages from a hospital under attack.

Vidyut Jammwal's Sanak on Disney+Hotstar will clash with Taapsee Pannu's Rashmi Rocket on Zee5, on October 15. In



trailer, a group of intruders take over a hospital. Rukmini Maitra, who plays Vidyut Jammwal's love interest in the film is one of the hostages. So, the Commando actor once again displays his action skills as he sets on a mission to rescue everyone. Mumbai Diaries 26/11, starring Mohit Raina and Konkona Sensharma, among others, also showed a hostage situation as doctors fought to help patients on the fateful night of November 26, 2008. The series is now streaming on Amazon Prime Video. Sharing the trailer of Sanak on Instagram, Vidyut Jammwal wrote, "Dekho meri #Sanak. #SanakTrailer out! Streaming from 15th October only on @disneyplus #DisneyPlusHotstarMultiplex (sic)."

Richa Chadha has finalised the location for her maiden production

Bollywood actress Richa Chadha loved shooting for the series 'Candy' in the mountains so much that she's planning to shoot her first production 'Girls Will Be Girls' in Uttarakhand.

Directed by Shuchi Talati and produced through the banner Pushing Button Studios, the story is set in a Himalayan boarding school in a hill station in northern India.

Richa said: "I loved shooting for 'Candy' and not only because it's a gripping narrative but because of the location in which we were shooting. It was so peaceful and serene that I found it easier to focus than in the city." The plot of the film revolves around the coming of age of a 16-year-old girl and her relationship with her mother.

Source: IANS





Priyanka wields a gun in BTS pic from Citadel sets

Priyanka Chopra is currently filming for her next series with Russo Brothers, *Citadel*, in Spain. The actor has shared a behind-the-scene picture, carrying a gun on a beach.

Sharing the picture, Priyanka wrote, "Facing fears like the warrior she is...can't wait for you to meet her #BTS #Citadel." A fan wrote, "An awesome look." Another commented, "So super." Many called her "beautiful."

Priyanka has been sharing regular updates from her shoot in Europe. She had recently shared a selfie in a face mask while on her way to the sets. She captioned it, "Taking advantage of the drive to work!" and added hashtags, 'Self care first' and '*Citadel*'.

She had also shared a glimpse from her chartered flight to Europe. Her fans were delighted to see how she was sitting cross-legged in the private jet and enjoying champagne with her team.

Keira Knightley to headline 20th Century Studios drama *Boston Strangler*

Actor Keira Knightley is set to headline the upcoming drama movie *Boston Strangler* for 20th Century Studios. Matt Ruskin of Crown Heights fame will write and direct the feature film, which will be produced by veteran filmmaker Ridley Scott along with Kevin Walsh through their Scott Free banner, reported Deadline.

The film is inspired by the infamous Boston Strangler murders that happened between June 1962 and January 1964. 13 women were murdered during that period by a serial killer.

The film will follow the true story of Loretta McLaughlin (Knightley), the first reporter to connect the murders and break the story of the Strangler. She and fellow reporter Jean Cole challenged the sexism of the early 1960s to report on the city's most notorious serial killer and worked tirelessly to keep women informed.

Loretta pursued the story at great personal risk and uncovered corruption that cast doubt on the true identity of the Boston Strangler.



Boston Strangler will also be produced by Tom Ackerley and Josey McNamara of LuckyChap Entertainment. The film will start production in December.

Knightley is best known for her performances in movies such as *Pride and Prejudice*, *Pirate of the Caribbean* series, *Atonement*, *Anna Karenina* and *The Imitation Game*.

Daniel Craig gets star on Hollywood Walk of Fame

Daniel Craig finally got a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame on Wednesday, days before his last movie as James Bond opens in the United States.

No Time to Die marks Craig's fifth and final outing as the suave British secret agent, ending a role that has spanned 15 years.

The actor's pink and terrazzo star, the 2,704th on the Walk of Fame at the appropriately numbered 7007 Hollywood Boulevard, was placed next to that of the late Roger Moore, who played Bond in seven movies from 1973 to 1985.

"It's an absolute honor to be walked all over in Hollywood," said Craig. "Me being on this pavement surrounded by all of these legends makes me a very, very, very happy man."

Bond producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson, along with Rami Malek who plays villain Safin in No Time to Die, were on hand for the dedication ceremony.

Malek called Craig, 53, "old school and classy," adding, "I can't wait to see where (your career) takes you next."

After three delays because of the coronavirus pandemic, No Time to Die took in a bumper \$121 million at the box office on its opening weekend in Britain and international movie theatres.



Chris Hemsworth promises Extraction 2 will be 'bigger and badder'

Chris Hemsworth is loved worldwide thanks to his turn as Thor, but when the actor showed off his action chops minus the superhero suit in 2020 film *Extraction*, the audience fell in love with him a little more. Hemsworth played the lead role in Netflix's Sam Hargrave directorial that also featured Indian stars Pankaj Tripathi, Randeep Hooda and Priyanshu Painyuli among others.

The film is getting a sequel as we recently saw a teaser during Netflix's Tudum. Chris has now revealed that the sequel will be "bigger and badder than the first."

Chris Hemsworth took to Instagram on Wednesday and shared a video from the filming of *Extraction*. He shared in the caption that *Extraction* has won big at Taurus World Stunt Awards. "Huge wins for @extractionfilm at the Taurus World Stunt Awards. Massive thanks and congrats to the incredible stunt team for putting themselves on the line, making *Extraction* the massive success it continues to be," he wrote.



EARTHQUAKE HITS NORTHERN JAPAN, NO TSUNAMI

TOKYO (TIP): A magnitude 5.9 earthquake hit Aomori and Iwate prefecture in northern Japan early on October 7 morning but did not cause a tsunami, Japan's Meteorological Agency said.

The quake struck around 2:46 a.m. local time (1746 GMT).

No damage was reported at a nuclear fuel preprocessing plant in the area, public broadcaster NHK said.

Two people were injured and taken to hospital, while train operators in the area suspended some train services for safety checks, the broadcaster said.

The quake registered 5 plus in the Japanese scale of earthquake intensity, a level that could cause damage to some buildings. (Reuters)

G20 MUST WORK OUT CONDITIONS FOR TALIBAN RECOGNITION: FRANCE

PARIS (TIP): France's President Emmanuel Macron said the G20 summit, scheduled to be held at the end of the month, must send a clear message to Afghanistan's Taliban on the conditions for international recognition.

Focus on women's rights

I believe international recognition should have a price, and the dignity of Afghan women, equality between men and women, should be one of the points we must insist on. – Emmanuel Macron, French President

In an interview with France Inter radio station broadcast on October 5, Macron said those conditions must include equality for women, access for foreign humanitarian operations and non-cooperation with Islamist terror groups.

"I believe international recognition should have a price, and the dignity of Afghan women, equality between men and women, should be one of the points on which we must insist," Macron said.

"You must absolutely give young girls in your country a future, and that is one of the things that we will look at before recognising you". He said allowing all girls back to school was one of his concerns. Referring to the G20 summit due to take place in Rome later this month, Macron said: "We will talk about Afghanistan. We absolutely must, that's to say us, the Europeans, the Americans, China, Russia, the big powers of Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and Latin America all together, we must have a very clear message that we will set conditions for recognition of the Taliban." — Reuters

New Japan PM Fumio Kishida off to rocky start in polling

TOKYO (TIP): Japan's new Prime Minister, Fumio Kishida, is struggling to find his footing with voters just two days after he was voted into office and launched his new government, multiple polls by local media showed on October 6.

On the lower end, the daily Asahi put Kishida's approval rating at 45%, while Mainichi put it at 49%. The more conservative-leaning Yomiuri said 56% supported his government, while the Nikkei had 59%.

In all the polls, support for Kishida's new government was lower than that of his predecessor Yoshihide Suga's administration when it came into power last year, with the Asahi reporting a 20 percentage-point difference.

"I'm aware of the polling results, but also believe that there is quite a gap depending on the company that conducted the survey," said Kishida to reporters on Wednesday morning.

"Regardless, I will reflect on my actions based on these results, including the low approval ratings, and continue to work hard toward the upcoming election," he added.

Although Kishida's ratings are low for a fresh administration, they are still higher than the most immediate ratings for Suga, who became deeply unpopular during his tenure as he struggled to



contain a fifth wave of coronavirus infections, exacerbated by the Delta variant.

Kishida said he would dissolve the lower house of parliament on October 14, and a general election is scheduled for October 31, with the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic recovery set to become key issues.

For single-seat districts, the Mainichi poll said that 41% of respondents would vote for the ruling coalition, while 34%

would vote for the opposition and 24% were undecided. The Yomiuri put support for Kishida's Liberal Democratic Party at 43%, up 7 percentage points from the previous poll.

The premier unveiled his new cabinet on Monday. Although more than half of the ministerial roles were filled with fresh faces, the line-up also featured allies of former premiers Shinzo Abe and Taro Aso heavily, signalling their ongoing influence. (Reuters)

Taiwan Defence Minister says tensions with China are the worst in four decades

TAIPEI (TIP): Military tensions with China are at their worst in more than 40 years, Taiwan's defence minister said on October 6, days after record numbers of Chinese aircraft flew into the island's air defence zone.

Tensions have hit a new high between Taipei and Beijing, which claims the democratic island as its own territory, and Chinese military aircraft have repeatedly flown through Taiwan's air defence identification zone.

Over a four-day period beginning last Friday, Taiwan reported close to 150 Chinese air force aircraft entered its air defence zone, part of a pattern of what Taipei calls Beijing's continued harassment of the island.

Asked by a lawmaker on the current military tensions with China at the parliament, Defence Minister Chiu Kuocheng said the situation was "the most serious" in more than 40 years since he joined the military, adding there was a risk of a "misfire" across the sensitive Taiwan Strait.

"For me as a military man, the urgency is right in front of me," he told a parliamentary committee reviewing a special military spending billion (\$8.6 billion) for home-made weapons



including missiles and warships.

China says Taiwan should be taken by force if necessary.

Taiwan says it is an independent country and will defend its freedoms and democracy, blaming China for the tensions.

Chiu said China already has the ability to invade Taiwan and it will be capable of mounting a "full scale" invasion by 2025.

"By 2025, China will bring the cost and attrition to its lowest. It has the capacity now, but it will not start a war easily, having to take many other things into consideration." The United States,

Taiwan's main military supplier, has confirmed its "rock-solid" commitment to Taiwan and also criticised China. Beijing blames Washington's policies of supporting Taiwan with arms sales and sending warships through the Taiwan Strait for raising tensions.

Taiwan's special military spending over the next five years will go mostly toward naval weapons including anti-ship weapons such as land-based missile systems.

Taiwan reported one Chinese air force aircraft entered its air defence zone on Tuesday. (Reuters)

Two Koreas reopen hotlines as North urges South to mend ties

SEOUL (TIP): The two Koreas on October 4 restored their hotlines that the North severed months ago, with Pyongyang urging Seoul to step up efforts to improve relations after criticising what it called double standards over weapons development.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un expressed his willingness last week to reactivate the hotlines, which North Korea cut off in early August in protest against joint South Korea-U.S. military exercises, just days after reopening them for the first time in a year.

Pyongyang's official KCNA news agency had said the telephone links would be reconnected on Monday at 9:00 a.m. (0000 GMT).

The South confirmed that twice-daily regular communication was restarted on time via military hotlines and others run by the Unification Ministry, except for the navy channel set up on an international network for merchant ships.

The hotlines are a rare tool to bridge the rivals, but it was unclear whether their reconnection would facilitate any meaningful return to talks aimed at dismantling the North's nuclear and missile programmes in return for U.S. sanctions relief.

KCNA called for Seoul to fulfil its "tasks" to mend strained cross-border ties, repeating Kim's speech last week that he had decided to recover the lines to help realise people's hopes for a thaw and peace.

In that speech, Kim urged South Korea to abandon its "double standards" and "delusion" over the North's self-defensive military activities while developing its own weapons.

"The South Korean authorities should



make positive efforts to put the north-south ties on a right track and settle the important tasks which must be prioritised to open up the bright prospect in the future," KCNA said.

HOTLINES REDUCE TENSIONS

Seoul's defence ministry said the hotlines have contributed to preventing unexpected clashes and their reopening would hopefully lead to substantive easing of military tension.

The Unification Ministry, responsible for inter-Korean affairs, expressed hopes that it would be able to resume dialogue soon on ways to recover relations and foster peace.

In Washington, a U.S. State Department spokesperson said it strongly supports inter-Korean cooperation, calling the reconnected lines "an important component in creating a more stable environment on the Korean Peninsula." Tension had

flared since the hotlines were severed, with North Korea warning of a security crisis and firing a series of new missiles, including a hypersonic missile with potential nuclear capabilities.

The launches underlined how the isolated country has been constantly developing increasingly sophisticated weapons, raising the stakes for stalled denuclearisation negotiations.

While accusing Washington of "hostile policy," Pyongyang has said it is willing to mend inter-Korean relations and consider another summit if Seoul drops double standards.

Analysts say the North's carrot-and-stick approach is aimed at securing international recognition as a nuclear weapons state and driving a wedge between the United States and South Korea, counting on South Korean President Moon Jae-in's eagerness to forge a diplomatic legacy before his term ends in May. Reuters

Shaheen batters Oman & Iran, kills 13

OMA (TIP): The toll due to cyclone Shaheen rose to 13 on October 6, while fishermen from Iran remained missing as the storm moved further into Oman and weakened.

The authorities in Oman said they found the body of a man who disappeared when floodwaters swept him away from his vehicle.

In Iran, rescuers found the bodies of two of five fishermen who went missing off Pasabandar.

On Sunday, Iranian deputy speaker Ali Nikzad said he feared six fishermen had been killed. AP



WON'T WELCOME INTERNATIONAL TOURISTS UNTIL NEXT YEAR: AUSTRALIA PM

CANBERRA (TIP): International tourists won't be welcomed back to Australia until next year, with the return of skilled migrants and students given higher priority, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on October 5. — AP

FRENCH CLERGY SEXUALLY ABUSED 2 LAKH MINORS: REPORT

PARIS (TIP): French clergy sexually abused more than 2,00,000 children over the past 70 years, a major investigation released on October 5 found, and its authors said the Catholic Church had turned a blind eye to the 'scourge' for too long.

The church had shown "deep, total and even cruel indifference for years", protecting itself rather than the victims of what was systemic abuse, said Jean-Marc Sauve, head of the commission that compiled the report. Most of the victims were boys, he said, many of them aged between 10 and 13. — Reuters

UK EASES TRAVEL RULES, BUT UPSETS NATIONS NOT ON LIST



LONDON (TIP): Simplified international travel rules took effect on October 5 in the UK, easing quarantine and testing requirements for fully vaccinated travelers from more than 50 countries, and the Conservative government vowed it will seek to regularly expand the rules to more nations.

Still, the rules have sparked anger from many nations in the developing world, particularly India, which have been excluded from the list of countries whose vaccination programmes are accepted by the UK authorities. The New Delhi government on Friday said British citizens traveling in India would have to undergo Covid tests and 10 days of quarantine, similar to the measures imposed on Indian residents visiting the UK.

As part of the new regime, Britain eased entry requirements for fully vaccinated travelers from 18 countries, including Canada, Japan and the United Arab Emirates. It builds on a pilot phase with US and most European countries that began over the summer. — AP

22 KILLED, OVER 300 INJURED IN EARTHQUAKE IN PAKISTAN'S BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE

KARACHI (TIP): A powerful 5.9-magnitude earthquake jolted a mountainous part of Pakistan's Balochistan province early on October 7, resulting in the collapse of a coal mine and several mud houses that left at least 22 people dead and over 300 others injured, officials said.

The National Seismic Monitoring Centre in Islamabad said the epicentre of the earthquake was near Harnai, which has a large number of coal mines, at a depth of around 15 kilometres.

The quake affected Quetta, Sibi, Harnai, Pishin, Qila Saifullah, Chaman, Ziarat and Zhob in Balochistan. Most of the deaths and injuries were reported from the remote north-eastern district of Harnai where at least 13 people have died, according to officials.

At least four people were killed when a coal mine in which they were working collapsed, Suhail Anwar Shaheen, the local deputy commissioner, was quoted as saying by the Associated Press.

Disaster management officials said the death toll may increase.

The US Geological Survey said it was a 5.9 magnitude quake that struck at a shallow depth. Shallow quakes can cause more damage.

Balochistan Home Minister Zia Ullah Langau confirmed that the death toll in the earthquake has reached 22.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner of Harnai district Sohail Anwar Hashmi had said that six children were among 22 dead. He said five to six districts were affected on a "major scale" and data was still being collected.

The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) said many of the dead were women and children.

Images on social media showed people in the city of Quetta out on the streets in the aftermath of the quake, Dawn newspaper reported.

Aftershocks are still being felt in different areas. The earliest tremors were felt at 3:20 am after which panicked citizens rushed out of their houses reciting verses from the holy Quran. Relief and rescue activities are underway, with an emergency declared in all hospitals.

According to Hashmi, several people have been rushed to the hospital in critical condition. He said that several buildings in Harnai have been damaged. Many people were left buried under the rubble.

More than 100 mud houses have also collapsed, leaving hundreds of people homeless. The power supply to the area has been suspended, he said.

Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal Khan Alyani said that assistance and evacuation efforts were underway.

(PTI)

46 killed, 140 injured in Afghan mosque blast

KABUL (TIP): An Islamic State suicide bomber struck at a mosque packed with Shiite Muslim worshippers in northern Afghanistan on October 8, killing at least 46 persons and wounding more than 140 in the latest security challenge to the Taliban as they transition from insurgency to governance.

In its claim of responsibility, the region's IS affiliate identified the bomber as a Uygher Muslim, saying the attack targeted both Shiites and the Taliban for their purported willingness to expel Uyghers to meet demands from China. The statement was carried by the IS-linked Aamaq news agency.

The blast tore through a crowded mosque in the city of Kunduz during Friday noon prayers, the highlight of the Muslim religious week. It was the latest in a series of IS bombings and shootings that have targeted Afghanistan's new Taliban rulers, as well as religious institutions and minority Shiites since US and NATO troops left in August.



The blast blew out windows, charred the ceiling and scattered debris and twisted metal across the floor. Rescuers carried one body out on a stretcher and another in a blanket. Blood stains covered the front steps.

The worshippers targeted in Friday's attack were Hazaras, who have long suffered from double discrimination as an ethnic minority and as followers of Shiite Islam in a majority Sunni country. — Agencies

Nepal PM Deuba expands Cabinet; inducts 17 ministers

KATHMANDU (TIP): Nepal Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba on October 8 expanded his Cabinet by inducting 17 ministers and two ministers of state from the five-party ruling alliance, three months after he assumed office.

With this, the government's strength has now reached 25, including 22 ministers and three ministers of state.

Earlier, there were only six members in the Cabinet, including the Prime Minister and one state minister. Nepal's Constitution allows only 25 Cabinet ministers.

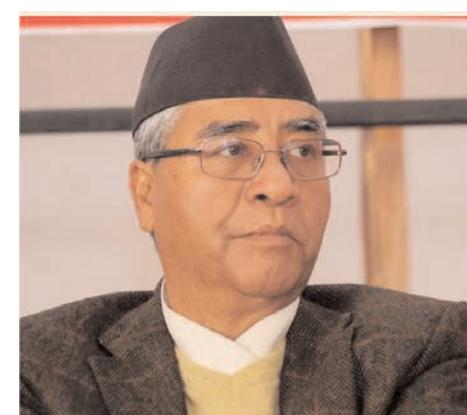
Prime Minister Deuba was unable to expand his Cabinet due to prolonged power sharing negotiations among the five-party ruling alliance.

The newly appointed ministers took oath of office and secrecy at the President's office shortly after they were appointed at the recommendation of Prime Minister Deuba.

President Bidya Devi Bhandari administered oath to the newly appointed ministers, while Prime Minister Deuba did the same to the two ministers of state at the president's office in the presence of the president.

According to the Kathmandu Post newspaper, the new appointments were possible after ruling coalition partners reached a power-sharing deal.

Five ministers have been inducted from newly formed CPN-Unified Socialist, four ministers and one minister of state from Madhes-based Janata Socialist Party and 5 ministers



and one minister of state from CPN-Maoist Centre led by Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda".

Similarly, Nepali Congress led by Deuba got eight ministers and one minister of state, according to sources at the President's Office.

Bal Krishna Khand of Nepali Congress has retained the portfolio of Home, while Narayan Khadka of the same party has retained the position of Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Kadhka was last month appointed as the Foreign Minister by President Bhandari.

Similarly, Minendra Rijal and Gyanendra Bahadur Karki of Nepali Congress have got the ministries of Defence and Information and Communication respectively.

Birodh Khatiwada of CPN-Unified Socialist has been appointed as Minister for Health and Population.

Janardan Sharma of CPN-Maoist Centre has retained the ministry of Finance. (PTI)

PAK ARMY APPOINTS LT GEN NADEEM ANJUM AS NEW ISI CHIEF

ISLAMABAD (TIP): In a surprise military shake-up, the Pakistan Army on October 7 announced that the powerful spy agency ISI chief Lt Gen Faiz Hameed has been appointed as Peshawar Corps Commander -- a crucial position in view of the Taliban's takeover of neighbouring Afghanistan.

Lt Gen Nadeem Anjum was appointed as the new Director-General of Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) in place of Lt Gen Hameed, who was transferred as Peshawar Corps Commander, said the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) – the media wing of the Pakistan Army.

The ISI chief is appointed by the prime minister but as part of a tradition he executes this power in consultation with the Pakistan Army chief.

The post of ISI chief is considered one of the most important in the Pakistan Army, which has ruled the country for more than half of its 73 plus years of existence and has hitherto wielded considerable power in the matters of security and foreign policy.

Initially, the Army said in a statement that Lt Gen Hameed was posted out but his replacement on the key post of the ISI chief was not immediately announced. Lt Gen Anjum, who belongs to the Punjab Regiment of the Pakistan Army, has served as Karachi Corps Commander as well as the commandant of Command and Staff College Quetta.

He is considered as a battle-hardened soldier who commanded the Frontier Corps Balochistan as its Inspector General and oversaw many operations against terrorists. (PTI)



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Superfoods for an instant glowing skin

Let's be true, we all want glowing skin despite the makeup. Yes, we do like to dress up and put makeup on when we want to, it is tiring to see makeup as a necessity to hide our dull skin. We have envied celebs who have naturally flawless skin but what is the secret to their glow? A healthy and nutritious diet. Because it doesn't matter what high-end products you use, the food we eat impacts us the most at the end of the day.

Binging on processed foods high in sugar and fat will not only make your skin dull but prone to acne and breakouts. And naturally, you don't want that. Your diet needs to be rich in protein, vitamins, fibre with lots of fruits and vegetables. So next time if you go out for groceries, pick these items that we have listed below for glowing skin.

Chia Seeds

Chia seeds are full of omega 3 fatty acids and antioxidants that not only make the skin bright and beautiful but also have anti-ageing properties. Packed with minerals and vitamins, they also aid in the production of collagen.

Berries

Berries like strawberries or blueberries can give you glowing skin as well. They remove toxins from our bodies and also serve as a perfect snack. Having anti-inflammatory properties and being rich in vitamins, they reduce fine lines and wrinkles as well.

Almonds

Almonds are rich in Vitamin A that protects the skin from sun damage. They keep our blood vessels dilated which keep our skin



hydrated in return. They contain fatty acids and vitamins that help us get rid of blemishes.

Fish

Fish is extremely good for our body and skin. The omega 3s and nutrients are essential for our skin to be glowing and healthy. Seawater fish like salmons, sardines are very healthy for us.

Leafy vegetables

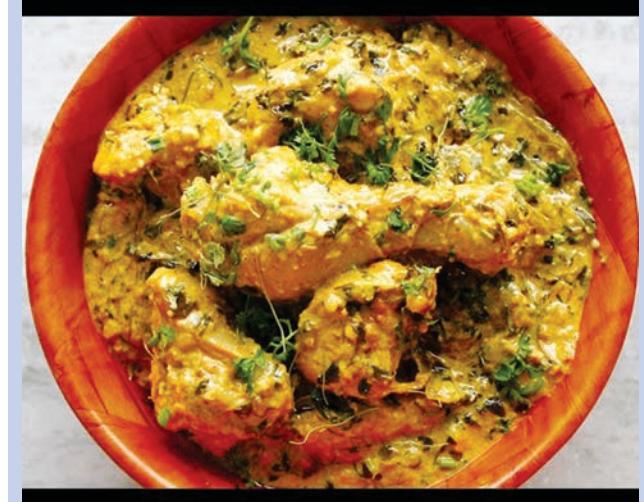
This is the most important food of all. They are loaded with

antioxidants and vitamins that can reduce the dullness of your skin and enhance its glow. Spinach, broccoli, lettuce, celery and coriander can do wonders to your skin.

These were the 5 superfoods you need to include in your diet. Turmeric is also a very helpful spice for getting glowing skin. Another thing that is a priority is to drink lots and lots of water to keep your skin hydrated throughout the day. And that's it. Try these and see the difference. *Source: Pinkvilla*

FOOD CORNER

Methi Chicken Masala



Ingredients

4 Pieces Boneless Chicken, 1/2 tsp Lemon juice, 1/2 tsp Red chilli powder, 1/2 tsp Salt, 1/2 tsp Ginger garlic paste, 1/2 tsp Curd, 1/2 tsp Red chilli powder, 1/4 tsp Salt, 1 tsp Coriander powder, 2 Tbsp Oil, 2 Nos Onion, sliced, 1 tsp Oil, 1 Bay leaf, 2 Nos Green cardamom, 1 Black cardamom, 1/2 Sticks Cinnamon, 1 tsp Ginger garlic paste, 2 Nos Tomato, 1 1/2 tsp Kasoori Methi, soaked, 1 Green chilli, 1 Cup Water.

Method

- Take chicken pieces in a deep bowl
- Add lemon juice, red chilli powder, salt and ginger garlic paste. Mix them thoroughly with bare hands
- Keep aside for 20 minutes to marinate.
- Take curd in a bowl, add red chilli powder, salt, coriander powder. Whisk it thoroughly.
- Now in a pan of hot oil, put onion and saute till golden brown. Grind it to make a paste.
- In the same pan, in some oil put marinated chicken and pan fry it till golden brown and a bit crisp.
- Now put bay leaf, green cardamom, black cardamom, cinnamon in a hot il pan and saute for a while.
- Add ginger garlic paste, saute some more and put chopped tomato, kasoori methi and the prepared curd mix. Mix them well and add the onion paste. Mix thoroughly. Now add the fried chicken and mix it with the gravy till the pieces are completely coated.
- Add green chilli and water, mix well. Bring to simmer. Put kasoori methi over and cover the pan to cook for a while.
- Open the pan when the curry starts to simmer a bit and the excess water is evaporated. Mix a little and serve hot.

Add sparkle to your party outfit with right ornaments

As you get ready to party hard and ring in 2018 in your most fashionable outfit, don't forget to team it up with the right jewellery.

- A cocktail ring is always a good idea: Cocktail ring is an appealing accessory option for any party or get together. If you are dressing up for New Year's Eve, a bling statement ring will be a perfect accessory. You can always add colours by experimenting with colourful cocktail rings.
- Underscore your neck: A choker with diamonds or coloured stones or any other simplistic necklace designs work well to ring the New Year in. Remember, classic is best. A string of marquise or princess diamonds also looks stunning, without any effort!
- Animal collection or coloured-stone earrings: Make this New Year's Eve extraordinary and memorable by adding sparkle and shine to your outfit with animal collection or coloured-stone earrings. These will give you a stylish, yet unique look.
- Statement necklace: Layered diamond statement



necklaces of different lengths will dazzle as they catch the lamp or candlelight. These are perfect for New Year eve bash.

- Chandelier earrings: You can make a statement with chandelier earrings. No matter what design or gemstone, this earring style will perfectly accessorise any type of attire, be it a dress or playsuit.
- Trendy tassel earrings: Multi-layer tassel earrings will add the right amount of drama to your outfit and will grab the attention of almost everyone.

Pairing a Necklace with your Neckline

If you're wearing a dress or top with a simple, rounded neckline, a long or chunky necklace would be an elegant addition. You want to try to ensure that the length of the necklace is either shorter or longer than your neckline because nothing says "oops" like having to pull your necklace out of your shirt all evening. If you choose a shorter necklace, it will draw more attention to your face and away from your chest. If you're wearing a low scoop-neck, try to avoid a necklace length that could drape into your cleavage. That looks sloppy, and it's being there will distract from the piece's beauty.

Blood thinners significantly reduce Covid-related mortality, hospitalisation: Lancet

NEW DELHI (TIP): Covid-19 patients who use blood thinners may have a nearly 50 per cent reduced risk of death and a 43 per cent lower risk of hospitalisation, according to a study published in Lancet's *EClinical Medicine* journal.

The research was conducted on 6,195 patients over the age of 18, who were diagnosed with Covid-19 from March 4 to August 27, 2020, in 12 hospitals and 60 clinics in the US.

The researchers from the University of Minnesota, US, and Basel University in Switzerland analysed the relationship between 90-day anticoagulation therapy among out-patients before Covid-19 diagnosis and the risk for hospitalisation and mortality.

The researchers also evaluated the association between anticoagulation therapy, which is used to prevent blood clots, and mortality risk among admitted patients.

The study found that patients on blood thinners before contracting Covid-19 were 43 per cent less likely to be admitted to hospital, despite being older and having more chronic medical conditions than their peers.

Blood thinners, regardless of being used before being infected with Covid-19 or started when admitted to the hospital for treatment of the viral disease, reduce deaths by almost half, they added.

Overall, hospitalised Covid-19 patients benefit from blood thinners regardless of the type or dose of the medication used, the researchers noted.

"Many individuals with Covid-19 develop abnormal blood clots from high inflammation, which can lead to serious health complications and mortality," said study lead author Sameh Hozayen, an assistant



professor at the University of Minnesota.

"Blood thinners are medications prescribed to prevent blood clots in patients with a prior blood clot in their lungs or legs. They also prevent blood clots in the brain secondary to abnormal heart rhythms, like atrial fibrillation," Hozayen wrote in the journal.

The researchers said blood thinners are the standard of treatment in these diseases, which is why they looked at data to see if it impacted hospitalisations related to Covid-19.

"We already know that overwhelmed hospitals have a higher risk for death among their patients, so reducing hospitalisation may have a positive impact during a Covid-19 surge," Hozayen added.

The researchers also noted that about half the patients prescribed blood thinners for blood clots in

their legs, lungs, abnormal heart rhythms or other reasons do not take them.

Increasing adherence for people already prescribed blood thinners can potentially reduce the bad effects of Covid-19, they said.

"At most centers around the world now, there are protocols for starting blood thinners when patients are first admitted to the hospital for Covid-19 — as it is a proven vital treatment option," Hozayen said.

"Outside of Covid-19, the use of blood thinners is proven to be lifesaving for those with blood coagulations conditions," the scientist added.

The team is currently working with research groups in other parts of the world such as Egypt to look at how blood thinners impact patients in less-invested health care systems and in different patient populations. *Source: PTI*

Covid may trigger high sugar levels, worsen disease

Covid-19 infection triggers hyperglycemia, or high blood sugar levels, by disrupting key fat cells, bringing high risks of severe disease and death in many patients, according to a new study.

Hyperglycemia, the core feature of diabetes, is associated with inflammation and weakened immunity against infections, and was recognised as a significant risk factor for severe Covid-19 early in the pandemic.

However, doctors later began finding evidence that Covid-19 is associated with hyperglycemia in patients who have no history of diabetes.

In the study, reported in the journal *Cell Metabolism*, the

researchers found that the deadly infection induces hyperglycemia by disrupting fat cells—production of adiponectin—a hormone produced by fat cells which normally has a protective effect against diabetes by enhancing insulin sensitivity.

"We normally don't think that fat cells are very active, but in fact they synthesise many protective proteins for your body—and it appears that SARS-CoV-2 may disable that protection in many patients," said James Lo, Associate Professor of medicine and cardiologist at the New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Centre.

For the study, the team analysed the records of 3,854 patients who

were hospitalised with Covid-19 in the first few months of the pandemic in the US.

They found that a remarkably high proportion (49.7 per cent) of these patients presented with hyperglycemia or developed it during their hospital stays.

Compared to patients with normal blood sugar levels, the patients with hyperglycemia were nine times more likely to develop severe lung dysfunction (acute respiratory distress syndrome, or ARDS), 15 times more likely to be given mechanical ventilation, and three times more likely to die.

Further tests also revealed that the Covid-19 ARDS patients had severe declines in blood levels of adiponectin.



Scientists discover 14 genes that cause obesity

NEW YORK (TIP): A team of US scientists have identified 14 genes that can cause and three that can prevent weight gain, responsible for a number of diseases including diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

The new research, published in the scientific journal *PLOS Genetics*, helps shed light on the complex intersections of obesity, diet and our DNA. Obesity has become an epidemic, driven in large part by high-calorie diets laden with sugar and high-fructose corn syrup.

While a sedentary lifestyle plays a big part, our genes also have a role, regulating fat storage and affecting how well our bodies burn food as fuel. So if we can identify the genes that convert excessive food into fat, we could seek to inactivate them with drugs and uncouple excessive eating from obesity.

"We know of hundreds of gene variants that are more likely to show up in individuals suffering obesity and other diseases. But amore likely to show up' does not mean causing the disease. This uncertainty is a major barrier to exploit the power of population genomics to identify targets to treat or cure obesity," said Eileen O'Rourke of the University of Virginia's College of Arts and Sciences.

To determine which genes play causal roles by directly promoting or helping prevent weight gain, the team turned to humble worms known as *C elegans*. These tiny worms like to live in rotting vegetation and enjoy feasting on microbes. However, they share more than 70 per cent of our genes, and, like people, they become obese if they are fed excessive amounts of sugar.

Using the worms, the team screened 293 genes associated with obesity in people, with the goal of defining which of the genes were actually causing or preventing obesity. They did this by developing a worm model of obesity, feeding some a regular diet and some a high-fructose diet.

Besides identifying 14 genes that cause obesity and three that help prevent it, the team also found that blocking the action of the three genes that prevented the worms from becoming obese also led to them living longer and having better neuro-locomotory function.

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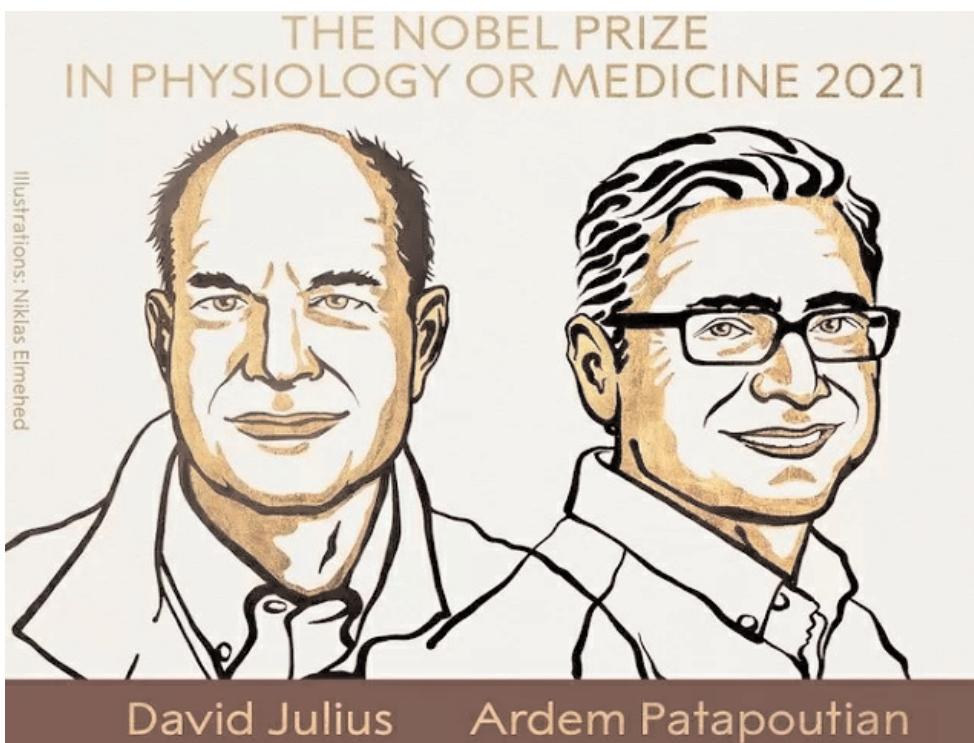
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NOBEL PRIZES 2021 AWARDED



David Julius

Ardem Patapoutian

Duo of David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian share Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2021 was jointly awarded to David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.

Speaking on the occasion, the Nobel jury said, "The groundbreaking discoveries...by this year's Nobel Prize laureates have allowed us to understand how heat, cold and mechanical force can initiate the nerve impulses that allow us to perceive and adapt to the world around us."

David Julius utilized capsaicin, a pungent compound from chilli peppers that induces a burning sensation to identify a sensor in the nerve endings of the skin that responds to heat.

Ardem Patapoutian used pressure-sensitive cells to discover a novel class of sensors that respond to mechanical stimuli in the skin and internal organs.

Both the Nobel laureates have identified the missing links to help us understand the complex interplay between our senses and the environment. Their discoveries are being used to develop treatments for a wide range of diseases such as chronic pain.

Trio of Giorgio Parisi , K Hasselmann and S Manabe Share Nobel iPrize in Physics

The Nobel Prize in Physics has been jointly awarded to Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann and Giorgio Parisi for their groundbreaking contributions to help us understand complex physical systems.

One half of the prize has been awarded to Syukuro Manabe and Klaus Hasselmann for the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming.

The other half has been awarded to Giorgio Parisi for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales.



Syukuro Manabe

Klaus Hasselmann

Giorgio Parisi

Speaking on the occasion, Thors Hans Hansson, chair of the Nobel Committee for Physics said, "The discoveries being recognised this year demonstrate that our knowledge about the climate rests on a solid scientific foundation, based on rigorous analysis of observations. This year's Laureates have all contributed to us gaining deeper insight into the properties and evolution of complex physical systems."

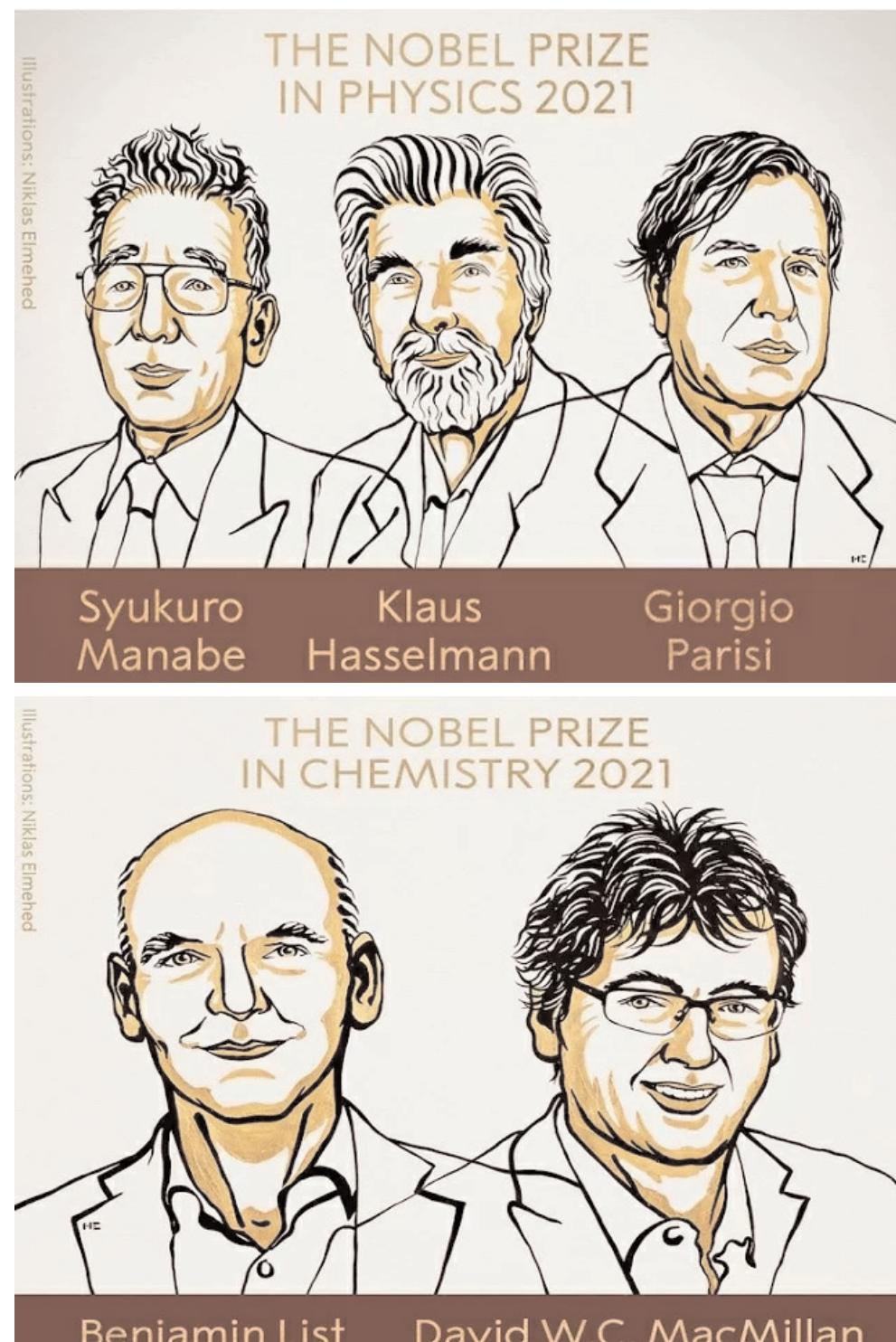
Duo of Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan share Nobel Prize in Chemistry

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been jointly awarded to Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis. Speaking on the occasion, Johan Åqvist, chair of the Nobel Committee for Chemistry said, "This concept for catalysis is as simple as it is ingenious, and the fact is that many people have wondered why we didn't think of it earlier." Several industries, as well as research areas, are dependent on chemists' ability to construct molecules to form elastic and durable materials, store energy in batteries or inhibit the progression of diseases. Catalysts are essential for their progression as they control and accelerate chemical reactions, without being a part of the final product. Human bodies also contain thousands of catalysts in the form of enzymes that chisel out the molecules essential for life.

The researchers for long believed that there were only two types of catalysts--metals and enzymes, but in 2000, Benjamin List and David MacMillan, independent of each other, developed a third type--asymmetric organocatalysis. This impacted pharmaceutical research positively, thereby making Chemistry greener.

Abdulrazak Gurnah wins Nobel Prize in literature

The Nobel Prize in literature has been awarded to the novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah, for his "uncompromising and passionate" portrayals of the effects of



Benjamin List

David W.C. MacMillan



Abdulrazak Gurnah

her broke it

His 1994 novel "Paradise," which told the story of a boy growing up in Tanzania in the early 20th century, won the Booker Prize and marked his breakthrough as a novelist.

"Gurnah's dedication to truth and his aversion to simplification are striking," the Nobel Committee for Literature said in a statement. "This can make him bleak and uncompromising, at the same time as he follows the fates of individuals with great compassion and unbending commitment."

His 2001 book "By the Sea" follows a refugee living in a British seaside town. And his most recent work, "Afterlives," picks up the narrative of "Paradise" and takes place during the German colonization of Africa.

His characters "find themselves in a hiatus between cultures and continents, between a life that was and a life emerging; it is an insecure state that can never be resolved," the committee said.

Prior to his retirement Gurnah, 73, was also a professor of English and Postcolonial Literatures at the University of Kent in England.

colonialism.

Gurnah was born in Tanzania in 1948 but moved to England at a young age. He has written 10 novels, many of which focus on the refugee experience.

'The Startup Wife': She built a brilliant new social platform. The men around



Reliance Retail to launch 7-Eleven stores in India

Adding to its burgeoning retail empire, billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Retail will bring 7-Eleven convenience stores to India, days after Future Retail ended its deal with the US chain.

The first 7-Eleven store will open in Mumbai on October 9 and will be followed by a further "rapid rollout", Reliance Retail said in a statement, without providing financial details.

7-Eleven will add to the expansion spree of Reliance, which already has around 13,000 stores across the country.

"The 7-Eleven stores aim to provide shoppers with a unique style of convenience, offering a range of beverages, snacks and delicacies specifically curated to appeal to local tastes, along with a refill of daily essentials, having affordability and hygiene at its very core," said RRVL.

Tata Motors in talks to buy Ford's Gujarat, Tamil Nadu units

Tata Motors is in early talks with Ford to buy the latter's units in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat, according to a report in TOI.

If the transaction materialises, it will be Tata Motors' second asset purchase from the US major.

In March 2008, the Indian company bought Jaguar Land Rover from Ford for \$2.3 billion.

For Tata Motors, which is changing gears to eco-friendly vehicles, the addition of Ford's manufacturing facilities in TN and Gujarat will augment its capabilities in the automotive industry.

Tata Motors currently has three passenger vehicle-making plants in the country (one is a joint venture with Fiat Chrysler).



Fitch cuts India's growth forecast from 10% to 8.7%

NEW DELHI (TIP): Fitch Ratings has cut India's economic growth forecast to 8.7% for the current fiscal but raised GDP growth projection for FY23 to 10%, saying the second Covid wave delayed rather than derailed the economic recovery.

In its APAC Sovereign Credit Overview, Fitch Ratings said India's 'BBB-/Negative' sovereign rating "balances a still-strong medium-term growth outlook and external resilience from solid foreign-reserve buffers, against high public debt, a weak financial sector and some lagging structural factors".

The 'Negative' outlook, it said, reflects uncertainty over the debt trajectory following the sharp deterioration in India's public finances due to the pandemic shock.

Fitch said it has further lowered India's GDP forecast for the fiscal year ending March 2022 (FY22) to 8.7% from 10% in June as a result of the severe second virus wave.

It had in June cut the growth forecast from 12.8%.

The projections for 2021-22 fiscal compares to a contraction of 7.3% recorded in the last financial year and a 4% growth in 2019-20.

"In our view, however, the impact of the second wave was to delay rather than derail India's economic recovery, reflected in an upward revision of our FY23 (April 2022-March 2023) GDP forecast to 10% from 8.5% in June," it said.



High-frequency indicators point to a strong rebound in the second quarter of the current fiscal (April 2021-March 2022), as business activity has again returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Fitch, however, saw a wider fiscal deficit. "We forecast a 7.2% of GDP (excluding disinvestment) Central government deficit in FY22," it said. The government on June 28 announced a fiscal package worth about 2.7% of GDP. Much of this consists of loan guarantees, with only 0.6% of GDP in higher on Budget spending.

Source: PTI

APAC Sovereign Credit Overview

- The 'Negative' outlook, it said, reflects uncertainty over the debt trajectory following the sharp deterioration in India's public finances due to the pandemic shock
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Asian shares rise as Chinese markets return from break

HONG KONG (TIP): Asian shares rose on Friday, October 8, as Chinese shares returned from a one week holiday upbeat, tracking a global rally, while investors also eyed key U.S. jobs data for any fresh insight into the timing of Federal Reserve tapering.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan rose 0.5%, after rallying 2.1% the day before, its biggest daily gain since August. Japan's Nikkei index advanced 1.8%.

Chinese blue chips gained 0.56% as they resumed trading after being closed for the National Day holiday, while Hong Kong, which has been open all week, gained 1%.

Elsewhere, Australian shares rose 0.84%, helped by mining stocks amid surging commodities prices.

Over the past three months, Chinese shares have been battered by regulatory changes, turmoil in the property sector, and more recently a power crunch, but some investors are now starting to see a buying opportunity.

"The debate on China is shifting a bit away from being very negative. People are asking 'Is there a way beyond the regulatory uncertainty? How much of this is reflected in prices?'" said Herald



van der Linde, Asia Pacific head of equity strategy at HSBC.

"We're neutral, we tell people not to be too negative because valuations are low."

The focus remains on the property market as investors wait to see whether regulators take action to contain the contagion from cash-strapped China Evergrande Group's debt problems.

U.S. futures rose 0.16% after the U.S. Senate approved legislation to temporarily raise the federal government's \$28.4 trillion debt limit and avoid the risk of a historic default later this month.

Overnight, on Wall Street, the Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 0.98%, the S&P 500 rose 0.83% and the Nasdaq Composite moved up 1.05%.

Investors are also keeping an eye on U.S. employment data for September due later on Friday. They expect employment figures that are near consensus will lead the Federal Reserve to indicate at its November meeting when it will begin tapering its massive stimulus program.

U.S. Treasury yields rose ahead of those figures, with volatility at the shortest end of the curve easing as the plan to avoid a default on government debt emerged.

In Asian hours, the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury yield rose 1.6 basis points to 1.58887%, its highest since June when it touched 1.594%.

In currency markets, the dollar index, which measures the greenback against a basket of its peers, was little changed at 94.206, not too far from a 12-month high of 94.504 hit in late September, as traders awaited the jobs data.

CBA analysts said it was possible the jobs data could surprise investors by being lower than expected, but "we think it would take a larger miss than we are anticipating to stop the [Federal Reserve] from announcing a taper in November."

"A strong payrolls print can support USD because it will signal an imminent ... taper."

Source: Reuters

Shree Ganeshaya Namah



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The Indian Panorama brings you Weekly and Birthday Horoscope by NASTUR BEJAN DARUWALLA

WEEKLY HOROSCOPE - 11TH OCT TO 17TH OCT 2021

Aries

You might be experiencing some politics at work that ruins your mood this week. Make sure to be careful in terms of hidden enemies and opponents and be careful in the way you speak, otherwise, you might face losses in near future. You should avoid making investments in risky assets. Practicing meditation and yoga will help you to feel better in this messy week. You will get help from your family regarding your work this week. Expect some changes in your place, position or responsibilities at work, in terms of promotions. Your seniors will appreciate your work. Your family will support you to get success at work, which will maintain domestic harmony.

Taurus

This is a great week for you in terms of your finances. You are blessed by a positive moon and Jupiter. You will come out from multiple messy situations. Your destiny will help you to get benefits in terms of gains in business this week. Make sure that you finish your postponed projects this week. Your losses will convert into profits, which will boost your financial health. New Partnership will occur in your business this week, which will help you to grow your business.

Gemini

Your dedication for work will be tested many times. Expect some rewards in the result of hard work at the end of the week. You are likely to make investments in fixed assets as well. Expect to hear good news in this week. Your losses will convert into gains by the end of this week. Your past dead investments might become profitable as well.

Cancer

You may experience a little sleeplessness and feel tired due to your hectic schedule. Expect new opportunities coming your way in terms of business and work this week, which will boost your confidence to a new level. You will start a new venture with the help of your partner, which will increase your business in the near future.

Leo

You will achieve great success this week and you will be remembered for some time to come. You will need to focus on eating healthier and exercising more often now. Things will be much better for you on the health aspect if you can stay calm and keep your mind tension-free. If you try to accommodate some health care routines like exercise or yoga you feel a lot less tired and fatigued. Your health will be a lot better this week.

Virgo

You will realize this week that your relationship will only get better from this point. This is a great outcome for you this week. This week is an amazing week for your business as everything will seem to work out super smoothly and you might even be done with work in the first half of your week itself. Believe in offering quality service and products rather than just pushing quantity. Be diplomatic and do not get into fights with anyone. Know how to get work done by other people.

Libra

Your health will be better this week than it's ever been in a long time. If you have been trying to achieve a fitness goal. You have ample amount of time to get to where you want. This week is a great week for you. Live in the moment and try not to rush things. You will get a lot of help and cooperation from seniors and experienced people, and this will help you accomplish all of your tasks. Career-wise, your journey will give the expected results.

Scorpio

You will experience love in abundance this week. You will feel blessed to have your partner as they will be your biggest support system through all thick and thin that you will experience during this week. Your business will grow a lot and you will acquire new clients. Be it a big or a small prospect, you will observe that your business has grown the most during this week.

Sagittarius

A lot of success and a great health is on your way this week, if that isn't enough to have you smiling and floating through the week, your love life will have you on cloud nine throughout the week. It might feel like you're existing in heaven or vacationing on an island this week. You should try to accommodate some health care routines like exercise or yoga so that you feel a lot less tired and fatigued during this week. This week offers you various ways of amusement.

Capricorn

Work on exploring yourself and reflecting on your past this week. Your quality of work will significantly improve as you have invested a lot of time in learning new things this week. You have been juggling between studying and business for quite a while now and it will pay off. Your focus on your goal as well as your patience is very commendable. Your health will assist you in achieving all that you want this week as well.

Aquarius

You need to try and calm your nerves this week which you can do by starting your week with meditation and yoga, do whatever you need to do that helps you calm your thoughts and process everything at a slower pace this week. You will have a fun week spending time with your loved ones as well this week. Do not overwork beyond your capacity as it may cause headaches and trouble with the eyes. Working without taking breaks could also lead to headaches and migraines. Drink warm water every day this week and long walks will provide you with the positive energy you need.

Pisces

You will experience a positive shift in your career this week. You have been struggling a lot lately and just when you were thinking of quitting your job, your career will take a turn in the best direction it could ever go. You will not get the expected results from your business from the investment that you made. Fortunately, as you are inclined more towards spirituality this week, you won't be upset or low when things don't work out your way which is great as it helps you learn from your mistakes and make pragmatic decisions the next time.

BIRTHDAY HOROSCOPE : 11TH OCT TO 17TH OCT 2021**CONTD FROM PAGE 28****October 11**

You will suddenly feel drained of energy today which will make you feel exhausted and you will want to escape any social situation that you're in, if you decide to let these negative energies affect you, you will feel that the day is taking a negative turn again. Communicate your feelings clearly to the people around you so you can enjoy your day in solace.

October 12

You will have a simple yet good day today. Even though there won't be anything significantly positive that'll happen today you will spend the day relaxing and having fun. Solitary bliss and knowing that you're financially stable will keep you happy and satisfied throughout the day. You will feel generous and tolerant and will not easily lose your patience when something goes wrong and not as you planned and an argument arises.

October 13

You will taste victory in most of the tasks you take. Those awaiting a promotion are likely to get the good news today itself hence all in all a good day for you today. Gains from speculative activities are indicated. Your reputation will grow and spread far and wide.

You will experience problems in your relationship because you treat it like a business deal that calls for trouble in your relationship. If you're too calculative about relationships, you can come across as uncaring to others. If you treat your partner in sensitive and caring manner things will go great.

October 14

You might experience minor joint pain today, although it is infrequent, it is a sign for you to work on improving your nutritional intake and strength. You can start with doing cardiovascular exercises like running and cycling to improve your health. Your health is doing so much better than the last few days. You will feel light as a feather today as you go through the day full of energy and enthusiasm. Try to relax as much as you can. Meditation and yoga will help you a lot today.

October 15

Positive energies are moderate for you today as you're likely to stay inactive and lazy today. This is a good thing as you have needed this rest for a long time. Although your sickness is not because of overworking, use this time to rejuvenate and come back stronger. You will be very happy and mostly achieve whatever you want in you want today. You will be helpful, generous and spend your time caring

for a loved one. This might upset your partner as they do not get much attention today.

October 16

Today you may see things turning out in your favor because of your good luck. Be careful not to get so caught up in the fairytale of the events that you overlook your loved one's needs and spend your daydreaming today. You will have a great time with your loved ones and your partner today. You will make great profits in your business as well, hence all in all a good day for you today. Your health will not bother you and will help your productivity today which will bring you to a point of happiness and content today. Focus on building relationships that feel right and aren't harmful or toxic towards you.

October 18

Your partner will make you very happy and you will spend the day being happy today. You might make your partner upset by not communicating and expressing that they made you happy throughout the day. Take the lead in calming the situation down by letting your partner know that they can communicate with you without hesitation. You will also have a lot of other people who will come together to celebrate your existence today and their kind words will motivate you to work hard today.

॥ SHREE GANESHAY NAMAH ॥

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HISTORY THIS WEEK OCTOBER 08 TO 14

"The past actually happened but history is only what someone wrote down". A. Whitney Brown

October 8

OCTOBER 8, 1871 - The Great Fire of Chicago erupted. According to legend, it started when Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked over a lantern in her barn on DeKoven Street. Over 300 persons were killed and 90,000 were left homeless as the fire leveled 3.5 square miles, destroying 17,450 buildings. Financial losses totaled over \$200 million.

OCTOBER 8, 1993 - The U.N. General Assembly lifted economic sanctions against South Africa following the end of racial apartheid. The sanctions had been imposed since the 1960s.



Yasser Arafat

OCTOBER 8, 1996 - Palestinian President Yasser Arafat made his first public visit to Israel for talks with Israeli President Ezer Weizman at his private residence.

OCTOBER 8, 1998 - The U.S. House of Representatives voted 258-176 to approve a resolution launching an impeachment inquiry of President Bill Clinton. It was only the third time in U.S. history the House launched a formal impeachment inquiry of a sitting president. (The other two: Andrew Johnson and Richard Nixon).

BIRTHDAY - American fighter pilot Ace Eddie Rickenbacker (1890-1973) was born in Columbus, Ohio. He commanded the first U.S. aero unit to take part in World War I and was credited with 26 victories, becoming America's leading Ace. He was awarded the Medal of Honor. He later got involved in auto racing and headed Eastern Air Lines from 1934-63.

October 9

OCTOBER 9, 1962 - Uganda achieved independence after nearly 70 years of British rule.

OCTOBER 9, 1970 - Cambodia declared itself the Khmer Republic following the abolition of the monarchy by the legislature.

BIRTHDAY - John Lennon

(1940-1980) was born in Liverpool, England. He was a member of The Beatles, an influential rock group which captivated audiences first in England and Germany, and later in America and throughout the world. He was murdered in New York City on December 8, 1980.

October 10

OCTOBER 10, 1954 - Ho Chi Minh entered Hanoi, Vietnam, after the withdrawal of French troops, in accordance with armistice terms ending the seven-year struggle between Communist Vietnamese and the French.

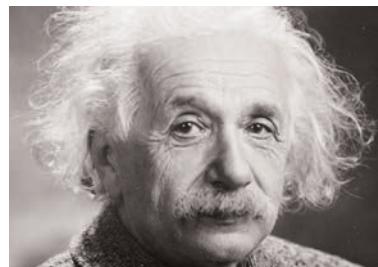
OCTOBER 10, 1973 - Spiro T. Agnew (1918-1996) resigned the office of Vice President of the United States amid charges of income tax evasion on illegal payments allegedly received while he was governor of Maryland and after he became Vice President. He was later given a \$10,000 fine and sentenced to serve three years' probation. He was succeeded as Vice President by Gerald R. Ford, who went on to become President after the resignation of Richard M. Nixon.

BIRTHDAY - Italian opera composer Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901) was born in Le Roncole, Italy. His 26 operas include Rigoletto, Il Trovatore, La Traviata and Aida, and are among the most popular of all classical music performed today.

October 11

OCTOBER 11, 1521 - King Henry VIII of England was given the title "Defender of the Faith" by Pope Leo X following the publication of the King's book against Martin Luther.

OCTOBER 11, 1899 - The Boer War began in South African between the British Empire and Boers of the Transvaal and Orange Free State. The war ended in 1902 with the Treaty of Pretoria in which the Transvaal and Orange Free State became British colonies.



Albert Einstein

OCTOBER 11, 1939 - Albert Einstein warned President

Franklin D. Roosevelt that his theories could lead to Nazi Germany's development of an atomic bomb. Einstein suggested the U.S. develop its own bomb. This resulted in the top secret "Manhattan Project."

OCTOBER 11, 1962 - The Second Vatican Council was opened in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome by Pope John XXIII. Sessions were held in four successive autumns from 1962-65. Vatican II resulted in sweeping changes to the Catholic Church including the use of English and local native languages in the Mass instead of Latin, and openness and cooperation with other religions and denominations.

OCTOBER 11, 1976 - The "Gang of Four," including the widow of Mao Zedong, was arrested in China, charged with plotting a coup. They were subsequently tried and convicted of various crimes against the state.

BIRTHDAY - Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962) was born in New York City. She was the wife of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd U.S. President. As First Lady, she led an unprecedented independent life, striving to improve the lives of people all over the world. In 1933, she became the first wife of a president to give her own news conference in the White House. She traveled extensively on her own and was affectionately called "First Lady of the world." She served as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations for many years and helped write the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

October 12

OCTOBER 12, 1492 - After a 33-day voyage, Christopher Columbus made his first landfall in the New World in the Bahamas. He named the first land sighted as El Salvador, claiming it in the name of the Spanish Crown. Columbus was seeking a western sea route from Europe to Asia and believed he had found an island of the Indies. He thus called the first island natives he met, 'Indians.'

OCTOBER 12, 1960 - During a debate over colonialism in the United Nations, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev took off his shoe and pounded his desk repeatedly.

BIRTHDAY - British composer and conductor Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) was born in Down Ampney,

Gloucestershire, England. He combined modern composition techniques with traditional English folk and Tudor music to create a uniquely British style. His major compositions include Mass in G Minor, Fantasia on a Theme of Tallis and the opera The Pilgrim's Progress. He also composed nine symphonies, church and choral music, film and stage music and several operas.

October 13

OCTOBER 13, 54 A.D. - Roman Emperor Claudius died after eating mushrooms poisoned by his wife, the Empress Agrippina.

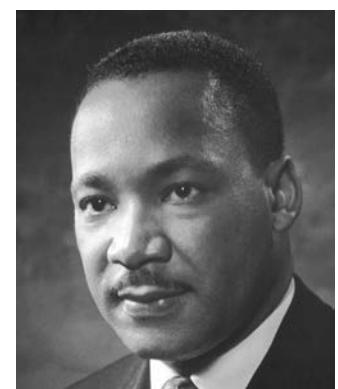


The White House

Trenton, New Jersey (as Mary Ludwig). She was a water carrier at the Battle of Monmouth in 1778 during the American Revolution. After her husband, artilleryman John Hays, collapsed, she took his place at his cannon.

October 14

OCTOBER 14, 1947 - U.S. Air Force Captain Chuck Yeager became the first man to break the sound barrier, flying in a rocket-powered research aircraft.



Martin Luther King, Jr.

OCTOBER 13, 1792 - The cornerstone of the White House was laid by George Washington. The building, located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, is three stories tall with over 100 rooms, and was designed by James Hoban. In November of 1800, President John Adams and his family moved in. The building was first known as the "Presidential Palace," but acquired the name "White House" about 10 years after its completion. It was burned by British troops in 1814, then reconstructed, refurbished and reoccupied in 1817.

BIRTHDAY - Pennsylvania founder William Penn (1644-1718) was born in London. In 1681, he received a Royal charter with a large land grant in America from King Charles II. Penn, a Quaker, welcomed members of all religious faiths and established a democratic form of government in his province which measured over 50,000 square miles.



Dwight D. Eisenhower

OCTOBER 13, 1943 - Italy declared war on its former Axis partner Germany after the downfall of Mussolini and collapse of his Fascist government.

OCTOBER 13, 1990 - The first Russian Orthodox service in over 70 years was held in St. Basil's Cathedral, next to the Kremlin, in Red Square, Moscow.



Molly Pitcher

BIRTHDAY - Molly Pitcher (1754-1832) was born near

Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969) the 34th U.S. President was born in Denison, Texas. He served two terms as President, from January 20, 1953 to January 20, 1961. Nicknamed "Ike," he was a West Point graduate and career Army officer who became Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe during World War II. He held the rank of Five-star General of the Army.

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Durga Puja, also known as Durgotsava, or Sharodotsava, is an annual Hindu festival originating in the Indian subcontinent which reveres and pays homage to the Hindu goddess, Durga.

It is particularly popular and traditionally celebrated in the Indian states of Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Odisha, Tripura, and the country of Bangladesh. The festival is observed in the Indian calendar month of Ashwin, which corresponds to September-October in the Gregorian calendar, and is a ten-day festival, of which the last five are of significance.

The dates of Durga Puja 2021

- Shashthi - 11th October 2021
- Maha Saptami - 12th October 2021
- Maha Ashtami - 13th October 2021
- Maha Navami - 14th October 2021
- Vijaya Dashami - 15th October 2021

The puja is performed in homes and in public, the latter featuring a temporary stage and structural decorations (known as pandals). The festival is also marked by scripture recitations, performance arts, revelry, gift-giving, family visits, feasting, and public processions. Durga puja is an important festival in the Shaktism tradition of Hinduism.

As per Hindu scriptures, the festival marks the victory of goddess Durga in her battle against the shape-shifting asura, Mahishasura. [Thus, the festival epitomizes the victory of good over evil, though it is also in part a harvest festival celebrating the goddess as the motherly power behind all of life and creation. Durga puja coincides with Navaratri and Dussehra celebrations observed by other traditions of Hinduism, in which the Ram Lila dance-drama is enacted, celebrating the victory of Rama against Ravana, and effigies of Ravana are burnt.

The primary goddess revered during Durga Puja is Durga but celebrations also include other major deities of Hinduism such as Lakshmi (the goddess of wealth and prosperity), Saraswati (the goddess of knowledge and music), Ganesha (the god of good beginnings), and Kartikeya (the god of war). In Bengali and Odia traditions, these deities are considered to be Durga's children and Durga puja is believed to commemorate Durga's visit to her natal home with her beloved children. The festival is preceded by Mahalaya, which is believed to mark the start of Durga's journey to her natal home. Primary celebrations begin on the sixth day (Shashthi), on which the goddess is welcome with rituals. The festival ends on the tenth day (Vijaya Dashami) when devotees embark on a procession carrying the worshipped clay sculpture-idols to a river, or other water body, and immerse them, symbolic of her return to the divine cosmos and her marital home with Shiva in Kailash. Regional and community variations in celebration of the festival and rituals observed exist.

Durga puja is an old tradition of Hinduism, though its exact origins are unclear. Surviving manuscripts from the 14th-century provide guidelines for Durga puja, while historical records suggest that the royalty and wealthy families were sponsoring major Durga puja festivities since at least the 16th-century. The prominence of Durga Puja increased during the British Raj in the provinces of Bengal, Odisha and Assam.

In today's time, the importance of Durga puja is as much as a social and cultural festival as a religious one, wherever it is observed.

Over the years, Durga Puja has become an inseparable part of Indian culture with innumerable people celebrating this festival in their own unique way while pertaining to tradition.

Rituals and practices

Durga puja is a ten-day event, of which the last five days involve certain rituals and practices. The festival begins with Mahalaya, a day on which Hindus perform tarpaṇa by offering water and food to their dead ancestors. The day also marks the advent of Durga from her mythological marital home in Kailash. The next significant day of the festival is the sixth day (Sashthi), on which devotees welcome the goddess and festive celebrations are inaugurated. On the seventh day (Saptami), eighth (Ashtami) and ninth (Navami) days, the goddess along with Lakshmi, Saraswati, Ganesha, and Kartikeya are revered and these days mark the main days of worship with recitation of scriptures, puja, legends of Durga in Devi Mahatmya, social visits to elaborately decorated and illuminated pandals

Durga Puja



(temporary structures meant for hosting the puja), among others.

Durga puja is, in part, a post-monsoon harvest festival observed on the same days in the Shaktism tradition of Hinduism as those in its other traditions. The practice of including a bundle of nine different plants, called navapatrika, as a symbolism of Durga, is a testament practice to its agricultural importance. The typically selected plants include not only representative important crops, but also non-crops. This probably signifies the Hindu belief that the goddess is "not merely the power inherent in the growth of crops but the power inherent in all vegetation". The festival is a social and public event in the eastern and northeastern states of India, where it dominates religious and socio-cultural life, with temporary pandals built at community squares, roadside shrines, and temples. The festival is also observed by some Shakta Hindus as a private home-based festival. The festival starts at twilight with prayers to Saraswati. She is believed to be another aspect of goddess Durga, and who is the external and internal activity of all existence, in everything and everywhere. This is typically also the day on which the eyes of the deities on the representative clay sculpture-idols are painted, bringing them to a lifelike appearance. The day also marks prayers to Ganesha and visit to pandals temples.

Day two to five mark the remembrance of the goddess and her manifestations, such as Kumari (goddess of fertility), Mai (mother), Ajima (grandmother), Lakshmi (goddess of wealth) and in some regions as the Saptamatrikas (seven mothers) or Navadurga (nine aspects of Durga). On the sixth day major festivities and social celebrations start. The first nine days overlap with Navaratri festivities in other traditions of Hinduism. The puja rituals involve mantras (words manifesting spiritual transformation), shlokas (holy verses), chants and arati, and offerings. These also include Vedic chants and recitations of the Devi Mahatmya text in Sanskrit. The shlokas and mantras praise the divinity of the goddess; according to the shlokas Durga is omnipresent as the embodiment of power, nourishment, memory, forbearance, faith, forgiveness, intellect, wealth, emotions, desires, beauty, satisfaction, righteousness, fulfillment and peace. The specific practices vary by region.



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"If Hindus don't maintain Hinduism, who shall save it?"

"If India's own children don't cling to their faith, who shall guard it?"

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

Pune: Queen of Deccan

Sitting atop the Deccan Plateau with the Mutha River flowing alongside is the popular city Pune. This is the second largest city in Maharashtra. Also known as the "Queen of Deccan", this hilly city has a royal history of being home to the Rahstrakuta Dynasty taken over and ruled by the mighty Chhatrapati Shivaji. Besides the boom in Industrial and IT zones within the city, the last few decades have seen a rapid growth in the sector of tourism in Pune. Boasting of being the second city after Hyderabad to offer "high quality of living" and attracts travellers for its historic monuments, culture, traditions, mouth watering street food and natural beauty offered by small hill tops, gardens and parks. Above all, for Mumbai-based individuals trapped in the daily schedule of work life, Pune, barely four hours away offers the best sought after place to visit. A general holiday guide to Pune suggest the same with special mention of the famous Sawai Gandharva Sangeet Mahotsav, that is an Indian classical music festival staged during the month of December every year. Ardent classical music enthusiasts can plan a trip during this season to enjoy a blend of the modern life and its century's old musical heritage. Being home to the prestigious Pune University, considered as the "Oxford of the East", Pune is the ideal higher education destination of many students. Short vacations or admission months bring about family to some of Pune's popular tourist places such as the Chaturshringi temple of Goddess Ambareshwari, Ambedkar museum, Parvati temple, Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park,

Dagaduseth Halwai Ganpati temple, rock carved Pataleshwar temple, Aga khan palace where Mahatma Gandhi was kept under house arrest and the famous Shaniwar wada built during the time of Bajirao Peshwa.

The outskirts of Pune also have several sightseeing places such as the Shinde chatri memorial and the Empress garden with beautiful floral diversity. To seek out mental refreshment some of Pune's tourist attractions include the commercial theatre, Osho International Meditation resort of Koregaon Park, and forts exhibiting awe inspiring Maratha architecture. Pune trip is incomplete without pampering one's taste buds with the Maharashtrian delicacies such as Puran Poli, Misal Pav and Mastani milkshake among many others. This place is easily the most favoured travel destination in Maharashtra, which if visited for a long stay allows weekend shuttle trip to twin cities Lonavala and Khandala, Mahabaleshwar, Nashik, Matheran, Shirdi and world heritage sites Ajanta and Ellora caves.

A good travelling guide makes the entire journey memorable and fun filled. To discover the 6th century old civilization of Pune within its "smart" city life, one can join the Pune tour with Tour My India. With various packages you can actually enjoy a world class vacation that gifts unmatched expeditions and breathtaking sights to



capture.

Osho Ashram

There are many things for which Pune is globally renowned but it's the Osho Ashram that is synonymous with the

appointed ashram continues to attract devotees from America and Europe. Located at the Koregaon Park of the North Pune, the Ashram offers many meditation programs that bring infinite intelligence, and joy.

Mainly a center of meditation, thus the biggest facility here is a soundproof auditorium, where different kinds of meditation keep on happening using various techniques. For all those, who are looking forward to a stay in the Ashram can book their stay at the OSHO International Meditation Resort. With plush interiors, reflecting the meditation qualities of the Gautam Buddha, the resort has tastefully decorated guest houses with ventilated AC rooms with attached bathrooms. The spiritual retreat also has a swimming pool, Jacuzzi, Gym, Large indoor saunas, Tennis Courts, and Table Tennis table. Evening parties are quite prominent in the resort.

Pu La Deshpande Garden

Amidst the hustle-bustle of the city life stands the tranquil Pu La Deshpande Garden. Inspired by the renowned 300-year-old Okayama Korakuen Garden of Japan, Pu La Deshpande Garden is developed by Ikeda royal family in the 12 spacious hectares. The garden is named after Purushottam Laxman Deshpande, a Marathi writer who is also a Padma Bhushan awardee. Beautiful yet prestigious - Pu La Deshpande Garden is spread over 10 hectares with tiled passages flanked by the luscious grasses thronged with migratory birds. Walking on the lawn is strictly not allowed as it destroys the grass. With a variety of colorful flowers and other plants and water bodies, the garden showcases nature at its best.

Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park

Commonly known as the Katraj Snake Park, Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park is prominent zoo cum snake park in Pune. Spread over 130 acres, it is divided into three parts - an animal orphanage, a snake park, and a zoo; also there's a lake. In the snake park, one can see over 22 species of snakes and 10 other species of reptiles comprising over 150 individuals, including a King Cobra. In this section of the park, one can visit the library too that tells about all the vital information related to snakes. So as to engage more tourism, the park keeps on organizing festivals and snake awareness programs. The zoo in the complex features animals like leopard, sloth bears, sambar, barking deer, black bucks, monkeys, and elephants.

Parvati Hill

Pune regions Parvati Hill is a prominent hill lock with a good number of historical vestiges and temples at an altitude of 2100 feet. Devdeveshwar temple (Shiva and Parvati), Kartikeya Temple, Vishnu Temple, Vitthal Temple, and Rama Temple are some of the famous temples that can be seen on the hilltop. It is said that all these temples were built during by the Peshwas. View of the Pune city from the top of the hill is mesmerizing.

city's image. A heady mix of spiritualism, and ancient, and modern idea of relaxation, the brains behind this unique organization was the late guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh or OSHO. Even after his demise in 1990, his well-

contd from page 1

Mahatma Gandhi's 152nd birth anniversary celebrated across the US

The event was restricted to the embassy staff and a few guests in view of the Covid / Delta surge. No speeches were made.

Mahatma Gandhiaught Indians the values of truth and non-violence during the freedom movement. His ideals also made it possible for other countries in Asia and Africa, where Mahatma Gandhi spent a big part of his life, to free themselves from colonial rule without bloodshed.

His gospel of truth and non-violence came to be accepted all over the world. The American hero Martin Luther King Jr. and the South African icon Nelson Mandela were deeply influenced by his nonviolent struggle for freedom, and not only said so but practiced when it came to struggling for their rights.

Called Gandhi Jayanti, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday was celebrated across the world.

Nobel Peace Prize: Journalists Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov share award

Ms Ressa, who co-founded the news site Rappler, was commended for using freedom of expression to "expose abuse of power, use of violence and growing authoritarianism in her native country, the Philippines".

The award-winning journalist was convicted last year of libel in a case seen as a test of the country's press freedom.

In a live broadcast by Rappler, Ms Ressa said she was "in shock".

She said her win showed that "nothing is possible without facts... a world without facts means a world without truth and trust".

In a statement, Rappler said it was "honored and astounded" that its chief executive had been given the prize.

contd from page 12

Homage to Father of Non-violence on his 152nd birth anniversary

Skokie and the Gandhi Memorial Foundation of Chicago. She pointed out that Gandhiji's practice of Ahimsa (non-violence) which was an extension of his respect for other religions creating a sense of fraternity. She further added that Mahatma Gandhi vehemently opposed injustice and authoritarian rule, which is the primary manifestation of the Gandhian legacy today. Dr. Santosh Kumar was very enthusiastic about the Global Gandhi Youth initiative and praised them for taking this initiative.

Dr. Sriram Sonty, Vice President, Gandhi Memorial Foundation of Chicago presented a set of Gandhian books to Mayor of Skokie George Van Dusen for the Skokie Public Library. He also introduced Global Gandhi Youth USA Chapter Members- Nandini Kandamuri, Rithwik Chekcharla, Sri Sai Kaushik Gollamudi and Manikantha Sri Sai Gollamudi, who spoke about the teachings of Gandhiji as it applies to them today.

"It could not have come at a better time - a time when journalists and the truth are being attacked and undermined," it said.

Tatas Repossess Air India with INR 18,000 crore bid after 70 years

Pandey, secretary to the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), the government department responsible for privatization, said. Tata Sons beat SpiceJet promoter to bag Air India. Both bidders had quoted above the reserve price, he said adding the transaction is planned to be closed by December.

The DIPAM secretary said Tatas' bid of Rs 18,000 crore comprises taking over 15,300 crore of debt and paying the rest in cash. The rest is being transferred to the government owned SPV AIAHL, Pandey said.

Air India's non-core assets to the tune of Rs 14,000 crore will be transferred to AIAHL, which means a little over Rs 36,000 crore will be left over for the government to finally pay, the DIPAM secretary said.

He said a group of ministers comprising Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, and Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has cleared the winning bid for Air India on October 4.

"Tata Sons' winning bid of Rs 18,000 crore for Air India higher than the reserve price of Rs 12,906 crore set by the government," DIPAM Secretary said.

Tatas will have to retain all employees of Air India for one year, the aviation secretary said. The company could offer them voluntary retirement after that, the official said. Other conditions include a 5-year embargo on Tata Sons from transferring the Air India brand and its logo, and that any transfer thereafter, if ever, should necessarily be to an Indian national.

Tata Sons chairman emeritus Ratan Tata said in a statement to the return of Air India provides the company a very strong market opportunity but admitted it would take considerable effort to rebuild the brand.

THE TATA GROUP WINNING THE BID FOR AIR INDIA IS GREAT NEWS! WHILE ADMITTEDLY IT WILL TAKE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO REBUILD AIR INDIA, IT WILL HOPEFULLY PROVIDE A VERY STRONG MARKET OPPORTUNITY TO THE TATA GROUP'S PRESENCE IN THE AVIATION INDUSTRY.

ON AN EMOTIONAL NOTE, AIR INDIA, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF MR. J. R. D. TATA HAD, AT ONE TIME, GAINED THE REPUTATION OF BEING ONE OF THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS AIRLINES IN THE WORLD. TATAS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF REGAINING THE IMAGE AND REPUTATION IT ENJOYED IN EARLIER YEARS. MR. J. R. D. TATA WOULD HAVE BEEN OVERJOYED IF HE WAS IN OUR MIDST TODAY.

WE ALSO NEED TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK THE GOVERNMENT FOR ITS RECENT POLICY OF OPENING SELECT INDUSTRIES TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

WELCOME BACK, AIR INDIA!


RATAN N. TATA



This marks the return of Air India to the Tatas.

Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy (JRD) Tata founded the airline in 1932. It was called Tata Airlines then. In 1946, the aviation division of Tata Sons was listed as Air India and in 1948, Air India International was launched with flights to Europe.

The international service was among the first public-private partnerships in India, with the government holding 49 per cent, the Tatas keeping 25 per cent and the public owning the rest.

In 1953, Air India was nationalized.

The government is selling 100 per cent of its stake in the state-owned national airline, including Air India's 100 per cent shareholding in AI Express Ltd and 50 per cent in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Ltd. (Agencies)

Consul General praised the percussion ensemble for their vibrant performance. Dr. Vijay Prabhakar gave a token of appreciation to each artist and emphasized establishing the first GANDHI KING LEGACY CENTER in North America in Chicago, USA.

The event was well moderated by Shree Gurusamy, Secretary of Gandhi Memorial Foundation of Chicago. She thanked the Metropolitan Asian Family Services Seniors and staff for all the floral and food arrangements at the event. Gandhi Memorial Foundation of Chicago Board of Directors, Dipti Shah - Treasurer, Awilda Gonzalez - Director-At-Large, Bharti Desai - Director-At-Large and Suresh Bodiwala - Trustee were recognized for all their voluntary services during the past year.

Metropolitan Asian Family Services (MAFS) as usual prepared delicious Boxed lunches along with hot Tea and water for all the guests. For more information regarding Gandhi Memorial Foundation of Chicago please visit <https://gandhimemorial.org/>

(Photographs and Press release by Asian Media USA)

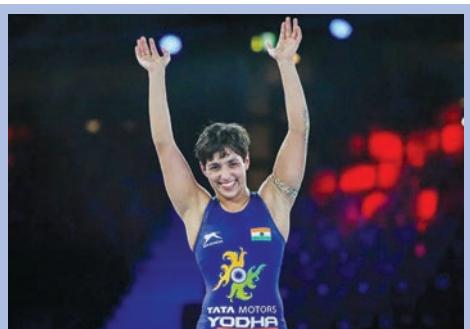


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20-year-old Anshu becomes first Indian woman wrestler to win World Championships silver

A billion hopes were riding on the young shoulders of Anshu Malik in Oslo, Norway, during the World Wrestling Championships. She had already made history by winning her 57kg semifinal on Wednesday, October 6, becoming the first Indian woman wrestler to reach the final at the World Championships. However, the 20-year-old from Nidani village, Jind in Haryana, fell short in her quest to become the first Indian woman wrestler and second from the country after Sushil Kumar to become a world champion. Her shoulder gave way as she lost via fall to Helen Maouralis of USA, 2016 Olympics gold medallist (53kg) and 2020 bronze medal winner (57kg). Anshu, the reigning Asian Championships gold medallist, was in control of the final in the first period as she thwarted all the attacks of the American wrestler. She led 1-0 after the first period from a passivity point. But all changed seconds into the second period when Maroulis first scored a two-point take-down and then accrued another two points for exposure and then pinned Anshu to win.

World Cup Qualifiers: Brazil fight back to beat Venezuela 3-1

Brazil fought back from a goal down to score three times in the second half and record a 3-1 win over Venezuela that maintained their 100 percent record in qualifying matches for the 2022 World Cup.

Venezuela had never beaten Brazil in a World Cup qualifier in 17 previous attempts but their hopes rose after taking an early lead through Eric Ramirez, who converted Yeferson Soteldo's cross after defenders Fabinho and Marquinhos slipped at the vital moment. However, Brazil got back on level terms when Marquinhos headed home a corner in the 71st minute before Gabriel Barbosa scored a penalty six minutes from time and debutant Antony made it 3-1 in stoppage time.

IPL: KL Rahul hits unbeaten 98 as Punjab Kings steamroll Chennai Super Kings

The strokeplay was iridescent. On a tricky pitch KL Rahul struck the ball with grace, flow, timing and a refreshing sense of freedom. Gifted he is.

The swing of the bat was as smooth as the willow striking the ball. The sphere streaked through the gaps, cleared the fence. The surface did not matter.

Skipper Rahul's astonishing 98 not out - he fittingly ended the match with a thumping six off Shardul Thakur - off just 42 deliveries with seven fours and a stunning eight sixes enabled Punjab Kings race past CSK's 134 in only 13 overs with six wickets remaining in this Indian Premier League (IPL) clash at Dubai.

Rahul's blistering display of ball-striking gave his team's run-rate a boost and lent Punjab Kings a glimmer of hope if the other results went its way.

For CSK, suffering a hammering, this was its third successive loss.

Punjab lost wickets along the way - Mayank Agarwal was desperately unlucky to be adjudged leg-before to Thakur - but Rahul was in a different zone, striking Josh Hazlewood over his head and then pulling the Aussie for a six and a four. He whipped bowlers for sixes. His off-drives were gorgeous.

Rahul indeed was a one-man demolition army. Punjab was 51 for two after Powerplay, and Rahul's contribution was 38.

He continued in the same manner, clearing the fence effortlessly even as he stayed balanced. Fittingly, Rahul delivered the final blow.

Earlier, even as wickets fell around him, opener Faf du Plessis (76 off 55) held the innings together, rotating the strike, striking the odd big blow.

The Punjab Kings seamers employed the short ball ploy capably and CSK,



inserted, lost wickets on pitch that was rather two-paced. The versatile left-arm Arshdeep Singh consumed the inform Ruturaj Gaikwad on the pull with a mean lifter.

The left-handed Moeen Ali succumbed to a delivery of lift and movement from Arshdeep.

CSK was 32 for three in the seventh over when Robin Uthappa pulled Chris Jordan to deep square-leg's hands. And Ambati Rayudu's attempted slash off Jordan proved fatal.

MS Dhoni's problems against the googly continued when Ravi Bishnoi castled the CSK skipper.

The ball did not roll for CSK. Rahul was King.

Sunrisers Hyderabad pull off close win

Shivam Mavi registered his best IPL bowling figures while Lockie Ferguson bagged a three-wicket haul as Kolkata Knight Riders defeated Rajasthan Royals by 86 runs in Sharjah on Thursday. While chasing a mammoth target of 172 runs, RR were bowled out for 85 in 16.1 overs. Mavi was pick of the wickets with 4 wickets from 3.1 overs. While Ferguson scalped 3, Shakib Al Hasan and Varun Chakravarthy took a wicket apiece. Earlier, Shubman Gill scored a fantastic 40-ball half-century as Kolkata Knight Riders posted the highest team total this season - 171/4 in 20 overs.

Neeraj Chopra's javelin fetches highest bid of Rs 1.5 crore

NEW DELHI (TIP): At the end of the e-auction of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mementos on Thursday, October 7, the maximum number of bids were received for the sculpture of Sardar Patel (140), while the highest bid value was for Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra's javelin (Rs 1.5 crore), the culture ministry said.

Among the items that received the most bids was a wooden Ganesha with 117 bids, a memento of the Pune metro line which got 104 bids and a memento of Victory flame which received 98 bids.

Following close on the heels of Chopra's gold winning javelin, which received the highest bid in terms of value, were the autographed fence of Bhavani Devi (Rs 1.25 cr), Sumit Antil's javelin (Rs 1.002 cr), Angavastra autographed by the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic contingent (Rs 1 cr) and Lovlina Borgohain's boxing gloves (Rs 91 lakh).

The highlight items of this round of e-auctions included the sports memorabilia of the medal winning Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games and the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games; models of Ayodhya Ram mandir; Varanasi's Rudraksh auditorium and many other precious and interesting collectibles.

In the e-auction, 1348 mementos were put up and around 8,600 bids were received.

This third round of e-auction of the gifts and mementos



presented to Modi was held from September 17 to October 7. The proceeds of the auction will go to the Namami Gange Mission.

At the last such auction, in September 2019, as many as 2,770 objects went under the hammer. These included paintings, sculptures, shawls, jackets and traditional musical instruments. The proceeds were also donated to the Namami Gange Mission.

Source: PTI

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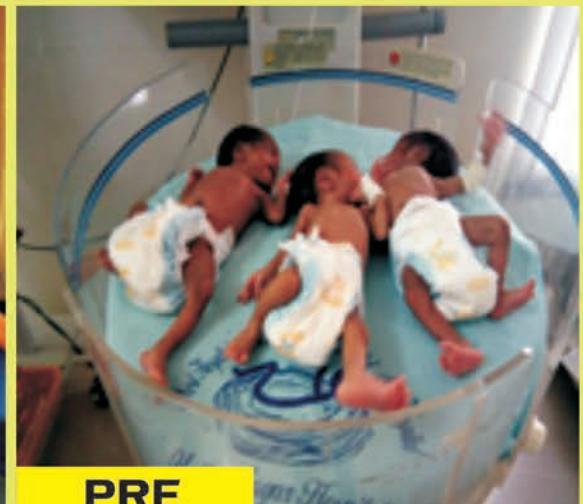
Message from Peter J. McDonnell, M.D. Director Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University, USA on the occasion of laying the foundation stone on December 10, 2020

"On behalf of all my colleagues of the Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, MO ,I send my best wishes and congratulations to our friends in Goutami on this extremely important occasion. This beautiful facility will match the wonderful world class work of your doctors, nurses and staff in preserving and restoring the vision of so many patients. We in the United States are inspired by your dedication and admire your tireless efforts to serve so many who need your skills and compassion. Best wishes, Peter"

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